



**SEYMOUR WATER POLLUTION
CONTROL AUTHORITY**

PO Box 275
Seymour, Connecticut 06483

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DATE: 6-9-09
TIME: 4:10 p.m.
TOWN CLERK'S OFFICE

**The Minutes of the Seymour WPCA Board –Regular Meeting-
6pm on June 2nd, 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, Farzin Kiani, Area Manager Veolia Water, Jon Marro, Atty. Richard Bruchal, Jim Galligan, P.E. and other members of the public.

John Fanotto brought the meeting to order at 6:03pm.

The Pledge of Allegiance was given.

Stephen Chucta made a motion, Jon Livolsi 2nd, to accept the May 5th 2009 Minutes. Motion passed 3-0-1 (Lou DeBarber abstained as he was not present at the time).

John Fanotto then introduced the new Plant Manager, Carey Strout to the other board members.

Philly's Carwash at 253 West Street- The board discussed the clarification of application process for a sewer connection. Since the applicant sent only a letter (to be placed on the meeting agenda) and not the requisite drawings, application and application fee 10 calendar days prior to the meeting, the Chairman wanted to clear up any confusion on this matter. **Jon Livolsi** made a motion, Lou DeBarber 2nd, to state that drawings to engineer, application and application fees must be sent 10 calendar days prior to the meeting. Motion passed 4-0.

Veolia Water Reports-

Carey Strout introduced himself to the board and described his 10 years of wastewater experience. The Chairman then recognized the Veolia Water Area manager, Farzin Kiani, Mr. Kiani just stated that he was at the meeting to answer any questions that the board might have.

Carey Strout reported that at 2 Poplar Drive, during a call before you dig mark-out, the mark-out crew noticed that the homeowner was extremely close to the Sewer easement in the backyard. The homeowner was made aware of this (the building dept. did not)

possible encroachment on the sewer easement. Mr. Strout reported that the homeowner will be moving the planned pool and deck closer to the house away from the sewer easement. Discussion ensued about how the Building inspector/department should notify the Sewer department about these matters (like additions or remodeling of basements), and Atty. Bruchal was asked to talk to the building inspector to see if the sign off procedure could be altered to include the WPCA.

On an aside, Jon Marro was directed to make a bill to Oxford WPCA for \$626.18 for 10% of the DEP mandated plant improvements (Bisulfite pump and sensor installation). Carey Strout reported that Aquarion water required that the Rolling Hills pump station needed either a backflow preventer or removal of a hydrant. John Fanotto directed Jim Galligan to address this with the subdivision contractor to have it fixed or that the WPCA would bill them for the repair.

Sewer backup on 243 Pearl Street – Jon Livolsi made a motion, Lou DeBarber 2nd, to place this on the agenda. Motion passed 4-0.

Jaroslav Miczkowski (the homeowner) was present along with a contractor (did not get name).

Carey Strout then summarized the sewer backup events. Friday, May 29th the collections crew received a call at 9:30pm they went out to the house, checked the sewer line and found that a shelf from the sewer manhole was blocking the sewer invert. The crew moved the concrete and relieved the blockage from the sewer line. The crew entered the house and found 2-4 inches of wastewater in the basement of the house, Servpro was called and sucked the water out and put de-humidifiers to dry the basement out. Since part of the basement is finished Servpro recommended that a 2 foot part of the wall needs to be removed to clear any potential bacteria. The homeowner is in the process of closing on his house on June 30th and would like this taken care of before then. Discussion ensued about the details of the incident, and it was decided that this matter should be handed over to the insurance company via Atty. Richard Bruchal. The homeowner handed to Atty. Bruchal an estimated value list of damaged items that were in the basement.

Income report- this was submitted to the board.

Easement Discussion regarding Birchwood Road- Jon Livolsi made a motion, Lou DeBarber 2nd, to add this to the agenda. Motion passed 4-0.

Two persons came to the meeting to talk about this matter; Michael Blank of 9 Birchwood Road and Kaye Checkley of 77 Birchwood Road. 21:43
(What follows is a summary)

Michael Blank stated that the easement clearing in Birchwood was horrendous destruction and that the tree cutting was random plus more than what was necessary. John Fanotto rejected these assertions and asked if he was certified wetlands soil scientist and/or had certification to make judgments about the sewer easement clearing. Mr. Fanotto stated that only certified personnel can give expert conclusive statements in front of the WPCA board. Mr. Fanotto stated that he was speaking as an expert, as a registered professional engineer and land surveyor. Furthermore, the easements have to be cleared

as there are trees growing directly over where the sewer line lies; if there was a sewer backup due to tree root infiltration it would flow into a nearby brook spreading the raw sewage further.

