



## SEYMOUR WATER POLLUTION

### CONTROL AUTHORITY

P.O. Box 275

Seymour, Connecticut 06483

COPY RECEIVED  
DATE: 11/17/09  
TIME: 4:01 pm  
TOWN CLERK'S OFFICE

### The Minutes of the Seymour WPCA Board (REVISED) -Regular Meeting- 6pm on September 1<sup>st</sup>, 2009.

**Members Present:** John Fanotto, Stephen Chucta, Lou DeBarber and Jon Livolsi.

**Members not Present:** Charles Bellavance.

**Others Present:** Carey Strout, Plant Manger Veolia Water, Jon Marro, First Selectman Robert Koskelowski, Atty. Richard Bruchal, Atty. Don Zehnder and other members of the public.

John Fanotto brought the meeting to order at 6:02pm.

**The Pledge of Allegiance was given.**

**Jon Livolsi** made a motion, Stephen Chucta 2<sup>nd</sup>, to accept the August 4<sup>th</sup>, 2009 Minutes. Motion passed 3-0, 1 Abstention Lou DeBarber.

#### **Veolia Water report-**

Carey Strout reported that there was one chlorine exceedence in the month of August. Repairs were done on Belt press (both conveyors), with a new gearbox and motor replaced. Mr. Strout was asked by the Chairman what would be the total cost to replace the belt press; the answer was over 1 million dollars.

Carey Strout then explained to the Board that the polymer system needs to be fixed and/or replaced. The DEP inspected the sewer plant and had a complaint about the condition of the polymer system and of the polymer room in general. This will be in an inspection letter from the DEP. Mr. Strout then described that the polymer system is at least 30-years old, not made of stainless steel and is rotting in places. He then presented to the board a plan to implement a new liquid polymer system, which would replace the dry polymer machine, using 2 poly tanks, mixers, pumps and tubing costing \$20,000. Discussion ensued about the proposed replacement. Chairman Fanotto then instructed that all documentation (especially the DEP inspection letter) and all costs of the replacement of the polymer system kept, so that the 10% of the total is invoiced to Oxford WPCA for DEP-mandated repairs. **Jon Livolsi** made a motion, Lou DeBarber 2<sup>nd</sup>, to accept and authorize the replacement of the polymer system. Motion passed 4-0.

Carey Strout also reported that an operator, the contractor and an agent of the Regional Water Authority met at the Rolling Hills pump station and discussed the backflow preventer. Discussion ensued about the various options with the pump station backflow preventer. John Fanotto asked Carey Strout to look into if there is an OSHA requirement for having a backflow preventer at Rolling Hills pump station; if there is not an OSHA requirement then no backflow preventer should be installed.

The Oxford WPCA bill for DEP required improvements- after some discussion, Atty. Bruchal was asked to talk to the Oxford WPCA Attorney about this. Action Required: Atty. Richard Bruchal.

**Income report-** Jon Marro submitted this to the Board.  
Jon Marro was asked to look up CL&P load shares payments for 2008.

**Financial report-** this was submitted to the Board.

**Invoices** – the following invoices (see attached) were submitted to the board for approval.

**Lou DeBarber** made a motion, Jon Livolsi 2<sup>nd</sup>, to approve the invoices for payment. Motion passed 4-0.

#### **Legal Report-**

(At this point the First Selectman entered)

The First Selectman began by asking for a response to his letters that he sent that addressed the creation of an administrative position, the notification to the wetlands commission, and the sewer rates. John Fanotto responded that the administrative position was just in discussion and no motion was made for the creation of such a post. Only in May and June would any kind of decision would be made; there then was a discussion about what possible duties such a position would be needed for. The First Selectman answered that if such a post is needed; bring this up in a Selectman board meeting.

