

THESE MINUTES ARE SUBJECT TO APPROVAL AT THE NEXT WPCA MEETING  
Town of Chester, Connecticut  
Water Pollution Control Authority  
Special Meeting  
June 20, 2019  
Meeting Room C  
Chester Town Hall

CALL TO ORDER

Chairman Ward called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. In attendance included: Ed Ward, Chairman, Ed Meehan, Ian McLachlan and Mark Riggio.

AUDIENCE OF CITIZENS – None.

OLD BUSINESS

Update Chester's Restaurant and Chesterfields Health Care Center NOV

As discussed at the 4/16/19 WPCA meeting, Notices of Violation were forwarded to several restaurants as a result of restaurant inspections performed by David Campbell, Jacobson and Associates. The NOV's and fines associated with same will reimburse the WPCA for expenses related to "jetting" the system and related actions.

Mr. Joe Gargno, Grano Arso Restaurant, contacted Ed Ward to contest the fine associated with the inspection of Grano Arso. Ed Ward explained to Mr. Gargno that his restaurant was not in compliance with the regulations, outlined the appeal process and reported to him that payment was due by 7/12/19.

Ed Ward provided an update on the status of inspections performed at several Chester restaurants and details of the fees associated with David Campbell, Jacobson & Associates, follow-up on same.

Mr. Campbell's memo outlined the costs associated with the March 2019 emergency call out to address overflow at manhole 20 and 22a. This call out/overflow was a result of the Pattaconk restaurant's non-compliance with WPCA regulations relative to their AGRU unit.

A letter outlining the event and fines (approximately \$5,000) associated with same was sent to the owner of the Pattaconk and co-owner of the building, Peter Kehayias.

Mr. Campbell's memo also outlined costs associated with addressing the grease in the system as a result of River Tavern and Simon's non-compliance with the WPCA regulations. These two establishments will each be fined \$1,848.00.

Ed Ward reported that a Cease and Desist Order followed by a Notice of Violation, including fines of approximately \$4,000, has been sent to Michael Latina, Manager, Chesterfields, to address charges incurred as a result of their illegal connection to the sewer. The letter indicates that they must permanently close off the stub to the lateral and notify the WPCA when the project is complete.

As of today, Chesterfields has pumped out their grease trap and the bookkeeper at the Pattaconk confirmed that all appropriate forms/logs have been completed; the dishwasher has been disconnected

from the grease trap. Staff at Simons reported that necessary parts to repair their system have been ordered and Simon's is providing all appropriate monthly forms.

David Campbell has received no response from River Tavern regarding the status of their grease system. They were directed to make arrangements for a grease hauler to dispose of the grease. Based on this lack of response, the WPCA discussed the possibility of issuing a NOV that would include a timeline for repair work to be completed and to remind them that monthly reports are required. Note that the WPCA has the authority to close the restaurant in addition to imposing a fine of \$500 per day for non-compliance.

Ed Ward will forward a letter to River Tavern as discussed.

Ed Meehan reported that all fines could have been avoided had the restaurants/establishments been in compliance with the regulations.

Ian McLachlan made a motion to reluctantly send a NOV to River Tavern that references the WPCA's ability to file a C&D Order that would deny the restaurateur access to the sewer system. The NOV shall state that the establishment must be in compliance with all of the WPCA regulations and will also be copied to the property owner, Lazarus Investment Group. Ed Meehan seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

#### NEW BUSINESS

##### WPCA 2019-20 Budget Workshop

A copy of a draft 2019/20 WPCA Budget, as developed by Ed Ward and Peter Evankow, was distributed to WPCA members. The budget includes a \$25,000 fee, per agreement, to the Town of Deep River for improvements to the system. This is the first capital improvement cost charged to Chester since the Deep River treatment plant was updated.

Ed Ward made a motion to increase the commercial EDU rate to \$925.00 per EDU. Ed Meehan seconded the motion. Discussion followed:

Items of discussion included:

- The WPCA discussed a higher EDU rate for commercial business to address the costs associated with maintenance of the system ("jetting" the system).
  - Some of the commercial properties are a mixed use of commercial and residential
  - It was reported that many of the commercial business are not contributing to the grease in the lines and should not be held financially responsible for same.
  - Members discussed the development of 3 rates; residential, commercial/food service and commercial/retail and different EDU rates for each.
  - The WPCA has the authority to differentiate the EDU rate per Regulations and Ordinance.

The motion was withdrawn.

WPCA bills will be sent out by the Tax Collector in September.

Ian McLachlan made a motion to set an EDU rate for residential properties at \$775.00 per EDU. Ed Ward seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

WPCA members discussed further an appropriate commercial EDU rate and Fund Balance amount (somewhere between \$20,000 and \$30,000).

Ian McLachlan made a motion to set an EDU rate of \$825.00 per EDU for commercial establishments and \$925.00 per EDU for commercial establishments/public restaurants utilizing the FOG system. Mark Riggio seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

As required, a Public Hearing on the budget will be scheduled. Ed Meehan will draft a letter, including the Public Hearing notice, to be forwarded with bills updating users on the increased fees.

Ian McLachlan made a motion to approve the 2019/20 WPCA Budget in the amount of \$116,400.00 (\$111,150.00 from EDU Collection Revenue and the use \$5,250.00 from the Fund Balance) and forward the proposed Budget to a Public Hearing. Ed Meehan seconded the motion. The motion passed

#### ADJOURNMENT

Ian McLachlan made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 8:40 p.m. Mark Riggio seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Respectfully Submitted,

Suzanne Helchowski  
Clerk