

**TOWN OF SOMERS
WATER POLLUTION CONTROL AUTHORITY
P.O. BOX 308
SOMERS, CT 06071**

**WPCA MINUTES
REGULAR MEETING
June 1, 2010
TOWN HALL – 7:30 pm**

I. CALL TO ORDER:

Chairman Jim Botellio called the regular meeting of the WPCA to order at 7:35 pm. Members present included: Dan Fraro, Charles Colby and Steve Getman. Also present: Steve Jacobs, Registered Sanitarian, Mike Mocko, Ward Engineering.

II. MINUTES APPROVAL (3/02/10, 5/4/10 and 5/11/10):

a) March 2, 2010

Mr. Botellio asked the members for comments or corrections on the 3/02/10 Minutes. None were brought forth.

A motion was made by Steve Getman to approve the 3/2/2010 Minutes as written; seconded by Charles Colby, and then unanimously voted to approve by the members.

b) May 4, 2010

Mr. Botellio asked members for comments or corrections on the 5/4/2010 Minutes. None were brought forth.

A motion was made by Dan Fraro to approve the 5/4/2010 Minutes as written; seconded by Steve Getman, and then unanimously voted to approve by the members.

c) May 11, 2010

Mr. Botellio asked members for comments or corrections on the 5/11/2010 Minutes. It was pointed out that Chairman, Jim Botellio should have been indicated as calling the meeting to order (Page 1, Section I), not Charles Colby.

A motion was made by Charles Colby to approve the 5/11/2010 Minutes as amended; seconded by Steve Getman, and then unanimously voted to approve by the members.

III. SUNSET DRIVE – TCP WELL WATER REMEDIATION:

Steve Jacobs informed members that the State Bond Commission cancelled its May meeting. He added that per the Board of Selectmen's most recent meeting minutes, they are of the opinion that we should be able to proceed with Sunset Drive. The BOS is prepared to appropriate the necessary funds. Mr.

Botellio questioned the State's ability to reimburse the Town, even with the understanding that this project had been approved.

Mr. Jacobs told Commission members he had looked into the Water and Sewer accounts. This, in an effort to identify funds to pay Mike Mocko, who is owed approximately \$5,000.00. He found the funds in the Water Account (to be reimbursed by the State), and asked Mr. Mocko to submit a new invoice.

IV. SOMERSVILLE WPCF:

Steve Jacobs mentioned he has received a verbal Bid from D. Hinckley. Mr. Hinckley is suggesting using a conduit, which will be less expensive. His bid is as follows:

Excavation, labor & Materials:	\$1,943.00
Wiring	<u>\$ 450.00</u>
	\$2,393.00

Mr. Jacobs pointed out that a remote set-up vs. the hard-wiring being proposed would have brought total cost to \$2,263.00. Mr. Getman stated hardwiring to be a better option, even with the slightly higher cost. As a group, it was felt that it would be worth the \$130.00 in the long run for the Town.

Mr. Mocko asked if F. Smith (original vendor) was also asked for a quote. Mr. Botellio suggested Mr. Jacobs and Mr. Mocko speak jointly to Mr. Smith asking for his interest in submitting a bid. He added that it's in the best interest of the Town to allow F. Smith to participate in the process, and give him an opportunity to correct his error. It was decided that Mr. Jacobs would email F. Smith. Next he and Mr. Mocko would speak with him, followed up by a certified letter regarding their conversation. Mr. Colby suggested including a 2 week deadline for F. Smith.

V. HEALTH DEPT. REGIONALIZATION:

Steve Jacobs opened the topic by listing a number of Town Health Services that are no longer be funded, such as Meals on Wheels, Enfield ARC, North Central Counseling, and VNA, among others.

Mr. Jacobs distributed copies of a graph depicting the Town's Septic/Sewer Permits (both new and repair & replacements), from 1997 through 2010. This showed an average of 75 new per year, and 33 repair/replacements. Mr. Jacobs stated that he expects the figures to go up next year, naming Leaska and Somers Village as examples. Additionally, repairs and replacements are done all year, regardless of development.

Mr. Jacobs then distributed copies of a report on fees for services from Eastern Highlands, North Central and the Town of Somers. He suggested increasing the Town's current fees and make a recommendation to the BOS. In nearly all items, Somers had the lowest fees, with North Central being the highest. The final page of Mr. Jacobs' report reviewed WPCA/Health Revenue Projections from 2007-2008 through an estimated 2010-2011.

