

MINUTES OF THE WATER AND WATER POLLUTION CONTROL AUTHORITY
Regular Meeting, April 23, 2009

The Regular Meeting of the Water and Water Pollution Control Authority began at 7:03 P.M. on the 23rd day of April, 2009, in the Richard R. Martin Center, Senior Citizen Center Library, 120 Broad Street (Rear), New London, CT.

- PRESENT:** Barry J. Weiner, Chairman
Bryon Thompson, Vice-Chairman
Mario Strafaci
Robert Grills
Evelyn Louziotis-- (7:35 p.m.)
- ALSO PRESENT:** Martin Berliner, City Manager
Frank Morelli, Public Utilities Administrator
Peter Vetter, Project Manager, Veolia Water
Kathryn Willis, Veolia Water
Marianna Gaynor McGuirk, Recording Secretary
Cora & Lou Valentin
Todd & Vickie Lathrop
Todd Blonder
Larry Daniels – Bill Clark – Jeff Daniels
Robert Milofski, Bob’s Septic Tank Cleaning
- ABSENT:** Wade Hyslop, Council Liaison
Richard Kotecki
-

1.0 ORDER OF BUSINESS

Chairman Weiner called the meeting to order at 7:03 P.M. The Secretary called the roll. A quorum was present.

2.0 CITIZEN PARTICIPATION

Upon motion of Bryon Thompson, seconded by Bob Grills, it was moved to take Item 4.0(1)(a) to the floor. The motion carried unanimously.

Mr. Todd Blonder noted that he was present at last month’s meeting and his request for reimbursement for repairs completed at his property at 308 Broad Street was tabled to allow him the opportunity to bring his contractors with him to the April 23rd meeting. Mr. Larry Daniels and Mr. Bill Clark were present to explain what they observed regarding the leak at 308 Broad Street. **After much discussion, upon motion of Bob Grills, seconded by Mario Strafaci, it was moved to reimburse Mr. Blonder for half of the bills submitted. The motion carried unanimously.**

Upon motion of Bryon Thompson, seconded by Bob Grills, it was moved to take Item 7.0(5) to the floor. The motion carried unanimously.

Robert Milofski, Bob’s Septic Tank Cleaning, was present to request approval of the Night Soil Haulers Disposal Application that he submitted on April 10, 2009. After discussion, **upon motion of Bryon Thompson, seconded by Bob Grills, it was moved to accept the application with conditions that the night soil has to originate from one of the communities that we serve. The motion carried unanimously.**

Upon motion of Bob Grills, seconded by Bryon Thompson, it was moved to take Item 7.0(4) to the floor. The motion carried unanimously.

Cora and Lou Valentin were present to discuss their concern over a water leak at their property at 23 Denison Avenue, New London, CT. After discussion, **upon motion of Mario Strafaci, seconded by Bob Grills it was moved to request Kathryn Willis to recalculate the bill based on the sewer portion being credited for the water that did not make it into the sewer system. The motion carried unanimously.**

Upon motion of Bryon Thompson, seconded by Bob Grills, it was moved to take Item 7.0(3) to the floor. The motion carried unanimously.

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Vickie & Todd Lathrop were present to discuss their concern regarding their water bill for property at 7 High Street, Waterford, CT. After much discussion, **upon motion of Bob Grills, seconded by Bryon Thompson, it was moved for the actual amount of water that was used to be calculated, the back bill to be done as allowed by State Statute – Section 16-259(a), and further to provide a for a reasonable payment plan if it presents a hardship for the ratepayers to bring account to a current status. Also it was added that Veolia should confirm with our legal department regarding recalculating the bill based on one year. The motion carried unanimously.**

At this point, Chairman Weiner acknowledged that City Manager Berliner was present at the meeting and welcomed and thanked him for attending the meeting.

3.0 MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING

(1) March 26, 2009 – Regular Meeting Minutes – Accepted

Upon motion of Bob Grills, seconded by Bryon Thompson, it was moved to accept the March 26, 2009 – Regular Meeting Minutes. The motion carried unanimously.

