

**TOWN OF TOLLAND, CONNECTICUT
WATER POLLUTION CONTROL AUTHORITY
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES OF DECEMBER 20, 2011**

Members Present: Todd Rolland, Chair
Jim Williams
Matthew Rood
Bruce Allen
Perne Maynard, Alternate

Others Present: Linda Farmer, Director of Planning & Community Development
Ben Stanford, Town Council liaison
Jason Hofmann, The Water Planet

1. Call to Order: Todd Rolland, Chair called the meeting to order at 6:06p.m. in Conference Room A on the 2nd Floor. He noted that the Agenda included some items that had previously been addressed in the November meeting and the Board agreed to discuss the remaining items still open.
2. Public Comment: None.
3. Approval of November 15, 2011 Regular Meeting minutes. Jim Williams/Perne Maynard motion to approve the November 15, 2011 Regular Meeting minutes. Todd Rolland, Jim Williams, Matt Rood, and Perne Maynard voted to approve. Bruce Allen abstained. Motion passed.
4. Set Public Hearing date for proposed revisions to Article III of the Sewer Regulations and for the removal of the sewer assessment encumbrances for Lots 2, 9, and 10 in the Business Park. Linda Farmer informed the Board that she met with Rick Conti, and these items need to be taken care of. She said someone is interested in buying Lot 10 in the Business Park. We need to set a Public Hearing date so we can set the connection charges and lift the assessments from the lots. She noted the sewer assessments are \$22,600 for 35 Gerber Drive (Lot 2); \$85,657.50 for 90 Gerber Drive (Lot 9), and \$178,506 for 97 Gerber Drive (Lot 10).

Jim Williams/Bruce Allen motion to set a Public Hearing date for January 17, 2012 for the proposed revisions to Article III of the Sewer Regulations and for the removal of the sewer assessment encumbrances for Lots 2, 9 and 10 in the Tolland Business Park. Motion was unanimously approved.

5. Operator Report – Jason Hofmann, The Water Planet Company – Jason Hofmann distributed report No. 43. He noted there were a lot of power outages during the October 29, 2011 storm, with a large number of alarms, but most hit during the middle of the work day. Several alarms tripped on and off. He recommended that the Town look into getting a reimbursement for fuel used for generators from FEMA. Linda Farmer said that Clem Langlois has been

working on FEMA paperwork and she will check with him that he is applying for fuel reimbursement.

Jason Hofmann said the cover at the Gerber Road pump station has become an issue. The groundwater at the station is 6” deep and they may need to get a pump and dewater the hole. He said they had to dig trenches for the new piping and there is a lot of water there. He said he doesn’t know if they will be able to dig around the cover and lift it off as the detention pond is filled to the top. Linda Farmer said there is a high groundwater level there near Gages Brook and that the detention pond has filled with silt and is not functioning as it should. She said the Inland Wetlands Commission is looking at this.

The Board agreed that they should have United Concrete look at the situation first and there was consensus that it might be best to wait another month until the ground is frozen before doing any digging.

Jason Hofmann said he just got the purchase order from the Town for the pigging of the collection system. He will call Montauk Company as he is not sure if they will do the work in January or February, but also if they would hold the price until possibly April when the snow season has passed. Additionally, even if Montauk will do the work in the winter, he will need to also check to see if the police will want to do it in the winter months. They will need two officers all day. Jason Hofmann said to do the work they need to set up man-made detention ponds up and down the driveway across from the Big Y as they will need in the neighborhood of 90,000 gallons of water. He said he can’t see risking mobilizing all that equipment and then having to reschedule because of a snowstorm. The price would likely double if that happened. Linda Farmer expressed concern about the amount of water needed and said she will check with the water company if this might pose an issue.

Lastly, Jason Hofmann brought up the issue of the contract for The Water Planet Company, which is coming due. Todd Rolland said they are pleased with their work, but might like to entertain a shorter contract extension—possibly two years instead of five years. Linda Farmer asked if the contract extension offer would include the same services they have been providing. Todd Rolland noted the services would be the same, but there is a 5 percent increase in costs. Jason Hofmann was open to a shorter term extension.

Referring back to the October 29 storm, Bruce Allen asked if there might be any opportunity for the town to get any reimbursement for the electricity loss incurred since they were out for several days. Linda Farmer said she will check with Clem Langlois.

6. Consultant Report – The Board reviewed the letter to be sent to Ivonne Hall, Sanitary Engineer with the Department of Energy and Environmental Protection (DEEP). He noted that the meeting planned with them for last week had been cancelled. The Board said they would expect some feedback from DEEP in January. The Board also had a broader discussion about the burden on small communities from such consent orders.
7. Route 195 Sanitary Sewer Extension Project – Status Update – Linda Farmer said she received the record drawings from Gardner and Peterson and she had Kurt Mailman from Fuss & O’Neill look them over. She said Kurt Mailman had some corrections that needed to be made. There was consensus from the Board that if Gardner and Peterson make the

changes Kurt Mailman recommended, then the final check can be released. Linda Farmer said that Fuss & O'Neill will also hold a copy of the record drawings.

8. Joint Workshop with Town Council and Water Commission – Jim Williams suggested making this their January workshop meeting. However, Linda Farmer said Thursdays would be a problem for the Chair and Vice Chair of the Water Commission who are also on the Conservation Commission. Todd Rolland suggested they meet the Tuesday after the WPCA's January meeting as part of the Town Council meeting. Jim Williams said he would prefer they get together in a workshop format. Todd Rolland said he will email Steve Werbner to see what would work best for everyone.
9. Town Council Budget Presentation – Linda Farmer confirmed with the Board that they would be looking to receive the same funding from the Town Council as the previous year.
10. Fats, Oils, & Greases Regulation – Status Update – This is ready for a Public Hearing and the Board expects to hold it in February. Linda Farmer said she received an inquiry from the Star Hill Family Athletic Center. They have a grease recovery unit that empties into a 50-gallon drum. However, they have little or no grease and this creates an odor problem. They inquired if they could get a FOG waiver. Jim Williams said the WPCA does not have the authority to grant waivers and that the requirements are based on classifications of food service establishments that are set by the Health Department. Linda Farmer said she would look into what food service classification Star Hill falls under and recommend their engineer look at alternative grease units.
11. Other WPCA Business – Todd Rolland discussed the issue of the contract with The Water Planet. He said Tata & Howard Company would like to do a possible presentation of a capital efficiency plan combining services to both the Tolland Water Company and the WPCA. There may be some possible efficiency of scale for the town.

Bruce Allen said he is happy with The Water Planet's services. Todd Rolland concurred noting that even though their fee is going up, they have not had an increase in the last five years. There was consensus to see what Tata & Howard has to offer and to leave things as is until they have a new engineer on board. They could hold off voting on the contract issue until April to give the new engineer time to get acclimated to the Town and to see the presentation from Tata & Howard. Todd Rolland said he will email Jason Hofmann on their discussion.

There was consensus to cancel the Thursday, December 22, 2011 workshop meeting this week.

12. Adjournment. Jim Williams/Bruce Allen motion to adjourn the meeting and pay the clerk at 7:15p.m. Motion was unanimously approved.

Respectfully submitted,

Annie Gentile
Clerk