

WATER POLLUTION CONTROL AUTHORITY

Town of Trumbull

CONNECTICUT

TOWN HALL
(203) 452-5048



5866 MAIN STREET
TRUMBULL, CT 06611

Minutes

Water Pollution Control Authority

January 27, 2010

In attendance:

Ennio De Vita
Jack Goncalves
Jeanine Maietta Lynch
Laura Pulie
Tim Hampford, Alternate

Also In Attendance:

Joseph Solemene, W.P.C.A. Coordinator

Due to the resignation of Chairman George Biagioni and the absence of Vice Chairman Paul Kallmeyer,

- **Motion (PULIE) seconded (LYNCH) to nominate Jack Goncalves temporary chairman. No discussion. Motion carried unanimously.**

Temporary Chairman Goncalves called the meeting to order at 7:40 p.m.

- **Motion (PULIE) seconded (DE VITA) to add to the agenda Election of a New Chairman. No discussion. Motion carried unanimously.**
- **Motion (PULIE) seconded (DE VITA) to nominate Jeanine Lynch as Chairman of the WPCA.**

Chairman Goncalves asked if there were any other nominations.

- **Motion (GONCALVES) seconded (HAMPFORD) to nominate Laura Pulie as Chairman of the WPCA. Ms. Pulie declined the nomination.**

There being no other nominations, a vote was taken. **Motion carried unanimously.**

MINUTES TO PREVIOUS MEETING:

- **Motion (PULIE) seconded (GONCALVES) to approve the minutes of the December 16, 2009 meeting as written. No discussion. Motion carried unanimously.**

PROGRESS REPORT:

Mr. Solemene reported 20% of job is in place. Three main line crews working in town. Crews are identified by the foreman of the crew – Richie, Mario & Able. Richie's crew working on Golden Hill working towards Tory Lane. They have been at this location over the last two weeks, 30 feet deep in solid rock. Progress is slow. They hope to get to Lobsterback by the end of this pay period.

Mario's crew is also in rock, moving slowly. They started at intersection of Saybrook and Partridge. When they complete Partridge Lane they will go onto Saybrook Road.

Able's crew is progressing. They finished Hilltop Circle and moved to the easement area connecting Briarwoods Terrace to Shelton Road. They are currently in that easement area and should finish by the end of the week, Monday the latest.

There is a lateral crew which completed laterals on Partridge Lane, remaining laterals on Hilltop Circle and two very deep laterals on Golden Hill.

Two Drilling Rigs: one in front of the main line crew on Briarwoods Terrace so as they are drilling the main line crew is behind them; the other crew is working on the easement from Partridge Lane to Unity Road.

Commissioner Pulie asked Mr. Solemene about blasting. The contract states they are supposed to have a seismic consultant. Ms. Pulie stated she understands this to mean that it should be someone not employed by the contractor and asked Mr. Solemene for clarification. Mr. Solemene replied the contractor's licensed blaster is in touch with the Fire Marshall, pre-blast surveys within 200 feet are done. The seismograph is Mark IV's equipment, not an independent contractor. Ms. Pulie quoted from the contract, "The Contractor shall supply the services of a seismic consultant who will perform pre- and post-blasting building condition surveys and conduct seismic and overpressure measurements during blasting." She questioned whether an employee of the company qualifies as a consultant. Commissioner Goncalves asked if this consultant is included in the price of the bid. Mr. Solemene said yes if it is part of the contract document, we could require them to use an outside consultant. Chairman Lynch stated that given the nature of the rock and ledge it would make sense moving forward that they have one [outside consultant]. Mr. Solemene will call the contractor in the morning and request an independent consultant to monitor during blasting. The item in the contract is page SGC-6, number 8 Blasting and Explosives.

INVOICE APPROVAL:

Mark IV Construction Co., Inc., Phase IV, Part B – Contract 4 – North Nichols Project, Application #5 in the amount of \$1,160,865.80.

Commissioner De Vita noted that on pages 2 through 7 of the invoice, under the headings "Work Done This Period" and "Total Work Completed to Date", columns should be titled Actual Quantity, not Estimated Quantity. Mr. De Vita asked who approved the \$97,440 in change orders. Mr. Solemene replied the change orders are first reviewed in the office by the Town Engineer, Director of Public Works, the Field Inspector and Mr. Solemene and that the Commission approves the change orders before they are added to the invoice. Mr. Solemene also stated change orders are included with meeting information and there are two for consideration this evening; Change Order #9 in the amount of \$5,746 for removal of 9" concrete pavement on Shelton Road; and Change Order #10 in the amount of \$1,610 for temporary line stripes on Shelton Road.

