

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

**WPCA MINUTES
REGULAR MEETING
October 5, 2010
TOWN HALL – 7:30 pm**

I. CALL TO ORDER:

Chairman Jim Botellio called the meeting of the WPCA to order at 7:35 pm. Members present included: Charles Colby, Daniel Fraro and Steve Getman. Also present: Steve Jacobs, Registered Sanitarian, Mike Mocko, Ward Engineering, Maryanne Danyluk and Bill Warzicki, of the CT Department of Environmental Protection (DEP). The audience was filled with interested citizens.

II. SUNSET DRIVE – TCP WELL WATER REMEDIATION PROJECT:

Mr. Botellio opened the topic, speaking to the audience, residents of Sunset Drive and Main Street. He stated his intent to go over the project schedule and address the Homeowners' Installation Agreement. He informed the audience that the Project Engineer was also present to go over design and installation issues, and that two DEP representatives were also present to address any environmental questions.

Mr. Botellio said that a Bid meeting was held this morning; 9 contractors attended. He added bids are to be received by October 22, 2010; and then all bids would be reviewed on October 25, 2010; and the lowest responsible bidder selected. He expects to award the bid by November 15, 2010. Mr. Botellio reminded residents that they would need to execute their copies of their Agreement for Installation and Provision of Water Service, by December 31, 2010.

Mr. Botellio explained that the signed Agreement allows the Town to bring public water into the homes. Upon signing the Agreement, the resident also gives access to the contractor, and set an appointment with the plumber. He added that most homes are projected to be connected between March and May of 2011. After connection, landscaping will take place. Essentially, all homes will be returned to pre-construction status.

Mr. Botellio explained that the project is being paid by a State Grant; representing an approximate \$3,000-\$5,000 cost benefit to residents. He finished by stating that residents who opt for public water, will also have to abandon their wells.

Mark Marshall, 53 Sunset Drive, mentioned other similar projects in Town where homeowners were able to keep their wells. Mr. Marshall stated Sunset Drive residents were being penalized, and asked why they couldn't keep their wells for non-potable use; i.e. pools, lawn-watering, gardens, car-washing, etc. Mr. Jacobs responded that the Rye Hill project was funded by the Dept. of Correction, rather than by State Grant. Mr. Botellio further explained that the Grant requires abandonment of the wells.

Bill Warzicki, of the DEP, explained that State law doesn't allow the discharge of polluted water on the ground. He explained that while no one is forcing homeowners to sign; public water is the best permanent solution.

Mr. Marshall asked him to define abandonment of a well. Mr. Warzicki said the well would be filled and sealed. Mr. Marshall stated it is his intention to tie into public water for his home. He added he does not see any harm in using the well for the lawn, pool, garden, etc. Mr. Botellio responded that some residents on Rye Hill opted not to tie into Town water and explained they purchased their own filter systems, and must also pay for regular inspections.

Mr. Warzicki explained that in instances of contamination, the DEP first seeks the responsible party; impossible in this example. The DEP might also go after the manufacturer, or give the Grant to provide potable water. He added that public water is the best option, and the most prudent, permanent solution. He explained that the State does not allow the DEP to gift the filter systems; therefore the filters would be removed.

Barbara Kees, 39 Sunset Drive asked if they don't tie in and the filter is removed, would they have to put in a new system right away. Mr. Warzicki recommended that, and outlined the cost at approximately \$1,600, plus changing out the filter every 3 years at a cost of \$400-\$500.

Holly Miller, 31 Sunset Drive, asked about language in the Agreement, which state that if Grant funds are not sufficient; homeowners are to bear the additional cost. Mr. Warzicki stated he felt the Grant would be sufficient, but if not, they would go back to the State Bond Commission for additional funds. Mr. Botellio stated that as this is to be a State funded project, he would go back to the attorney's and re-draft that portion of the Agreement.

Richard Thomas, 31 Sunset Drive stated he also would prefer to keep his well for non-potable uses.

Mr. Getman pointed out the WPCA's and DEP's primary concern of cross connection; one contaminated well can then pollute their neighbor's. Ms. Danyluk agreed that she had seen that happen. Mr. Getmen added that is the main reason the State mandates abandonment of wells.

Ms. Miller and Ms. Kees questioned specific services covered by the Grant. Mr. Jacobs assured them that all excavation, installation, landscaping, inspection, are included in the Grant.

