Call to Order:
The Chester Water Pollution Control Authority held its regular meeting on Tuesday, June 20, 2017 at the Chester Town Hall, 203 Middlesex Avenue, Chester, CT. In attendance were Chairman Bert Armington, Sam Chorches, Felise Cressman and Ed Ward. Chairman Armington called the meeting to order at 7:11 PM.

Audience of Citizens – none

Old Business:
Minutes of the May 16, 2017 meeting were reviewed. Motion to approve those minutes by Chorches, second by Cressman; minutes were unanimously approved.

Armington explained that the 2017-2018 fiscal year budget totals $113,200.00 with an EDU rate of $700, representing a reduction of $50 from last year’s EDU rate. $18,700 of that budget would be from the anticipated fund balance of $111,165. Reduction of that balance should remain a priority, as should a reduction in the EDU rate.

Motion to approve the proposed budget by Chorches seconded by Ward; approved unanimously without further discussion.

Following was a discussion based on the recently received study of Sewer Service Rates in Towns of Connecticut, received from Tighe and Bond. It was noted that Chester’s rate is one of the highest. In fact, only 9 of 87 towns in the state have a higher rate. Armington also pointed out that 40 towns in Connecticut have a commercial rate which is often twice the residential rate in the town. Armington stated that he had done some calculations, and that if Chester had instituted a commercial rate 1.5 times the residential rate for last year, the commercial EDU rate would have been $985, and the residential rate could have been $656.50.

Based on the 2017-2018 budget, a projection indicates that we could have a commercial rate of $817 and a residential rate of $544.67. There is no motion on the floor at this time, but Armington suggested that WPCA keep this concept in mind for action before the 2018-2019 budget is acted on. Ward pointed out that we have plenty of time to run this by the Town Attorney, tax collector, and board of Selectmen before next June.

Motion by Ward to adjourn, second by Cressman, approved unanimously. Meeting adjourned at 7:36 PM.
Next regular meeting: July 18, 2017 at Town Hall, 203 Middlesex Avenue, Chester, CT, Conference Room C at 7:00 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Bert Armington
Chairman, Chester WPCA