

**TOWN OF EAST WINDSOR
WATER POLLUTION CONTROL AUTHORITY**

Minutes of Zoom Meeting May 26, 2021

Members Present: Paul Anderson, Jim Richards and Steve Smith

Others Present: WPCA Superintendent E. Arthur Enderle III, WPCA Chief Operator Ed Alibozek, WPCA Attorney Michael Lanza and Recording Secretary Laura Michael

Time and Place

Paul Anderson, Chairman, called the meeting to order at 7:01 p.m. via Zoom

I. Pledge of Allegiance

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

II. Added Agenda Items

There were no added items.

III. Acceptance of Minutes of April 28, 2021

Motion: To accept the minutes of April 28, 2021 as presented.
Richards/Smith
In favor: Smith, Richards, Anderson
Motion carries

IV. Communications

Mr. Anderson had a legal notice for the Somersville sewer treatment facility. Their sewer use rate will be \$290 per EDU and Maple Ridge sewer use rate will be \$165 per EDU. The Suffield WPCA will have a sewer use rate of \$360 with an additional charge for water use over 46,000 gallons.

V. Visitors

There were no scheduled visitors.

VI. Public Participation

There was no one from the public.

VII. Receipt of Applications

School Hill Water Association, Elaine Dr, COM2021-003

Motion: To accept the application of School Hill Water Association, Elaine Dr, COM2021-003
Smith/Richards
Discussion: Mr. Anderson explained that this is a private water company. They are required to install a filtration system. They are connecting to the sewer so that when they back wash the water has somewhere to go.
In favor: Smith, Richards, Anderson
Motion carries

D&R Real Estate, 237 So Main St, COM2021-004

Motion: To accept the application of D&R Real Estate, 237 So Main St,
COM2021-004
Smith/Richards
Discussion: Mr. Anderson explained that this is a simple commercial connection.
In favor: Smith, Richards, Anderson
Motion carries

Ezedine, Central AS LLC, 198 So Main St, COM2021-005

Motion: To accept the application of Ezedine, Central AS LLC, 198 So Main
St, COM2021-005
Smith/Richards
Discussion: Mr. Enderle explained that this had been a residential property where
the house was torn down. The property is being redeveloped as an automotive
use. There will be eight rental units. They will be using one existing connection
and paying for one additional.
In favor: Smith, Richards, Anderson
Motion carries

VIII. Approval of Applications

School Hill Water Association, Elaine Dr, COM2021-003

Motion: To approve the application of School Hill Water Association, Elaine Dr,
COM2021-003
Smith/Richards
In favor: Smith, Richards, Anderson
Motion carries

D&R Real Estate, 237 So Main St, COM2021-004

Motion: To approve the application of D&R Real Estate, 237 So Main St,
COM2021-004
Smith/Richards
In favor: Smith, Richards, Anderson
Motion carries

Ezedine, Central AS LLC, 198 So Main St, COM2021-005

Motion: To approve the application of Ezedine, Central AS LLC, 198 So Main
St, COM2021-005 per plan of Central AS LLC, dated 29 April 2021, by JR
Russo & Associates LLC. Referencing Map 022 Block 05 Lot 079, Pages 2, 4,
5, 7 and 8 dated 24 November 2020.
Smith/Richards
In favor: Smith, Richards, Anderson
Motion carries

IX. Legal

***Sewer Ordinance Revision**

There were no legal items to discuss.

Motion: To suspend the regular meeting.
Smith/Richards
Passed unanimously

X. Public Hearing

Motion: To open the public hearing for revision to sewer use charges with the dispensing of the reading of the individual revisions as itemized in the legal notice.
Smith/Richards
Passed unanimously

Mr. Anderson read the legal notice that was published in the *Journal Inquirer* on May 14, 2021 without the individual revisions. No one from the public was present. Mr. Anderson asked if there was any discussion; there wasn't any.

Motion: To close the public hearing for revision to sewer use charges.
Smith/Richards
Discussion: Mr. Richards asked what the past year's rate had been. Mr. Anderson replied that it remained the same, \$404.
Passed unanimously

Motion: To resume the regular meeting.
Smith/Richards
Passed unanimously

XI. Action on Revision to Sewer User Charges

Motion: To approve the Revision to Sewer Use Charges and set the Sewer User Rate to \$404 annually
Smith/Richards
Discussion: Mr. Richards stated that unfortunately John Mazza was not with us. He would be thrilled that the rate had leveled off. Mr. Mazza had worked hard to get to this point.
In favor: Smith, Richards, Anderson
Motion carries

XII. Unfinished Business

IT Status

Mr. Alibozek explained that they had a couple of alarms this past week and the new Win-911 was working as it should. Mr. Alibozek participated in a cybersecurity webinar. We are doing what we should be doing; some staff training will be scheduled. Mr. Alibozek explained that the maintenance files are being backed up to the network storage. Mr. Smith asked if we are or will we be using two-factor authentication and what are we doing for redundant backups. Mr. Alibozek explained that we are backing up to the network storage, the cloud and a usb backup that is taken off site.