Mr. Thomas asked about the tie-in to the house; would it be where it currently is. Mr. Mocko answered that with the design, he had located wells and locations where lines currently come into homes. He said the new service line will be in the same general direction to minimize interior plumbing needed. Mr. Mocko discussed the 2nd phase of the project which would take water from the curb to the foundation. Plumbing inside might need modification to activate public water. Then a sub-contractor takes care of the well abandonment and seal. He stated landscaping would be last, all sidewalks, driveways, lawns would be returned to pre-construction conditions. Mr. Mocko stated regular inspections would take place throughout the project, and mentioned he would be available to residents to resolve any questions or issues that might arise.

Catherine Butkiss, 13 Main Street, questioned whether the connection would be from Sunset Drive or Main Street. She lives on the corner. Mr. Mocko believed the connection to be from Main Street, in this example.

Mary Lawless, 23 Main Street, mentioned her property's leachfield and questioned the connection. Mr. Mocko said that he and Mr. Jacobs would re-look at this, and recommend whichever is more economically feasible.

Jim Herbert, Main Street, asked about additional fire hydrants. Mr. Jacobs told him 2 additional hydrants will be installed on Sunset Drive, at the Town's expense.

Mr. Botellio asked for any further questions from the audience. None were brought forth. He thanked them for their participation.

III. MINUTES (9/14/10):

Mr. Botellio asked the members for comments or corrections on the 9/14/2010 Minutes. None were brought forth.

A motion was made by Steve Getman to approve the 9/14/2010 Minutes as written; seconded by Charles Colby, and then unanimously voted to approve by the members.

IV. CORRESPONDENCE:

Steve Jacobs reviewed the following items as current correspondence:

- a) **Notice From DEP:** Mr. Jacobs received notice from the DEP that the Town's permit expires in July of 2011. He needs to submit the application by January 5, 2011; and is working on it.
- b) **Delinquent Sewer/Water Fees:** Mr. Jacobs informed members that all the large delinquent accounts have been paid through the Tax Sale.
- c) **RFP:** Mr. Jacobs stated that he received only 1 bid to clean the tanks at the plant, Avery Septic, with a bid of \$9,000. He recommended to members that they accept this bid.

A motion was made by Steve Getman to accept the Avery Septic bid; seconded by Charles Colby, and then unanimously voted to approve by the members.

- d) **Insurance Coverage at the Plant:** Mr. Jacobs stated the Town had asked him to look at insurance coverage at the Plant. Coverage currently stands at \$56,300 on the building, and contents at \$2,700. Mr. Jacobs said he is considering a recommendation of \$100,000 on the building, and \$10,000 for contents, and asked members opinions. Mr. Botellio agreed that the added protection seems wiser. It was also recommended that a minimal Flood Insurance policy be obtained because the facility is located in a Flood Hazard Area.
- e) **Sewer & Water:** Legal notice on new rates and bills have been sent out.
- f) **Sunset Drive:** executed Agreement returned to the State.

V. BILLS:

Steve Jacobs submitted the following invoices for payment:

Hinckley Construction (Rte 190 crossing)*	\$16,080.00
Somers Ace Hardware	\$5.92
Journal Inquirer	\$543.03

Journal Inquirer	\$94.44
Journal Inquirer	\$110.18
Hazardville Water Company	\$1,351.48

Mr. Jacobs pointed out that the Hinckley Construction bill is \$750.00 higher than projected due to the need for extra asphalt. The consensus found this understandable.

Mr. Botellio asked about the Hazardville Water bill, which was positioned as the WPCA share of repairs to the Scitico Water Storage Tank. He questioned the work as routine maintenance vs. repair. Mr. Jacobs agreed, he considered the work to be routine maintenance and stated he would speak to Hazardville Water Co. Mr. Colby recommended tabling the Hazardville Water Co. invoice.

A motion was made by Charles Colby to table the Hazardville Water Co invoice and approve all others for payment; seconded by Steve Getman, then unanimously approved by the members.

VI. ADJOURNMENT:

A motion to adjourn was made by Charles Colby; seconded by Daniel Fraro, and unanimously approved to adjourn the October 5, 2010 Regular meeting of the Water Pollution Control Authority at 9:08 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Daniel Fraro, Secretary

Kimberly E. Dombek, Recording Secretary

MINUTES ARE NOT OFFICIAL UNTIL APPROVAL AT A SUBSEQUENT MEETING.