

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

**MINUTES
WPCA Regular Meeting
Town Hall Conference Room
February 2, 2016
7:30 p.m.**

I. Call to Order:

Chairman Jim Botellio called the meeting to order at 7:30 p.m. Members present were: Jim Botellio; Steve Getman; Mark Marschall; George VanTasel; Jim Faust; Dan Fraro; and Town Sanitarian Steve Jacobs. Charles Colby was absent.

II. Minutes: January 5, 2016

George VanTasel *made a motion to approve the 2-2-16 minutes, as written. This motion was seconded by Jim Faust and unanimously approved by the Authority.*

III. Hall Hill Road – Sewer Main Extension:

Steve Jacobs said that Lorelee Connors is still interested in having the sewer line extended to her property line and just cover her two properties. Steve said the cost would be between \$25 to \$45,000. She would be able to pay for this on a long term basis, probably ten years.

Steve Jacobs said we would have to have a public hearing to expand the sewer service area.

Steve Getman asked if the two properties have enough room to support a septic system. Steve said the .6 acre lot would require a pump system. She is better off adding onto the sewer system.

This addition would only be about 280' and would require one manhole. There would be no other assessments beyond her two properties.

George VanTasel made a motion to extend the sewer line for two additional services; seconded by Steve Getman. The owner will pay for running the line to the two basements. This motion was unanimously approved.

IV. 2016-17 Somersville WPCF O&M Budget:

Steve Jacobs said before addressing the budget, he had some information to pass onto the Authority involving the Finance Dept.. Steve received a spreadsheet from the Finance for fiscal years 2013 – 2016 in the amount of \$281,325.81, covering both the Somersville and Maple Ridge

sewer systems. This money was supposed to be transferred annually to the town general fund, from our revenue balances account. It appears this has not been done. It was the consensus of the Authority that we should hire an independent auditor to audit our accounts to determine just where we stand financially.

Steve Getman made a motion that the Authority hire an independent auditor to do a complete audit of our assets and liabilities and report back to the WPCA. George VanTasel seconded the motion.

Jim Botellio asked that we table this motion at this time. He said the Board of Finance meets on February 22, 2016 at 7:00 p.m. Jim will meet with the First Selectman tomorrow to ask to be put on their agenda so that maybe this situation can be resolved without having to go to a special audit.

It was the consensus of the Authority to agree to this approach first.

Steve Jacobs reviewed the proposed 2016-17 Somersville budget with the Authority. There are just a few minor changes from the current budget. A wage increase of 3% has been proposed. Goodwin Drive will be paid off next year.

Mark Marshall made a motion to approve the 2016-17 Somersville budget as presented; seconded by George Van Tasel. The vote was: 4 in favor; 2 abstentions (S. Getman & J. Botellio); 0 opposed. The motion passed.

V. 2016-17 Maple Ridge Comm. System O&M Budget:

Steve Jacobs reviewed the proposed 2016-17 Maple Ridge budget with the Authority. We took \$1,000 out of surplus last year. This year, no money out of surplus is proposed. There is a 6.9% increase in user charge, from \$135 per EDU to \$145 per EDU.

A motion was made by Jim Faust; seconded by Steve Getman to approve the Maple Ridge Community System 2016-17 budget, as presented. This motion was unanimously approved.

VI. Correspondence/Audience Participation:

1. Somersville plant toxicity test failed in December. It failed again in a 2nd test. Steve ran a sample through the State lab but no high levels of VOC's were present. The findings were reported to the State. We will see what happens with the next test. It appears something toxic has been dumped into the system. Hopefully, it will have cleared out by the next test in June. It costs about \$500 each time to do the test. Several businesses have changed hands such as Meyer's Auto Repair Shop, Somers Grill, and 124 Main Street. It was suggested to Steve that he send out a notice to users of the system that we have a toxicity problem and ask that refrain from dumping chemicals, etc. into the sewer.

2. Dan Fraro said a new zoning change is being proposed for the Mill property. He was told that the present systems have plenty of room for expansion.
3. Steve requested a quote to replace a large window at the Sewer Plant that is severely cracked. Kopex Builders quoted \$467.94 to replace the window.
George VanTasel made a motion to approve the quote of \$467.94 to replace this window; seconded by Jim Faust and unanimously approved by the Authority.
5. There will be a tax sale on March 22, 2016. Four delinquent properties are listed.
6. The Town has decided that people who take minutes, audits and other small jobs for the town, have to be independent contractors. George Rostkowski has told us he will have to increase his fee to \$95/hr. for our year end audit. The Authority would still like him to work with us.

VII. Bills/Transfers:

Phoenix Lab.	\$128.00
Phoenix Lab.	\$128.00
Phoenix Lab.	\$60.00
Environmental Monitoring	\$752.00

George VanTasel made a motion to approve payment of the bills; seconded by Steve Getman and unanimously approved by the Authority

VIII. Adjournment:

Motion to adjourn was made by Jim Faust; seconded by Mark Marschall and unanimously approved by the Authority. The meeting adjourned at 9:12 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Dan Fraro, Secretary

Connie Carenzo, Recording Secretary

MINUTES ARE NOT OFFICIAL UNTIL APPROVAL AT A SUBSEQUENT MEETING.