Carey Strout (Plant manager of Seymour and former Assistant Plant manager of Naugatuck) recounted a situation in Naugatuck onto which proper easement clearing was not done and a sewer backup necessitated a CTDEP response of clearing and graveling of said easement at taxpayer expense. Chairman Fanotto stated that the WPCA board is trying to avoid such a scenario by the clearing of trees from this and other sewer easements.

Faye Checkley then spoke about the situation in Birchwood, asking why the WPCA board did not address the Wetlands board and why the WPCA Board did not get permission from the Wetlands board to clear the trees in the area. Faye Checkley also had strong opinions on the visual aspect of the tree clearing. Chairman Fanotto countered that Atty. Bruchal and Town Engineer Jim Galligan represented the WPCA board (who are all volunteers) at the meeting and were fully informed to the situation and the WPCA board does not need to ask to clear trees or maintain the sewer easements. The WPCA is the only board that authorizes the maintenance of the sewer easements. The board also rejected the report by NHSWCD, because it was technically incorrect, wrong in its observations and conclusions, did not meet the requirements for a sewer easement and not prepared by an expert.

Chairman Fanotto also laid out the steps in the maintenance of the sewer easements; first, the trees will be cleared out to 15' (7 ½ feet on each side of the sewer line), then the tree stumps will be grinded to flush with the ground, then the sewer lines will be visually inspected on the interior of the pipe with a TV probe, and the roots will be cut if there is root intrusion and a foaming root inhibitor will be used inside the pipe. In addition, if there is damage to the sewer pipes they will be repaired but there will not be any addition to these sewer lines or construction or excavation to the Birchwood area or any sewer easements.

Invoices – the following invoices were presented (see attached) to the board for authorization of payment. **Jon Livolsi** made a motion, **Stephen Chucta 2nd**, to pay the invoices. Motion passed 4-0.

During this point, Jim Galligan unveiled the new sewer map of Seymour to showcase the progress and near-completion of the GIS system.

Budget Workshop- The board worked on the FY 2009-10 budget for the WPCA operations. Discussion ensued about funding levels necessary for legal, engineering and Veolia water. Discussion also ensued about what is remaining in the bank balance and the pros and cons on the possibility of a rate increase.

Jon Livolsi made a motion, **Stephen Chucta 2nd**, to approve the budget with a view to a possible rate increase. Motion passed 4-0. The budget will be submitted to the Town clerk's office by June 30th.

Legal Report

Atty. Richard Bruchal discussed the wetlands commission with the board, and the application to the wetlands for the clearing of the sewer easements. Discussion ensued about the possible response to such an application and whether or not an application should even be necessary. Discussion ensued about whether or not if the Wetland Commission enforces the same standards on all boards/persons, including Seymour Public Works, Seymour Board of Education and CTDOT. Each of these was observed cutting brush without permits. It was decided by the board to wait on the environmental report by Robert Jontos of Land-Tech Consultants.

Engineering report-

Evening Star survey- Jim Galligan displayed maps as to where the sewer line and easement was in relation to a possible encroachment of a garage. John Fanotto directed that a sewer crew TV the sewer line for possible crushing damage on the line. Atty. Bruchal will contact the homeowner about the encroachments.

Jim Galligan then reported on possible negotiations of a sewer easement on the corner of Evening Star Drive (John Fanotto recused himself from the discussion). This is for the purposes of accessing the sewer line easement nearby. Jim Galligan recommends that negotiations should make to acquire this right of way to access the sewer line at Evening Star Drive. If the proposal can be resolved with the landowner, then Jim Galligan will present this to the board next meeting.

Carey Strout at this time presented the board with a quote on a Dissolved Oxygen monitor for \$3,500 that will help make the de-nitrification process more efficient and save electricity by controlling the blower speed. **Jon Livolsi** made a motion, Lou DeBarber 2nd, to accept the quote for \$3,500. Motion passed 4-0.

Carey Strout then presented the board with 3 quotes for repairing the main pumps in the main pump house of the plant. These pumps leak, the packing needs to be fixed, and shaft sleeves need to be replaced. The quotes range from \$5,000 per pump, \$8,000 per pump and \$11,000 per pump- and it is for 3 pumps total. Discussions ensued about the amount of work needed and reviewed the three quotes. The board then would like Carey Strout to find out what the cost would be for a replacement pump from the manufacturer (Fairbanks-Morris) for next meeting.

Carey Strout asked if the board would authorize Servpro on 243 Pearl Street cleaning. **Jon Livolsi** made a motion, Lou DeBarber 2nd, authorizing the cleaning by Servpro.

Public Comment- Stephen Cherhoniak asked if the DEP can be asked to look at the easement situation. Jim Galligan suggested that William Hogan of the CTDEP should be called.

Stephen Chucta made a motion, Jon Livolsi 2nd, to adjourn the meeting. Motion passed 4-0. Meeting ended at 8:28pm.