THESE MINUTES ARE SUBJECT TO APPROVAL AT THE NEXT WPCA MEETING
Town of Chester, Connecticut
Water Pollution Control Authority
Regular Meeting
May 19, 2020
Via ZOOM

CALL TO ORDER
Chairman Ward called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. In attendance included: Ed Ward, Chairman, Sam Chorches, Ian McLachlan, Ed Meehan and Mark Riggio. Audience member: Kate Hewitt – CT Examiner.

AUDIENCE OF CITIZENS – None.

OLD BUSINESS – None.

WPCA 2020 Objectives
Update EDU List – Due to Covid-19, Ed was unable to meet with Pete Lewis to visit properties to confirm EDUS. Due to the virus EDU data will not be available this year.

Add New Customers to the Sewer System and Improve User Relationship – Ed Ward reported that he attended (ZOOM) a recent P&Z regarding the 1416 Main Street property (vacant lower level/apartment upstairs). P&Z is discussing the possibility of an oyster bar serving cocktails and finger foods at the location. Ed emailed the P&Z Chairman and requested that he let the proprietor contact the WPCA relative to EDUs. Ed would also like to educate them on FOG requirements. Additional efforts to add users to the system and improve user relationships have been delayed due to the Corona virus.

Refine Budget Structure – Ed Meehan and Ed Ward will discuss "off-line". EDU information is necessary to refine the budget structure. As reported above, the update of the EDU list has been delayed due to the Corona virus.

FOG Enforcement – As previously discussed, the Health District was to facilitate FOG enforcement. Due to the Corona virus, the Health District has been unable to pursue this initiative with Dave Campbell, Jacobson. A draft protocol was developed but due to the virus, not finalized. As restaurants slowly re-open, Ed Ward will contact the Health District to re-engage the FOG initiatives.

Prior to the virus, Jacobson reported that the restaurants were doing well complying with FOG regulations. Fines relative to the NOVs have been paid. Note that as the Health District provides FOG enforcement (for a fee), it is anticipated that engineering expenses will decrease.

NEW BUSINESS
20/21 Budget
Budget figures, to date, were included in WPCA packet.

Highlights of the report included:
- General Engineering Line – $5,000 was budgeted for engineering and to date, we are approximately $3,000 over budget; however, last year, we were approximately $13,000 over budgeted. A portion of the overage was recouped via NOV fines collected.

- o Outside Contractor Line – $5000 was budgeted, to date at $1799 was used. Last year, the account was over by $2,400.   This line is used for manhole repair, call outs from Deep River, etc.
- Deep River Usage Fee – This line was over budget due to the infiltration event and sump pump at Chesterfields.

Ed Ward and Ed Meehan will refine budget numbers and provide a draft budget to WPCA members. Per protocol, a Public Hearing will be scheduled to facilitate the budget process.

WPCA members agreed that funding for painting the control cabinet, to address rust concerns, will be included in the budget.

Both the revenue and expenditure "sides" of the budget will be reviewed to determine if EDU rates can be lowered. Any savings that can be realized will be passed on to the users of the system.

Ed Meehan provided an update on the Main Street Project. As part of the project, all street grades are being changed, the catch basins are to be replaced, including manhole tops as part of the project. These improvements will benefit the system. Ed Meehan also provided an update on the catch basin discharge requirements per the EPA/State Regulations/DEEP.

WPCA members had a brief discussion regarding the anticipated re-opening of restaurants (outside seating only). Sam Chorches reported that West Hartford is considering closing a portion of their streets to accommodate restaurant tables for outdoor dining.

ADJOURNMENT
Sam Chorches made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 7:35 p.m. Mark Riggio seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Respectfully Submitted,

Suzanne Helchowski
Clerk