4.0 FOR THE INFORMATION OF THE AUTHORITY:

(1) Tabled Agenda Items

- a) 3/3/09 – Letter from Todd J. Blonder, T.J. Motors, Inc. RE: Request for Full Reimbursement for Repairs- 308 Broad Street (tabled from 3/26/09 meeting) (Handled under 2.0 Citizen Participation)
- b) Communications from Ferrucci & Walicki RE: Balance in Escrow and New Firewood Contract (tabled from the 2/26/09 and 3/26/09 meetings). Chairman Weiner suggested this agenda item ***remain tabled until a group meets to come to some determination on how they want to handle it.***

(2) On-going business of the Authority—Memo to W&WPCA from Frank Morelli: RE: Accomplishments

Frank Morelli reviewed his report and answered questions as raised by the Authority.

With regard to paragraph relative to East Lyme's Request for an Emergency Connection, Chairman Weiner noted that our position at this time is to listen and *requested that the Recording Secretary prepare a letter for his signature inviting Mr. Chris Clark and First Selectman Paul Formica to attend the May 28, 2009 meeting.*

Bryon Thompson noted that he went by Lake Konomoc the other day and noticed that there was lots of brush on the fence at Lake Konomoc. Peter Vetter noted that he would check into this.

(3) 4/14/09 Memo from Dennis Setzko, AECOM to Frank Morelli RE: New London Pump Stations #4, 5, 8, 9 Project Status Report

Upon motion of Evelyn Louziotis, seconded by Bob Grills, it was moved to receive for the record Items 4.0 (1) through 4.0 (3) and take actions as dictated by the Authority. The motion carried unanimously.

5.0 UNFINISHED BUSINESS

5.1 For the Information of the Authority to be Received For the Record:

a) Veolia Monthly Contract Operations Report – Received 4/14/09

Peter Vetter reviewed his report and answered questions as raised by the Authority. He noted that all Water and Wastewater are well within permit limits. Chairman Weiner questioned Peter Vetter relative to his remark and added that he assumed the levels of chlorine are all within State permits, etc. Chairman Weiner noted that he wanted the record to show that all paperwork has been complete i.e. State, Federal, and Local and we are in compliance with all permits. Peter Vetter assured him that was the case.

Peter Vetter noted that on March 26, 2009, all power was lost to the wastewater treatment facility as a result of a downed power line in Trumbull Point. The emergency generator did not transfer over, and when the operator attempted to manually transfer an explosion occurred outside of the plant and the primary fuses for the generator were blown. He

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added that the secondary generators were utilized for the 6.5 hours necessary until power was restored. During this episode, 5 variable frequency drives were destroyed. Traver Electric was called in on March 27, 2009 to assist with returning the WWTP to operation. Over 20 pieces of operating equipment were disabled. Within five (5) days all equipment except the primary generator were returned to service. He added that the manufacturer of the primary generator transfer switch was called in to evaluate the equipment and provide a price quote for any repairs necessary. Peter also noted that no raw sewage bypass occurred as a result of this incident. Bryon Thompson noted that it seems to be a common occurrence that every time we have to start the generator that we lose equipment. Peter Vetter noted that Square D is the manufacturer and installer of the initial transfer switch and switchgear. He added that he contacted them to come in to put together a proposal for troubleshooting the switchgear and transfer switch and another proposal for installing generator taps on the secondary side at the transformer (total for both \$36,500.00). Copies of Square D proposal were distributed to members of the Authority. **After a lengthy discussion, upon motion of Mario Strafaci, seconded by Bob Grills, it was moved to approve Veolia to go forward with these proposals. The motion carried unanimously.**

There was a brief discussion regarding Peter Vetter's handout entitled BID Abstract for UNILIVER, Clinton, CT. Peter reviewed the report and added that this could result in revenue for Veolia and the City of New London in the amount of \$50,000 -- \$100,000. **Upon motion of Mario Strafaci, seconded by Bob Grills, it was moved to investigate at Veolia's expense and at the same time get approval from Legal that if this bid is pursued and Veolia wins that we can do this. The motion carried unanimously.**

- b) Minutes and Agenda from Waterford Utility Commission
 - (1) Minutes – Regular Meeting – March 16, 2009 -- Received March 23, 2009
 - (2) Agenda – Special Meeting – April 16, 2009 – Received April 14, 2009

- c) Minutes and Agenda from East Lyme Water & Sewer Commission
 - (1) Agenda – Regular Meeting – 3/24/2009 – Received 3/20/09
 - (2) Minutes – Regular Meeting – 2/24/09 – Received 3/20/09

