TOWN OF EAST WINDSOR WATER POLLUTION CONTROL AUTHORITY

Minutes of Budget Workshop of February 6, 2020

Members Present: Paul Anderson, John Mazza and Jim Richards

Members Absent: Kirk Montstream

Others Present: WPCA Superintendent E. Arthur Enderle III, WPCA Chief Operator Edward Alibozek,

and Recording Secretary Laura Michael

Time and Place

The workshop began at 9:30 a.m. at the WPCA Admin Building, 192 South Water St, East Windsor, CT

I. <u>Discussion of FY2020 Budget</u>

Mr. Alibozek and Mr. Enderle provided handouts giving information on the WPCA FY2020-21 Budget and Financials. Mr. Enderle explained that the facility operates under State and Federal guidelines. There are statutory requirements and they are followed to a T. Financing is crucial and guided by the CT DEEP's, The Cost of Clean Water. Mr. Enderle reported that this facility is run like a business. The sewer user charge funds the budget; operation, maintenance, repair and replacement. This cost is funded directly by the sewer user. Mr. Richards explained that everyone benefits from the sewer plant. Without the sewer plant there is no economic development and the taxes are higher. Mr. Enderle explained that the accepted practice in CT is that the life expectancy of the plant is 20 years. He doesn't see a need for a major plant upgrade. He explained that it is easier to keep the facility in shape than to get it into shape. Mr. Anderson reported the Windsor Locks plant is at capacity. They are spending \$8 million to rehab one pump station. This isn't increasing capacity; this is only keeping what they have.

Mr. Enderle explained the sources of revenue, the funds available to the WPCA and the allowable use of the funds. The day to day costs of running the plant were discussed. These all have an effect on the sewer user charge.

Mr. Alibozek explained that they had gone through the legalities. Now they will show the projects that have been completed. The major achievements for 2019-20 were reviewed. The accomplishments going back to 2015 were highlighted. This shows that the staff has been able to complete major projects year after year. This has been done without taking on debt.

Mr. Enderle provided an update to the proposed budget. The line items reflect the updated numbers provided by the Treasurer's Office. There was also a revision to some of the figures in the budget. This brought the rate to \$404.00. Mr. Enderle explained he doesn't know where else to cut from in the budget. The rate could be offset by using funds. Mr. Mazza doesn't like to take from the slush fund to reduce/offset the rate. Mr. Enderle explained that one of the employees put in for retirement this week. The salary line could be reduced from 9 to 8 employees. They could try to do more with less. Mr. Richards stated that they have been doing projects in house and need to continue; real budgets are not fun. Mr. Alibozek explained that as they get more into the details, there are limits on the fund balances that they can't dip below. Town Treasurer, Amy O'Toole will be reviewing the WPCA financials on Monday, February 10th at 2 p.m. Mr. Enderle asked that another budget workshop be scheduled for next week. They agreed to meet Thursday, February 13th at 9:30 a.m.

II. Adjournment

The workshop adjourned at 11:57 a.m.

Respectfully submitted, Laura Prichael

Laura Michael

Recording Secretary