

THESE MINUTES ARE SUBJECT TO APPROVAL AT THE NEXT WPCA MEETING

TOWN OF CHESTER, CT
WATER POLLUTION CONTROL AUTHORITY
REGULAR MEETING
Tuesday, November 16, 2021
Community Meeting Room
Town Hall

CALL TO ORDER

Chairman Meehan called the meeting to order at 7:05 p.m. In attendance included: Ed Meehan, Mark Riggio, Sam Chorches, and Ian McLachlan.

AUDIENCE OF CITIZENS – None.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Mark Riggio made a motion to approve the minutes of the 10/19/21 BOS meeting as presented. Ian McLachlan seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

ARPA – WPCA PROJECTS

The Town has received its first “round” of ARPA funding in the approximate amount of \$625,000. Ed Meehan reported that the BOS has determined that the WPCA will be allocated 15% of these funds (\$93,000). These funds will be forwarded to the BOF and a Town meeting for further action. WPCA projects include: the pump station repairs and emergency transfer switch, Colt House sewer right of way and manhole repairs and 4 Water Street pump station sewer line replacement or lining. Funds will be available for use after the Town Meeting (date of which is to be determined).

Generator

Ed Meehan reported on an incident at the pump station generator. On 11/4, Deep River reported that the back-up generator was not holding power. This unit is tested monthly. Upon inspection, a large mouse nest was found in the emergency generator and the mice shorted out the wires. As a result, a generator on a trailer was brought to the site and provides back-up power in the event of an emergency. This unit is costing the WPCA \$2,400 per month. An estimate to repair the unit is being developed. In addition it has been recommended that all openings to the unit be sealed and periodic inspections by an exterminator be performed.

To date, there are currently two generator “projects”; the first being the transfer switch project as discussed at the 10/19/21 WPCA meeting (estimated cost \$13,500) and the second being the necessary repair as outlined above (repair cost being developed).

Colt House

Jacobson has provided an estimate for the right of way and manhole project at the Colt House. It is anticipated that the work will commence in the spring and the project will take approximately 5 days to complete. Note that any cost over \$20,000 will need to go out to bid.

Water Street Pump Station

Jacobson is developing quotes for the sewer line replacement (lining). The parking lot would not have to be dug up if a liner is used for this project.

Note: No ARPA funds may be used for either project until a Town Meeting approves.

OLD BUSINESS

AGRU Restaurant Report

Ed Meehan distributed a copy of the report. All appropriate reports have been submitted as required. In addition, the Health District has inspected River Tavern and the Pattaconk.

INFORMATIONAL ITEMS

WPCA FY21-22 Budget Status and October EDU Payments

Copies of the budget were distributed. To date, the budget is “in good shape”. It is anticipated that some engineering costs may be covered under ARPA. The revenue side includes penalties received from River Tavern. To date, the Tax Collector has received \$42,500 for the October payments (41% of EDUs for the first half of the year).

Draft Explanation Sewer User Connection Charges

The draft was distributed and Board members were encouraged to forward “wordsmithing” and comments to Ed for incorporation into the document.

Jacobson is in the process of updating the sewer area map.

Ed Meehan reported that 91 Main Street is connected to the sewer but are not yet ready to use system as the building is still under construction. It is anticipated that they will be using the system in late April/early May 2022.

The property next to the cemetery has paid the \$2000 fee but has not yet been connected to the system.

The Board may schedule a Special Meeting after the Town Meeting to act on ARPA projects.

ADJOURNMENT

Ian McLachlan made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 7:55 p.m. Mark Riggio seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Respectfully Submitted,

Suzanne Helchowski
Clerk