

Town of Chester, Connecticut
Water Pollution Control Authority
Regular Meeting
June 15, 2021
Chester Town Hall

CALL TO ORDER

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

AUDIENCE OF CITIZENS – None

APPROVAL OF MINUTES – 5/18/21

Sam Chorches made a motion to approve the minutes from the 5/18/21 meeting as presented. Ed Ward seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

OLD BUSINESS

4 Water Street Pump Station Agreement – 4/21/82

Ed Meehan reported that Jacobson was unable to find records/additional information regarding the history of the 1991 reimbursement to Mr. Cook. WPCA minutes from 1991 contain little explanation for the reimbursement of EDU fees (approximately \$11,000).

The Authority members discussed the status of the 4 Water Street Pump Station Agreement at length. The consensus of members was to develop as much data as possible; i.e. Connecticut Water usage figures, appropriate number of EDUs, type of business/residences currently at the property, etc., and have the Chairman draft a letter to Mr. Cook requesting a meeting to discuss the possible renegotiation of the 1982 Agreement.

Ed Meehan will develop a draft letter to Mr. Cook and forward to WPCA members for review/comment.

DRAFT Explanation of Sewer User Connection Charges

A copy of the DRAFT Explanation of Sewer User Connection Charges, developed by Ed Meehan was included in the WPCA packet and discussed. The document includes 3 user charges (Assessment of Benefit Charge, Annual Sewer User's Charge and Hook Up and Application Charge). The methodology used to develop these charges was discussed at length.

Members are to review the draft document and provide input, wordsmithing, etc. to Chairman Meehan for further discussion and incorporation into the document. When finalized, the document will be placed on the WPCA website along with the updated Sewer Service Area Map (when complete).

Update of 2006 Sewer Service Area Map – Jacobson continues to work on the update to the Sewer Service Area Map.

River Tavern's Cease and Desist and Penalties

At the 5/18/21 WPCA meeting, River Tavern was assessed a penalty for non-compliance with WPCA regulations. Ed Meehan reported that an email and a Certified Letter were forwarded to Mr. Rapp. Said letter was received (signed for) by Mr. Rapp. The deadline for compliance is 6/24/21.

Ed Ward made a motion that beginning on 6/25/21, River Tavern will be fined \$200 per day until the total amount of \$2,400, plus per diem expenses (see letter dated 5/26/21) are paid and at the 7/20/21 WPCA meeting, a Cease and Desist Order may be issued revoking River Tavern's License to Discharge; in addition, a lien will be placed on the property. Mark Riggio seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

NEW BUSINESS

May 2021 AGRU Compliance Reports

The May AGRU compliance report was included in the Board packet. As noted above River Tavern did not submit AGRU reports for the months of January, February, March, and April and was sent a violation notice with penalties. On May 13th Dave Campbell inspected River Tavern's AGRU and reported to the WPCA that their system was not operating. On May 18th Mr. Campbell made a second inspection and found the equipment and reporting log in order. Therefore, the compliance report, as of May, now shows all restaurants are in compliance. Note that Hot French Chix was granted an extension until October.

Members discussed the status of CHRAD beginning to monitor AGRU compliance at the restaurants. Ed Meehan has discussed same with First Selectwoman Gister and is awaiting a response.

Systems Operations – Sewer Manhole Repairs Behind Colt House

Brian Curtis, Jacobson, is in the process of having a contractor review the area to determine the "logistics" of accessing the area. As previously reported, the manholes will be pumped in the Fall.

2020-21 Budget Status Report

It is anticipated that the budget will be finalized in August for September public hearing. Billing is typically done in October by the Tax office.

Ed Meehan reported that at this time, all user fees have been paid and the budget remains "in good shape". Of note:

- Usage has been down due to the Pandemic
- Deep River numbers need to be finalized.
- Additional money may be needed in Capital to address the Colt House area

The budget will be discussed further at the July WPCA meeting.

OTHER BUSINESS – None.

ADJOURNMENT

Ed Ward made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 8:43 p.m. Mark Riggio seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Respectfully Submitted,
Suzanne Helchowski
Clerk