

APPROVED MINUTES

Minutes of the Public Hearing and meeting of the Water Pollution Control Authority (WPCA) held on September 14, 2009 in the conference room of the Water Pollution Control Facility, 1122 Universal Drive.

PRESENT: Ms. McCarty, Messrs.: Lane, Pellegrino and Werner
ABSENT: Mr. Abercrombie and Ms. Sheridan
ALSO PRESENT: Jonathan Bodwell, Town Engineer
Alan Asikainen, Maguire Group
Mark Barrows, Plant Manager, Veolia Water
Diane Cuomo, Public Works

Mr. Werner, Chairman of the WPCA, called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

1. Public Hearing

Mr. Werner read the Notice of Public Hearing.

TOWN OF NORTH HAVEN NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

The Town of North Haven Water Pollution Control Authority (WPCA) will conduct a Public Hearing on Monday, September 14, 2009, at 7:00 p.m. in the conference room at the Water Pollution Control Facility located at 1122 Universal Drive. At such time, the Water Pollution Control Authority will consider the following:

1) Proposed Sewer Use Charge rates for October 2009 to September 2010

The purpose of the public hearing is to afford owners of property against which the sewer use charges are to be levied, to have the opportunity to be heard concerning the proposed charges.

A copy of the proposed charges is available for inspection in the Office of the Town Clerk.

2) Proposed Amendment to the Water Pollution Control Authority Rules and Regulations

Section III - Sewer Use Charge Regulations for the Town of North Haven

Section 2 J. In no case shall the sewer use charge for any multiple dwelling or non-residential use be less than the annual charge for a single family residential unit. ***(DELETING: unless the owner of the same can demonstrate that his actual sewer usage is less than the single unit charge in which case he should be charged accordingly.)***

A copy of the proposed amendment is available for inspection in the Office of the Town Clerk.

A meeting of the Water Pollution Control Authority will be held immediately following the Public Hearing.

Richard A. Werner, Chairman
Water Pollution Control Authority

Let it be noted that the proposed rates and proposed amendment to the WPCA Rules and Regulations, along with the Notice of Public Hearing, were filed with the Town Clerk on August 28, 2009. Additionally, Notice of the Public Hearing was published in the New Haven Register on September 2, 2009.

1) Sewer Use 2009 (JB)

Proposed Sewer Use Charge rates for October 2009 to September 2010

Mr. Bodwell presented proposed rates for Type I/single family at \$240.00; Type II/multi-family at \$480.00 and Type III/commercial at \$3.85/1,000 gallons.

He explained the calculation was based on the previous years expenditures, in the amount of \$2,826,376.56. Also Included in the calculation was a charge for North Branford in the amount of \$255,252.89 and \$27,000.00 from the Rate Stabilization Fund.

Mr. Michael Mele, 109 Maple Avenue, North Haven, was present at the public hearing.

Mr. Mele asked what the sewer use charges were for the past two years and the reason for the rate increase.

Mr. Bodwell provided him with the rates for the past two years and, additionally, explained the increase is due to operating costs, repair/replacement of equipment and the payment of debt.

2) Proposed Amendment to the Water Pollution Control Authority Rules and Regulations

Mr. Bodwell advised he requested the proposed change so that no commercial unit will be paying less than less than a single-family residential unit.

He explained by deleting " unless the owner of the same can demonstrate that his actual sewer usage is less than the single unit charge in which case he should be charged accordingly" he will accomplish the above.

Mr. Werner made a motion to close the public hearing, seconded by Mr. Lane. The vote was unanimous in favor.

The Public Hearing closed at 7:10 p.m.

Mr. Bodwell requested a change in the agenda moving the deliberation session (Item #4) for the public hearing to this point in the meeting.

Mr. Pellegrino motioned to approve this change to the agenda, seconded by Ms. McCarty. The vote was unanimous in favor.