Paving Contracts

Mr. Enderle explained that as of yesterday, we are finally on the same page as DPW. DPW made a proposal for the reconstruction of Tromley Rd. Mr. Enderle found this agreeable. The WPCA will be responsible for any existing cracked manhole frames and covers. Part of Tromley Rd will be a full reconstruction. DPW will take care of the manhole frames and covers for this part. Mr. Enderle explained he was very happy to get an email from Mr. Norton and feels they are off to a good start. Mr. Enderle has reached out to Prime Electric and VMS to bring manholes back to grade. Mr. Enderle gave Mr. Anderson full credit. Mr. Anderson sent a letter to DPW and they were able to come to a resolution. Mr. Enderle thanked Mr. Anderson. Mr. Richards stated this is awesome. There are two departments in town working on infrastructure and are working together. Mr. Enderle explained that this saves money for the rate payer and the taxpayer.

Benefit Assessment Policy

This was not discussed.

XIII. New Business

Bill Sheet Review

Mr. Anderson reported that we are 92% through the budget year and 74% of the money has been spent.

Superintendent's Report

Mr. Enderle reported that it had been a busy month. The full crew will be returning to work on Tuesday, June 1st. 70% of the staff has been fully vaccinated. Non-vaccinated staff will need to wear face coverings. The work schedule has been rearranged with staggered start times.

Mr. Enderle explained that Mr. Anderson sent a letter to the First Selectman regarding GIS data. The only thing worse than no data is bad data. He thanked Mr. Anderson for bringing this to the Town's attention. Mr. Enderle asked Mr. Alibozek to share the WPCA Sewer Service Area map with the Town. Mr. Richards asked why the information at the plant is different than the Town's. Mr. Enderle said he didn't know how to reply. In 2010, the WPCA modified its Sewer Service Area Map and received approval from DEEP and OPM. The Town recently switched their GIS vendor from NeoGeo to AppGeo. They made a map of the sewer service area. Mr. Anderson reported that it is being fixed. Mr. Anderson explained that he and Mr. Enderle will sit down with the First Selectman. They will make sure the data comes from the correct source. Mr. Richards, as part of the EDC, has a concern that the correct information gets out. Attorney Lanza suggested putting the SSA map on the website. Mr. Enderle reported that it is on the website. Mr. Anderson explained that due to staffing, the Planning Department is not running smoothly. The correct information can be readily shared. It is bad for the Town to have inaccurate data when the correct data is available. Mr. Anderson reported that communication is the problem. The WPCA is the source of all sewer information. Mr. Enderle asked Mr. Alibozek how many people they have given copies of the map to? Mr. Alibozek replied dozens of people every quarter. The WPCA/WPCF should be the authority on all sewer related inquiries. Mr. Enderle stated that they had never not answered anyone's question. Mr. Anderson stated they are not going to apologize. It is our goal to make everything work up front. The WPCA was established by State Statute. Mr. Richards felt an email could be sent to Town staff with a link to the SSA map explaining that we want things to work better by providing the correct information. Mr. Anderson reported that a letter was sent to the First Selectman. He was asked to share it with the Board of Selectmen. We are trying to get past the part where we are being ignored. DEEP and OPM directs the WPCA. We didn't make the rules. Mr. Richards wants to keep this positive and non-confrontational.

Mr. Enderle explained that he would like to ask the Board for the approval to promote two of the WPCF staff.

Stephen Spellman will become the Lead Solids Handling Operator. He will be compensated an additional \$0.60 per hr. beginning June 1, 2021. Steve has taken on increased responsibilities as a result of the pandemic. Steve has 28 years of experience with the WPCF. His reliability, dependability and intrinsic knowledge of the Solids handling process make him the perfect candidate.

Jon Ference has been with the WPCF for 11 years as an Operator I. During the Covid pandemic Jon showed us he is worthy of being an Operator II. While this was expected to occur eventually, his performance during the pandemic expedited the decision. Jon will receive a \$0.30 increase on June 7, 2021 and will serve a 6-month probationary period. Provided Jon completes his probation he will receive an additional \$0.30 increase on or about December 7, 2021.

Mr. Enderle explained that he had carried \$2,500 in the 2020/2021 Budget in anticipation of these two promotions. Additionally, letters were received from the Chief Plant Operator and the Process Control Technician attesting to the above staff being deserving of such.

Mr. Alibozek agrees with Mr. Enderle and feels they are a little behind in rewarding Steve Spellman. Jon has been squeezing in 10 hours of work into an 8-hour day and jumping in where needed.

Motion: To approve the promotions of the two staff mentioned in the Superintendent's Report.
Richards/Smith
In favor: Smith, Richards, Anderson
Motion carries

Transfers

There were no transfers.

XIV. Adjournment

Motion: To adjourn the meeting at 8:19 p.m.
Smith/Richards

Respectfully submitted,

Laura Michael
Recording Secretary