Discussion of Change Order #4 – Install 15" CPP on Twin Circle Drive. There is no item in the Specs for 15" CPP 0-10', and Mark IV charged \$65 per foot for 58 feet totaling \$3,770. Commissioner Pulie suggested Item #61 15" CPP Storm Drainage 10-15' could be a typo. Mr. Solemene responded that he, Mr. Del Vecchio, Mr. Savarese and Mr. Garard made a call to Mark IV and suggested it was a typo and should have been 0-10', but Mark IV disagreed saying that in the bid document that was distributed to all the bidders it was 10-15'. Mr. Solemene stated another issue is the main line crew is putting in the main line pipe and hit a conflict at this intersection. We can hold them at the penny price but they are going to charge us for their downtime for holding the crew up while they remove the pipe that is in conflict. A compromise was struck. The determination in the field was made by the inspector, Clair Garard. When there is a conflict they feel that they are entitled to extra compensation.

The Commissioners questioned the following: What has Mark IV done in the past to support their cost and pricing data? How does the office determine if a price is fair? Mr. Solemene responded that State guidelines are followed. No documentation included to back up the prices they submitted. In the future the Commission will require a more detailed description and sufficient cost and pricing data with all change orders. Also, all change orders will first go to the Commission for approval before being signed off by the Town Engineer.

Commissioner De Vita asked who is the manager of the project. Mr. Solemene replied 90% of the decisions in the field are made by the inspector, Clair Garard. In the event of a change order, it comes back to the office for discussion. This is a new procedure starting with this current project.

- **Motion (LYNCH) seconded (HAMPFORD) to approve Change Order #9 dated January 2, 2010 for the contract change price of \$5,476 and Change Order #10 dated January 20, 2010 for the contract change price of \$1,610. Discussion followed. MOTION WITHDRAWN**

- **Motion (LYNCH) seconded (GONCALVES) to approve Change Order #10 dated January 20, 2010 for the change to the contract price of \$1,610. No discussion. Motion carried unanimously.**
- **Motion (LYNCH) seconded (PULIE) to postpone approval of Change Order #9 dated January 6, 2010 for the change to the contract price of \$5,746, to the next scheduled meeting. No discussion. Motion carried unanimously.** Commission is requiring back up pricing information.
- **Motion (LYNCH) seconded (GONCALVES) to approve Phase IV, Part B, Contract No. 4 – North Nichols Project, Application #5 in the amount of \$1,160,865.80. Discussion followed.**

In the future, the invoice must include signatures of Clair Garard who will verify quantities and Joseph Solemene who will verify cost and amounts.

Motion carried unanimously.

OLD BUSINESS:

Jog Hill Sewer Project – Audit

Mr. Solemene reported the First Selectman has ordered a forensic audit of the Jog Hill Sewer Project, and the RFP is going forward. Who will pay for the audit? Will the cost could be divided among the homeowners in the project? Commissioner Pulie suggested the forensic audit will point out many issues that going forward will apply to future projects and the cost should be funded by the retained earnings account.

- **Motion (PULIE) seconded (HAMPFORD) to approve a forensic audit of the Jog Hill Sewer Project, to be funded by retained earnings account. No discussion. Motion carried unanimously.**

Jog Hill Sewer Project – Assessment

The final cost will be determined by the audit. Need to talk to bond counsel to find out if the assessment can be postponed. Mr. Solemene stated the First Selectman anticipates the RFP for the audit will be completed by the end of the month and should go out in a couple of weeks.

Jog Hill Project – Trench Drain Detail

Commissioner Pulie stated the Jog Hill plan showed a particular detail for an 8” pvc trench drain. It was put in the plans and the bid and showed it going at the bottom of the sewer trench to drain ground water over to the storm drainage system. There was a design change. Who approved the design change and where is the trench drain installed? The cost was \$922,000. Ms. Pulie asked where it is and what is the detail? Mr. Solemene replied it was a subtle change, they installed the trench drain above the main line at the point where the ground water was infiltrating the trench in order to bleed the water away from the trench to stop trench failure. There was a lot of ground water in the Jog Hill area and this the way the foundation trench drain was installed. After further discussion,

- **Motion (GONCALVES) seconded (HAMPFORD) to table discussion of Jog Hill Trench Drain Detail until the next scheduled meeting. No discussion. Motion carried unanimously.**

Jog Hill Project – CPP Drainage Location

Commissioner Pulie has been asking Mark IV for as-builts for 15” CPP at 10-15’ deep. We had 3,989 feet installed and have been asking specifically the station location of each particular road. According to the specs, it is the Contractor’s responsibility to supply as-builts that shall be performed by a land surveyor licensed by the State of Connecticut. There is retainage that could be held. Mr. Solemene will call Mark IV to remind them that the Commission is once again requesting the as-built maps and expects them to be delivered by the next scheduled meeting of the WPCA.

