

THESE MINUTES ARE SUBJECT TO APPROVAL AT THE NEXT WPCA MEETING

TOWN OF CHESTER, CONNECTICUT
WATER POLLUTION CONTROL AUTHORITY
SPECIAL MEETING
Tuesday, October 25, 2022
Community Meeting Room
Chester Town Hall

CALL TO ORDER

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

AUDIENCE - None

MINUTES

The minutes from the 9/8/22 Public Hearing were viewed by Board members.

Mark Riggio made a motion to approve the minutes from the 9/8/22 meeting as presented. Ian McLachlan seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

ARPA PROJECTS UPDATE AND REQUEST FOR ADDITIONAL ARPA FUNDS –

As reported, as the sewer replacement project at 43-47 Main Street progressed, a blockage was uncovered at a critical manhole. It was also determined that the pipe installed in 1982 was not laid correctly, had incorrect grading and was not in alignment with the lines shown on the plans/as-builts. Jacobson developed a new design to replace the line correctly. This design necessitated a Change Order. The cost for the project now totals \$57,858.00 (\$38,000 was originally budgeted for the project and was funded via ARPA).

Additional work remaining relative to the project includes: installation of peastone and plantings to stabilize the area at 59 Main Street, also, the owners of the Colt House (43-47 Main Street) are scheduling tree removal, fencing and landscaping.

The contractor for the proposed 4 Water Street project (pipe relining/replacement; original estimate \$8,800) is no longer interested in the job. Another contractor reviewed the job and will provide a quote to Jacobson. Note that it is anticipated that this quote, when received will be much higher than \$8,800.

The consensus of the Board was to request additional ARPA funds to facilitate these projects. It is anticipated that cost estimates will be available for WPCA consideration at their November meeting.

NORTH MAIN STREET RECONSTRUCTION PROJECT – Potential Sewer Extension

The Town has been awarded a \$500,000 STEAP Grant for the North Main Street Project, drainage, paving, etc. (at least up to the Great Brook Bridge).

The Town met with property owners to discuss the project and determine if any of the neighbors are interested in connecting to the sewer system while this project is underway. There is potential for substantial economic growth in the area as an individual is interested in pursuing the potential purchase of the Goodspeed Opera House/Norma Terrace. The intent is to use the facility for dance recitals, plays,

etc., artist space, including a gallery, and the barn would be converted to rental space (similar to the Lace Factory in Deep River). In addition, 2 houses on N. Main Street would be converted into “boutique” hotels. Adequate water and sewer connections in the area may be a catalyst for future economic growth.

The importance of taking advantage of updates/expansion to the sewer line while the STEAP project is underway was stressed. Ed will ask Jacobson to develop some rough cost estimates for potential expansion in the area. If the expansion project were to move forward, the use of ARPA funds to facilitate the project would be requested as infrastructure projects are eligible uses of ARPA.

AUGUST AND SEPTEMBER RESTAURANT AGRU REPORTS AND COMPLIANCE

Ed Meehan distributed a copy of the Restaurant AGRU Report. All establishments are up to date on inspections/reports.

OTHER BUSINESS

Ed reported that the 52 Main Street property sold recently and all payments due to the WPCA, including penalties, will be paid. The amount due is \$1,475.00.

The Tax Collector reports no issues with the WPCA fees and the collection of payments.

ADJOURNMENT

Mark Riggio made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 7:45 p.m. Ian McLachlan seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Respectfully Submitted,

Suzanne Helchowski
Clerk