Then the issue of notification to the wetland commission was discussed. The first Selectman informed the board that the Wetlands commission needed to be informed as to the scope and nature of the clearing of the sewer easements, not necessarily a permit is needed, just the proper informing & walk through of the easements in question. Also, the first Selectman stated, that he wasn't informed as to the clearing of the sewer easements either. John Fanotto responded that the board directed both Jim Galligan (letters to the homeowners of the easements) and Attorney Bruchal (to the Town Hall) to inform about the board's clearing of the easements. The board did not believe that the Wetlands commission needed to be informed about the clearing of the easements, since there was no improvements being made, strictly maintenance to easements that were installed either prior to the Wetlands Act or installed with approval. Discussion ensued as to why the easements were to be cleared of brush and trees in a 15' wide path; mainly to arrest tree root intrusion into the sewer main in the easements. Also discussed was how the board had the plant staff and engineering staff from Nafis & Young find and mark out the

easements and manholes, and recounted how a sewer backup near Sochrin's Pond took over 14 hours to find and clear due to overgrowth on the sewer easement. Mr. Koskelowski responded that he understood how important it was to have the sewer easement cleared, but when the board was starting the Town Hall was deluged with phone calls, and he and his staff was uninformed. The First Selectman was then handed a copy of the October 21, 2008 minutes that showed that the board approved the bid of the clearing of the sewer easements, and directed Jim Galligan and Atty. Bruchal to inform the homeowners and Town Hall respectively. Mr. Koskelowski then discussed with the board how he is just trying to get all town boards to work together and inform the appropriate board when necessary. Discussion then ensued as to how the WPCA board has, in past, informed and/or taken out permits as applicable and would continue to do so, but since this was just brush/tree clearing no permit was necessary and tried to ensure that the First Selectman's office and the homeowners were informed. Discussion then ensued about how the board wants to continue clearing in the fall, once the ground is harder. A list of the easements will be given to First Selectman's office prior to this. The first Selectman himself visited the Briarwood area and, in his opinion, the clearing did not infringe on anyone's privacy but that the Wetlands commission should have been notified prior. Mr. Koskelowski will attend the next Wetlands commission meeting and speak to them about this matter also.

Jon Livolsi asked the First Selectman if any thing was said after Jim (Galligan) and Atty. Bruchal were attacked at the wetlands meeting; the First Selectman responded that he talked with the Chairman (of the wetlands commission) but that conversation was private. The First Selectman then discussed how he attends various board meetings to witness how board members interact with the public and other board members; he stressed that professionalism is what he expects and if he was at the aforementioned wetlands meeting that he would have spoken up about the manner in which Atty. Bruchal and Jim Galligan were spoken to.

The First Selectman stated that he appreciates all of the hard work that the volunteers of the Seymour WPCA Board do, and all of the assistance that is given to the Public Works Department. Chairman Fanotto stated that in the future (this fall), a list of easements will be given to the First Selectman's office, and Attorney Bruchal will be sending out letters to the owners. In addition, all of the sewer easements will be completed so that none will be overlooked; also some of the sewer pipes will have root cutting performed and a root suppressant foam applied to the inside of the pipes.

Chairman Fanotto also addressed the sewer rate issue; the board will not be lowering sewer use rates as the lack of construction impact fees, which paid for capital improvements, is declining. The last rate increase was in October 2000, and a lowering of the sewer rate (2.85 to 2.75) in 2003 and in August of 2007 the senior discount was raised from 10% to 15%. The sewer rates are kept stable with only the well rate being adjusted to 75% of the average sewer usage bill, so a new average was derived. The well rate was too low at \$88.25 whereas the new well rate is \$108.85, which is the proper 75% average usage bill. A letter is being sent along with the well user bills. The First Selectman now left the building.

Attorney Bruchal then continued with the legal report- Jim Galligan is working with Attorney Bruchal for the writing of the 3 sewer encroachment letters. Discussion ensued about the amount of encroachment on the sewer line.  
Atty. Don Zehnder then had to report on possible litigation.

At 7:10pm **Jon Livolsi** made a motion, Stephen Chucta 2<sup>nd</sup>, to enter into executive session for the purpose of discussing a possible litigation. Motion passed 4-0.

At 7:24 the board came out of executive session, no motions were made and no votes were taken.

**Engineering Report-** Jim Galligan sent in a report as he was absent.

**Public Comment:** None

**Jon Livolsi** made a motion, Lou DeBarber 2<sup>nd</sup>, to adjourn the meeting. Motion passed 4-0. Meeting ended at 7:26pm