- **Motion (LYNCH) seconded (HAMPFORD) to table discussion of Jog Hill CPP Drainage Location Detail until the next scheduled meeting. No discussion. Motion carried unanimously.**

Wright-Pierce – Results of Treatment Plant Meeting with John Braccio and the DEP in Hartford

Tim Hampford reported on the meeting at the DEP in Hartford attended by John Braccio of Wright-Pierce, John Del Vecchio, Steve Savarese, Laura Pulie, Joe Solemene and himself. The siting of the outfall is the key to getting a plant built. There hasn’t been a new treatment plant since 1995. The DEP has very stringent requirements for the

Pequonnock River. There is Clean Water Fund money for studies and it is possible if we are far enough in line we could get reimbursed for 55% of the cost of the study. Other than that there will be no help from the State. It is a long-shot and does give us bargaining power with Bridgeport. The possibility of regionalizing with Monroe was discussed, either with a new plant or with the Bridgeport plant. Commissioner Pulie commented it is worth pursuing the grant money and to continue with the feasibility study with Wright-Pierce.

Unit Charge

Sewer assessment includes \$500 unit charge. That charge has never been collected by the WPCA, it goes back to the Town. Suggestion was made that going forward the unit charge be bonded separately and returned to the WPCA. Is this feasible? Mr. Solemene to discuss with the Acting Finance Director.

- **Motion (LYNCH) seconded (GONCALVES) discussion of the Unit Charge until the next scheduled meeting. No discussion. Motion carried unanimously.**

Inflow & Infiltration Study

WPCA received notice of violation from DEP for overflow at the main pumping station. The DEP is requiring a study to remove the I&I from our system to prevent future overflows. Mr. Solemene reported there is money set aside for an Inflow & Infiltration Study but time is running short and the money will be returned to the retained earnings account in July. Malcolm Pirnie was hired in September 2008 to conduct a study, however last Spring was too dry so the study was not done. Spring is again approaching. Meters need to be in the ground in March. Based upon the emergency situation, the Commission decided to extend the scope of the Wright-Pierce contract to include the study.

- **Motion (GONCALVES) seconded (PULIE) to extend the scope of the Wright-Pierce contract to include an Inflow and Infiltration Study in the amount of \$60,000. No discussion. Motion carried unanimously.**

Mr. Solemene to notify the DEP about the study.

User Fee – Second Water Meter for Irrigation System

Commissioner Goncalves feels this issue is between the water company and the homeowner. It is costly to install a second meter and the homeowner would be obligated to pay for it. Mr. Solemene said the WPCA pays for every gallon of water that is used and we are paying for water that is not going into the sewer. Irrigation systems can increase the cost to the sewer user by \$300-400 in the summer. Currently we are offsetting that cost. The WPCA could make it a policy that anyone with an irrigation system must have a second water meter, providing the water company will cooperate.

- **Motion (GONCALVES) seconded (LYNCH) to table discussion of the user fee, second water meter for irrigation system until the next scheduled meeting. No discussion. Motion carried unanimously.**

Attorney Tom Lee, 29 Cobblers Hill Road – challenge to maintenance charge to residents with Extension of Time to Connect

Mr. Solemene received a letter from Mr. Lee requesting information, distributed copies to Commissioners.

- **Motion (GONCALVES) seconded (PULIE) to table discussion of Attorney Tom Lee's challenge to the maintenance charge for residents with Extension of Time to Connect. No discussion. Motion carried unanimously.**

NEW BUSINESS:

Victor Marques, 71 Greenbrier Road – Grinder Pump

Mr. Solemene reported Mr. Marques is seeking reimbursement for excess electricity due to a faulty grinder pump and explained we installed a grinder pump in his septic system. The pump sits in septic tank with a plastic stand pipe that comes out of the top of the pump, and goes out in the ground to the main line. There was so much force it would jar the stand and eventually the stand broke. The pump was in the septic tank running constantly. We

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gave him a new pump and new control. The homeowner is pleased with the solution to the problem, but is requesting reimbursement for excess cost of electricity in the amount of \$580.36.

- **Motion (HAMPFORD) seconded (PULIE) to approve reimbursement of \$580.36 in excess electricity cost due to faulty grinder pump system. Discussion followed. Motion carried unanimously.**

There being no other business before the Authority,

- **Motion (GONCALVES) seconded (HAMPFORD) to adjourn. No discussion. Motion carried unanimously.**

The meeting was adjourned at 10:01 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Jenny Francese
Clerk of the Commission