

THESE MINUTES ARE SUBJECT TO APPROVAL AT THE NEXT WPCA MEETING

Town of Chester, Connecticut
Water Pollution Control Authority
Regular Meeting
April 20, 2021
Via ZOOM

CALL TO ORDER

Chairman Meehan called the meeting to order at 7:25 p.m. In attendance included: Ed Meehan, Chairman, Sam Chorches, and Mark Riggio. Absent: Ed Ward, Ian McLachlan

AUDIENCE OF CITIZENS – None.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Sam Chorches made a motion to approve the minutes from the 3/16/21 meeting as corrected. Mark Riggio seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Page 2 – under “Next Steps” change the word “every” to “ever”.

OLD BUSINESS

4 Water Street Pump Station Lease – April 21, 1982

Documentation relative to the 4 Water Street location was included in the Board’s packet.

In 1987, the septic system at the property failed and the WPCA approved the 4 Water Street connection into the sewer system based on 16.5 EDUs. In March, 1991, the WPCA voted to return \$11,904.00 to Mr. Cook reimbursing him for fees paid despite an Agreement that said “connection shall be exempt from use charges”. The minutes from the 3/5/91 WPCA meeting do not include any interpretation of the Agreement to rationalize why the collection of the fee was in error. As a result, the deficit realized in the budget due to the refund was ultimately paid by the other users of the system. It is unclear if Mr. Cook was paid in a lump sum or if installments were made. Ed Meehan will further review BOS minutes relative to the reimbursement.

Ed Meehan and Sam will meet to discuss the potential for a meeting with the property owner to discuss the property.

Discussion of EDU Methodology and Draft Clarifying Language

Ed Meehan will develop a draft on the EDU methodology. Originally, the EDU rate was determined by the number of fixtures at a property. Currently, it is based on water usage as determined by CT Water Co. (rounded up). “Rounding up” is an acceptable practice and essential in operating a small system.

Update of 2006 Sewer Service Area Map

Jacobson is currently working on an update to the Sewer Service Area map.

NEW BUSINESS

River Tavern’s Compliance with Discharge Permit/AGRU Reports

As previously discussed, River Tavern continues to not comply with regulations and has not sent in reports relative to FOG requirements. An NOV was sent to the establishment dated 3/22/21 and copied to the property owner. The WPCA received no response to the NOV.

A Cease and Desist letter will be forwarded to River Tavern allowing them 15 days to comply with the regulations. The property owner will be copied on the C&D. If non-compliance continues, the WPCA may vote to issue daily fines to the establishment.

March 2021 AGRU Compliance Log Report

A copy of the March AGRU Compliance Log was included in the Board's packet. All establishments, except for River Tavern, are in compliance.

System Operations - March 2021 Cleaning and Inspections

Ed Meehan reported on the results of the March 30th Spring inspection and cleaning of the system as follows:

- The two manholes behind the Colt House serving the Pattaconk and Colt House were clogged with effluent and debris (mainly sanitation papers, paper towels).
- Jacobson representatives inspected the manhole (via confined space regulations) and reported that the walls are beginning to deteriorate. They recommend that these two manholes be rebuilt (originally installed in 1982).
- Additional concerns included tree roots affecting flow and a fence and deck stairs installed that interfere with the sewer right of way. The property owner (Hot French Chicks) has been notified.
- The proposed P&Z approved renovations at the Colt House may interfere with the sewer line. Jacobson will review and confirm that the proposed renovations and equipment that will be used to facilitate same will not pose a threat to the system.
- To date, approximately \$3,500 has been spent for cleaning of the system and it is anticipated that an additional \$2,000 will be necessary for manhole inspections.
- Middlesex Health, at the top of Main Street, has been experiencing a back-up in the lateral from the building to the street. Their contractor cleaned and flushed the system but it was still backing up. An inspection was done via a camera and uncovered a rock in the sewer line.
 - These expensive repairs are the responsibility of the WPCA. Note that this is not affecting Chesterfields.

Status of 8 North Main Street – The property owner is awaiting the opening of paving plants to begin their connection to the system.

Masonicare – Ed Meehan is following up with Masonicare relative to appropriate insurance coverage including the Town and the WPCA. Masonicare will issue a letter of credit until adequate insurance is provided.

The WPCA is expecting a check from Chesterfields for user fees.

ADJOURNMENT

Mark Riggio made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 8:24 p.m. Sam Chorches seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Respectfully Submitted,

Suzanne Helchowski
Clerk