

Water Pollution Control Authority  
Regular Meeting Minutes  
August 5, 2014

The Town of East Hampton Water Pollution Control Authority regular meeting was held at 5:35 P.M. on Tuesday, August 5, 2014 at the Town of Colchester–Town of East Hampton Wastewater Treatment Plant, 20 Gildersleeve Drive, East Hampton, CT All members were in attendance:

Mark Barmasse, Chairman  
Ralph Nesci  
David Kelsey

Daniel Valentine (arrived 5:44 P.M)  
John Suprono

Mr Stephen Motto, Edgewater Hill, LLC, Ronald Hastings, Sue Carr and Lyn Stuart representing 255 East High Street, Ted Turner and Vincent F Susco, Jr , Public Utilities Administrator were in attendance

**Call to Order**

Chairman Barmasse called the meeting to order at 5:39 P.M and appointed Mr. Susco as Recording Secretary for these proceedings

**Edgewater Hill Developer's Permit Agreement**

Chairman Barmasse called for agenda item # 2 action on the proposed sewer extension to serve Edgewater Hill. Mr. Susco indicated the Public Hearing for this proposed project concluded prior to convening this regular meeting of the WPCA and that no public comment was received. The following resolution moved by Mr. Nesci, seconded by Mr. Suprono was unanimously adopted

*RESOLVED* That the Authority hereby approves the sewer construction plans for Phase 1 of Edgewater Hill for 7 commercial and 5 residential buildings on Edgewater Terrace Furthermore, the Authority authorizes the execution of the standard Developer's Permit Agreement for the property. Developer is required to construct gravity main sewers for the Town of East Hampton in Edgewater Hill, at an estimated construction cost of \$250,000.00 with a \$25,000.00 contingency amount, as therein provided

Developer is further required to deposit with the Authority the sum of \$12,500.00 to defray the anticipated construction inspection expenses and all other expenses of any kind incurred by the Authority associated with this project.

Developer is also required to pay a unit outlet charge in the amount of \$2,500.00 per unit for the residential buildings and \$1.00/square foot for retail space in the commercial buildings, provided that such outlet charge is payable at the time of unit transfer, or the issuance of a certificate of occupancy, whichever is earlier

Developer shall further submit a performance bond satisfactory to the Authority in favor of the Town of East Hampton in the amount of \$275,000.00 to cover the work called for by the said Developer's Permit Agreement, which sum includes the construction cost plus contingency.

The Authority's approval is expressly conditioned upon the Developer executing said standard form Developer's Permit Agreement, the standard form of Voluntary Sewer Lien covering such subdivision, which shall secure the payment of said outlet charges, and is conditioned further upon the Developer submitting such performance bond and said deposit. The required performance bond may be satisfied by letter of credit, cash bond or surety bond "

Mr. Motto left the meeting at 5.49 P M

**Approval of Minutes**

Chairman Barmasse called for the approval of the minutes of the Regular Meeting held on June 3, 2014. Upon motion from Mr. Kelsey, seconded by Mr. Nesci the minutes of the meeting were approved 4-0 with Mr Suprono abstaining.

Chairman Barmasse called for the approval of the Public Hearing for the water Budget held on June 3, 2014. Upon motion from Mr Valentine, seconded by Mr. Nesci the minutes of the meeting were approved 4-0 with Mr Suprono abstaining

Chairman Barmasse called for the approval of the Special Meeting held on June 17, 2014 Upon motion from Mr Valentine, seconded by Mr. Suprono the minutes of the meeting were unanimously approved

**Public Remarks**

Mr. Ronald Hastings, 255 East High Street, requested a waiver from connecting to the wastewater system based upon a financial hardship and presented a plan to continue to use the 1957 septic system. The members discussed at length the situation and agreed that a waiver could not be granted until there was documentation from the local health district that a health risk does not exist at the property. Management was requested to contact the Chatham Health District and action was tabled

**Review of Correspondence**

Management responded to several questions of the members

**Joint Facilities Committee**

Chairmen Barmasse called upon Mr. Susco to present the Town of Colchester – Town of East Hampton Joint Facilities Committee report held in May and June He reported several new members of the Colchester Water & Sewer Commission joined the committee. Mr Craig Wagner, CDM Smith, addressed the members on the renewed effort for sludge thickener improvements at the plant. The Joint Facilities authorized management to proceed with the Sludge Handling Improvements for the plant at an estimated cost of \$1,471,000.00 Mr Susco explained internally generated funds (\$1,100,000 00) of the Joint Facilities would be insufficient to complete the project and that both the Colchester Water and Sewer Commission and the Town of East Hampton WPCA will need to agree to share equally in any final cost, estimated not to exceed \$185,500.00 each, in order to move the project forward

A presentation by Mr Donald Tata President of Tata & Howard Engineers of Marlborough MA was heard by the members. Mr. Tata offered the services of his firm to assess the management, operations, and maintenance (MOM) at the wastewater plant. He explained such assessments have become common in the industry Mr Susco indicated such an assessment would be very useful for any new PUA. Every member agreed but under the financial situation currently presented the members felt the timing was not right Action was tabled for the time being.