Mr. Botellio agreed an increase of fees seemed appropriate, although not as high as North Central. He asked Mr. Jacobs to prepare a new schedule with specific increases and the Commission would address it at that time. He added that raising fees comparable to Eastern Highlands would increase the WPCA revenues by 50-100%, and fund the necessary Health programs.

Mr. Mocko spoke up as a current user of Town services, stating that the fees are relatively unimportant, simply a cost of doing business. He added that prompt and professional service as currently being provided as more important.

The Commission had a brief discussion regarding the Sewer & Water billing being shifted to the Tax Office.

Mr. Botellio closed by stating that he will speak with the First Selectman, let her know the Commission will have a recommendation on raising fees. He also added that a representative from WPCA should attend the next Board of Selectmen meeting. He mentioned that if Mr. Jacobs can re-draft the Fee Schedule within days, he might call for a Special Meeting of the WPCA to take place.

VI. CORRESPONDENCE/AUDIENCE PARTICIPATION:

Steve Jacobs reviewed the following as current correspondence:

- a) **Delinquent Accounts:** Mr. Jacobs had been contracted by Atty Cohen regarding the Tax Sale. The attorney questioned whether the Town wanted to pursue 2 accounts, thereby taking them to Auction.
- **(8 Shaker Rd. and 54 Main St.)** These accounts are multiple family and simply never responded to either the Town's offer of a payment plan, or to the attorney. Mr. Getman stated that as these are rental properties, they should pay us, so they should remain on the Tax Sale list.
 - **138 Main Street** This account is both a multi-family and business property. He had agreed to a payment plan. The original plan should have been paid off in mid May. He signed and made an initial payment in March, no payment in April, and one in May.

A motion was made by Steve Getman to pursue legal action against 138 Main Street, M. Redmond for collection; seconded by Dan Fraro. In the vote that followed, Jim Botellio, Steve Getman, and Dan Fraro voted aye, where Charles Colby abstained from voting.

Mr. Jacobs suggested he communicate with Mr. Redmond, give him til Friday, June 4, 2010 to respond or the Town will proceed with legal action. The group agreed with this course of action.

- b) **Water Fund Update:** Mr. Jacobs stated the Town is making Fire Protection payments; although the 2008 transfer was not made.

Mr. Jacobs stated that the Water account currently has \$287,000.00; with a 2nd account at Rockville Bank (at a higher int. rate) which has \$58,000.00 for a total of \$335,000.00. Mr. Botellio said WPCA now has the funds to pay off the debt (\$335,000.00) to the Town. Mr. Fraro asked how long WPCA has to pay off the debt. It is due in 2018.

- c) **Request for hook-up at 10 Polo View Road.** Mr. Jacobs stated that this was put out to Bid. Only 1 response was received - from Hinckley for \$4,850.00.

A motion was made by Charles Colby to accept the Hinckley bid for water hook-up at 10 Polo View Road; seconded by Steve Getman, and then unanimously voted to approve by the members.

- d) **Somerville WPCF:** Mr. Jacobs stated he had an energy audit done. He will receive their findings on lights, savings, etc., and report back to the Commission. Currently all Town buildings are under

contract with TransCanada. Mr. Jacobs has asked for a copy of that contract. He is of the opinion that savings of up to 25% are possible.

VII. BILLS:

Steve Jacobs submitted the following invoices for payment:

DEP – Permit Fee	\$1,722.50
Joe Ward Engineering	\$5,800.00
CBS	\$79.21
Millipore Corporation	\$101.67
Millipore Corporation	\$188.80
Hach Company	\$120.24

A motion was made by Charles Colby to approve these invoices for payment; seconded by Steve Getman, then unanimously approved by the members.

VIII. ADJOURNMENT:

A motion to adjourn was made by Charles Colby; seconded by Steve Getman, and unanimously approved to adjourn the June 1, 2010 Regular meeting of the Water Pollution Control Authority at 8:50 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Daniel Fraro, Secretary

Kimberly E. Dombek, Recording Secretary

MINUTES ARE NOT OFFICIAL UNTIL APPROVAL AT A SUBSEQUENT MEETING.