4. A. Establish Sewer Use Charge Rate for the billing year 2008-09 (JB)

1) Status report

Mr. Bodwell presented the following sewer use rates surveyed for surrounding towns:

Cheshire - \$315.00; Meriden - \$275.00; Milford - \$227.40; North Branford - \$325.00; Orange - \$317.00; Wallingford - \$272.00 and West Haven - \$242.00 (Wallingford and West Haven were based on assumption of 200 gallons per day).

Mr. Pellegrino added the plant has run efficiently for many years and thus our rates were 20% to 40% below those of surrounding towns. Unfortunately over the last few years replacement of certain equipment has increased due to the age of the plant at a significant cost to the Town (in particular the digester project at \$500,000.00)

Ms. McCarty reiterated also how important it is to build capital. She referred to the recent emergency situation at the Old Broadway Pump Station which cost between \$30,000.00 to \$40,000.00.

2) Establishment of Sewer Use Charge 2008

Mr. Pellegrino made a motion to approve the rates for the sewer use (as published) for 2008-2009 as follows:

Type	I	Single Family Residence	\$ 240.00
Type	II	Two Family Residence	\$ 480.00
Type	III	Industrial/Commercial	\$ 3.85/1000 Gallons,

seconded by Mr. Lane. The vote was unanimous in favor.

B. Amendment to the Water Pollution Control Authority Rules and Regulations

Section III - Sewer Use Charge Regulations for the Town of North Haven

Section 2 J. In no case shall the sewer use charge for any multiple dwelling or non-residential use be less than the annual charge for a single family residential unit.

4. B. Amendment to the (WPCA) Rules and Regulations *(Continued)*

(DELETING: unless the owner of the same can demonstrate that his actual sewer usage is less than the single unit charge in which case he should be charged accordingly.)

Mr. Pellegrino made a motion to adopt the above amendment with an effective date of October 1, 2009. Ms. McCarty seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous in favor.

3. Minutes of the previous meeting

Ms. McCarty made a motion to approve the minutes of the August 24, 2009 meeting, seconded by Mr. Pellegrino. The vote was unanimous in favor.

5. WPCF - Plant Operations - status report (MB/Veolia Water)

Mr. Barrows reported the plant is running well with no violations for the month of August. He added we were above our nitrogen limit for the month of August. We are still running around \$13,000 to \$14,000 credit if year were to end now.

For the purpose of Mr. Mele, Mr. Barrows provided a brief overview of the recent problem at the Old Broadway Pump Station which is estimated to cost the Town in excess of \$30,000.00 for emergency repairs and bypass system .

6. Miscellaneous

None

7. Payment of Bills

Bill Number 1886, Bob's #1, Inc., D/B/A Mr. Rooter Plumbing, in the amount of \$30,560.00 - Mr. Lane made a motion to approve payment, seconded by Ms. McCarty. The vote was unanimous in favor.

Bill Number 1887, Veolia Water North America, in the amount of \$4,793.20 - Mr. Pellegrino made a motion to approve payment, seconded by Mr. Lane. The vote was unanimous in favor.

Bill Number 1888, RMS of Cheshire, Inc., D/B/A Nustone Industries, Inc., in the amount of \$1,437.50 - Ms. McCarty made a motion to approve payment, seconded by Mr. Pellegrino. The vote was unanimous in favor.

8. Public Comments

Mr. Michael Mele, 106 Maple Avenue, asked the Commission to confirm his understanding that the sewer use increase (approximately \$3.00 per month) is due to significant costs for equipment repair and replacement.

Mr. Mele suggested when posting the new rates, an explanation be given so residents can better understand the reasoning behind the increase.

For the future, Mr. Mele suggested competitive bids on chemicals and material for the Water Pollution Control Facility.

9. Adjournment

Mr. Pellegrino made a motion to adjourn, seconded by Mr. Lane. The vote was unanimous in favor. The meeting adjourned at 7:31 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

William Lane
Secretary