- d) Transfers/Deposits
 - (1) 3/6/09 Memo to Donald Goodrich from Frank Morelli RE: Transfer of Funds – Water Budget \$18,560.00
Chairman Weiner requested Frank Morelli to follow-up with status of this request for transfer. He noted that we have to pay the claims and judgments.
 - (2) 3/31/09 Deposit \$454,854.20 from the Town of Waterford (information only)

- e) Information List (**Actions as dictated by the Authority—information only**)
 - (1) 3/27/09 Memo to Kathryn Willis from Frank Morelli RE: Delinquent Accounts to Legal
 - (2) 3/31/09 Memo to Martin Berliner from Frank Morelli RE: Resolution Presented by Mario Strafaci at the 3/26/09 Meeting RE: Comprehensive Outside Audit
City Manager Berliner assured the Authority that a comprehensive outside audit will be performed and City Manager and Director of Finance are in the process of identifying a firm to do the audit. After a firm is selected, a meeting will be scheduled with the firm and Authority members so they can explain to the firm exactly what they are looking for.
 - (3) 4/8/09 Memo to Donald Goodrich from Frank Morelli RE: Resolution—Revoke Authorization of Unissued Debt for Sewer Rehabilitation, Infiltration and Improvements

- f) Invoices, Bills and Change Orders for Approval or Payment
 - (1) Veolia Water: Revised Invoice #7012474 in the amount of \$499,769.00 for May, 2009 (this include retro for March and April 2009)
Upon motion of Mario Strafaci, seconded by Bob Grills, it was moved to pay Veolia Water: Revised Invoice #7012474 in the amount of \$499,769.00 for May, 2009 (this include retro for March and April, 2009. The motion carried unanimously.
 - (2) Conway & Londregan, P.C.: Invoice # 36768 in the amount of \$450.00

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Upon motion of Evelyn Louziotis, seconded by Bob Grills, it was moved to pay Conway & Londregan, P.C.: Invoice # 36768 in the amount of \$450.00. The motion carried unanimously.

(3) Insituform Technologies, Inc.: Change Order #3, Contract #2007-01: Infiltration Inflow Rehabilitation; Area 5 (Time Extension)

Upon motion of Bob Grills, seconded by Mario Strafaci, it was moved to approve Insituform Technologies, Inc.: Change Order #3, Contract #2007-01: Infiltration Inflow Rehabilitation; Area 5 (Time Extension – No Cost. The motion carried unanimously.

(4) Veolia Water: Invoice #7012259 (Ikon Printer Lease) – September 2008 – February 2009 in the amount of \$1,200.00.

Upon motion of Bob Grills, seconded by Bryon Thompson, it was moved to pay Veolia Water: Invoice #7012259 (Ikon Printer Lease) – September 2008 – February 2009 in the amount of \$1,200.00. The motion carried unanimously.

(5) Traver IDC: Service Invoice #S16332 in the amount of \$35,526.85 (emergency service associated with the March 26, 2009 power failure plus purchase of equipment)

Upon motion of Bryon Thompson, seconded by Bob Grills, it was moved to pay Traver IDC: Service Invoice #S16332 in the amount of \$35,526.85 (emergency service associated with the March 26, 2009 power failure plus purchase of equipment) and request that our insurance company look into reimbursement. The motion carried unanimously.

(6) Kovacs Construction Corporation: Project: F-2505, Application #15, in the amount of \$101,354.71 (Rehab of P.S. 4,5,8,9)

Upon motion of Bryon Thompson, seconded by Bob Grills, it was moved to pay Kovacs Construction Corporation: Project: F-2505, Application #15, in the amount of \$101,354.71 (Rehab of P.S. 4,5,8,9). The motion carried unanimously.

g) Finance Report

(1) (a-d) Wachovia Securities – Received

(a) Treatment Plant Sinking Fund – Received -- 04/09/09

(b) Water Surcharge Account Water Fund – 04/13/09

(c) Sewer Fund – Received -- 04/09/09

(d) Water Fund - Capital Projects – Received 04/09/09

(2) Monthly Water/Sewer Finance Report – Received 04/14/09

h) Delinquency Report – Provided by Veolia – Received 4/14/09

Upon motion of Bryon Thompson, seconded by Evelyn Louziotis, it was moved for Veolia to forward the accounts recommended for legal action to the City Attorney with changes as per noted by Kathryn Willis. The motion carried unanimously.