Mr Susco reported on the operations of the Joint Facilities. During the month of May the plant operated within parameters and dewatering occurred for 20 days Work began in earnest on the removal of the underground fuel oil tank that served the building. Plant personnel participated in the hazardous waste collection day sponsored at the site The annual DMRQA results were

submitted for grading. Several maintenance items were addressed during the period including; cleaning and repairing of the Hawthorne, Spellman Point and Stonecroft lift stations. In East Hampton several manhole were made watertight. Repairs were made to the DAF, (again) and replacement of mixer #1 at the plant.

June turned out to be a very difficult month for operations at the plant. It started with dewatering only 14 days. This was caused by failed press feed pumps (mechanical) and was complicated by foaming (biological) issues at the digester. As a result several emergency measures were implemented for a period of 10 days. Synagro was contacted to haul liquid sludge (approx. 85,000 gallons) and extensive odor control measures were employed. Total cost for the event is estimated to be \$15,000.00.

Post review of the incident determined we can contain biological events better if our mechanical situation will allow us. The members agreed that a more aggressive approach to mechanical issues at the plant must occur and authorized management to proceed with several key pump replacements and upgrades.

Management presented a wrap-up of the 13/14 fiscal year expenses, revenues were not available at this time, and indicated no budget status reports are available for the 14/15 fiscal year. The replacement of the 2007 Ford F250 was authorized. The replacement of the underground fuel storage tank is nearly completed.

The members discussed Succession Planning and a formal Compensatory Time policy for the Superintendent's position.

This concludes the Joint Facilities Committee report.

At this time Chairman Barmasse reminded the members that each step of the replacement of the rotary drum thickener must be approved by both Water and Sewer Commission of Colchester and the East Hampton WPCA. After a short discussion the following resolution moved by Mr. Valentine, seconded by Mr. Nesci was unanimously adopted.

**RESOLUTION:** The East Hampton WPCA does hereby authorize management to transfer up to \$185,500.00 from the Capital Fund (Fund 81) to the Joint Facilities specifically to complete the Sludge Handling Improvements at the Wastewater Treatment Plant as presented at this meeting, should such transfer be necessary.

#### **Operations, Management & Budget Committee**

Mr. Barmasse called upon management to wrap-up the 2013/14 fiscal year. Utilizing an August 1, 2014 memo made part of these minutes, a lengthy discussion of the rates necessary to support the WPCA operations followed. Mr. Susco indicated a Public Hearing pursuant to Chapter 103 Section 7-255 of the Connecticut General Statutes regarding proposed sewer use rates to become effective October 1, 2014 is needed. The following resolution moved by Mr. Valentine, seconded by Mr. Nesci was adopted by a vote of 4-1 with Mr. Suprono voting against.

**RESOLVED:** The Town of East Hampton Water Pollution Control Authority does hereby establish a Public Hearing in accordance with Chapter 103 Section 7-255 of the

Connecticut General Statutes, at 7:00 PM on September 2, 2014 at the Town of Colchester –Town of East Hampton Wastewater Treatment Plant, 20 Gildersleeve Drive, East Hampton, Connecticut. The purpose of the hearing is to allow property owners to which charges will be levied for use of the sewer system to be heard regarding the proposed annual sewer use rates effective on October 1, 2014. A copy of the charges is on file in the Town Clerk's office and is available for inspection by the public.

Affected property owners, electors and citizens qualified to vote in town meetings of the Town of East Hampton, Connecticut, are invited to attend and participate in such public hearing

Mr. Barmasse called for the current fiscal year's budget status. Mr. Susco indicated the current year's information was not available at the time of this meeting.

Mr. Susco distributed the end of the year 2013/14 fiscal year financial reports for the Community Water Systems operated by the WPCA. He indicated expenses are projected to end under budget but no revenue data is available at this time.

The Town Council on July 8, 2014 unanimously adopted new water billing rates to meet the increasing demands of the systems and reduce the Town's contribution towards operation. This action shifted a greater portion of revenue to the users of the systems. Property owners connected to the East Hampton Village Center and Royal Oaks water systems will see an increase of 40.0% (\$4 90) in the Equivalent Meter Units and a 4.50% (\$0.24) in the Commodity Charge effective July 15, 2014

#### **Public Water Systems**

The Village Center Water System continued to run within parameters during the period. Following up on the recent State Health Department Inspection, CorrTech of Essex, CT has completed the required water storage tank cleaning and inspection. No structural weaknesses were identified and the minimal amount of iron deposited on the floor of the tank was removed.

Work has begun in Bevin Boulevard to install the water and sewer service to the Chatham Historical Society (CHS).

The Royal Oaks Water System continued to run within parameters during the period. Warmer weather has resulted in an increase in demands but to date there have been no water quality concerns.

Mr. Susco reported the State Department of Health (DPH) has determined that insufficient information has been provided to reach a decision on the Phase IB application of Hampton Woods. The Developer is responding

The final site inspection for the "Villages at Long Crossing" was completed on July 25, 2014 Comments were submitted on August 1, 2014 to the DOHS and PURA

Mr. Barmasse updated the members on the Water Development Task Force held on July 17, 2014.