The foregoing matters Items 5.1a) through 5.1h) are received for the record and/or referred to the Committee

6.0 OLD BUSINESS

7.0 NEW BUSINESS

(1) 3/31/09 – Letter to Ms. Barbara J. Janssen from Frank Morelli RE: Invitation to Attend 4/23/09 W&WPCA meeting

(2) 3/5/09 – Letter from Barbara Janssen to Frank Morelli RE: Relief on Water Usage

Upon motion of Evelyn Louziotis, seconded by Bryon Thompson, it was moved to accept Ms. Janssen's letter for the record and authorize a letter be sent to her informing her that the water meets the standards and no adjustments can be made on her bill. The motion carried unanimously.

(3) 4/2/09 – Email from Vickie Lathrop to Public Utilities RE: Water Bill – 7 High Street, Waterford, CT

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- (attached is invitation to attend the meeting via email) (Handled under Agenda Item 2.0 Citizen Participation)
- (4) 4/13/09 – Email from Cora Valentin to Frank Morelli RE: Water Leak and Invitation to Attend 4/23/09 & WPCA meeting attached thereto (Handled under Agenda Item 2.0--Citizen Participation)
 - (5) 4/10/09 – Night Soil Haulers Disposal Application from Bob's Septic Tank Cleaning and attached Invitation to Attend 4/23/09 W&WPCA meeting (Handled under Agenda Item 2.0 Citizen Participation)
 - (6) 4/14/09 – Letter from Chris C. Clark, L.S., to Frank Morelli RE: East Lyme Water Supply and Request to have Paul Formica, East Lyme's First Selectman and Chris C. Clark on the May 28, 2009 agenda for presentation.
- Upon motion of Evelyn Louziotis, seconded by Bob Grills, it was moved to accept 7.0(6) for the record and note that Chairman Weiner will be formally extending an invitation to both Mr. Clark and First Selectman Formica to attend our next meeting. This motion carried unanimously.**

Chairman Weiner distributed copies of the new proposed budget as developed at a meeting last week with the City Manager and Councilor Pero. **After discussion, upon motion of Mario Strafaci, seconded by Bob Grills, it was moved to reconsider the new proposed budget with changes. This motion carried unanimously.**

Upon motion Mario Strafaci, seconded by Bob Grills, it was moved to accept the modified Water and Sewer Budgets as outlined tonight and submit them to the City Council for their approval. This motion carried unanimously.

City Manager Berliner questioned the Authority regarding the Tremont Street Water Tank and asked if the Authority would allow advertising by Ocean Beach Park and New London Main Street on the tank. Chairman Weiner noted that he would not be opposed to the idea, but it would have to be in good taste. He also added that a host of other approvals would be necessary, and the Authority would have to see exactly what has been designed before a final decision would be made.

There was a brief discussion regarding the Forbearance Agreement. **Upon motion of Bob Grills, seconded by Mario Strafaci, it was moved to take the Forbearance Agreement off the table. This motion carried unanimously.**

Upon motion of Mario Strafaci, seconded by Bob Grills, it was moved to accept the Housing Authority's best offer and proceed forward with the Forbearance Agreement with the conditions that Veolia have access to meters, get the broken meters repaired or replaced, and get a clear definition of current bills and what should be paid. This motion carried unanimously.

8.0 ADJOURNMENT

Upon motion of Evelyn Louziotis, seconded by Bryon Thompson, it was moved to adjourn the April 23, 2009, meeting at 9:05 p.m. The motion carried unanimously. The next regularly scheduled meeting of the W&WPCA will be Thursday, May 28, 2009 beginning at 7:00 p.m. in the Richard R. Martin Center, Senior Center Library, 120 Broad Street (rear), New London, CT.

ATTEST TO BY: _____

SUBMITTED BY: _____

DATE APPROVED: _____

Distribution:

Barry J. Weiner, Chairman (via next month's Agenda)
Bryon Thompson, Vice-Chairman (via next month's Agenda)
Mario Strafaci, Authority Member (via next month's Agenda)
Richard Kotecki, Authority Member (via next month's Agenda)
Evelyn Louziotis, Authority Member (via next month's Agenda)
Robert Grills, Authority Member (via next month's Agenda)
Wade A. Hyslop, Jr., Council Liaison (via next month's Agenda)
Peter Vetter, Project Manager (via next month's Agenda)
Martin Berliner, City Manager (via next month's Agenda)
Donald Goodrich, Finance Director (via next month's Agenda)
Frank Morelli, Public Utilities Engineer
Michael Tranchida, City Clerk (3 copies)