

AVON WATER POLLUTION CONTROL AUTHORITY

April 10, 2014

Selectmen's Chambers, 7:30 pm

Town of Avon - PUBLIC HEARING

I. CALL TO ORDER

The Avon Water Pollution Control Authority was called to order at 7:30 pm by Mr. Farrell.

Present: Michael Farrell
Eric Johansen
Tom Armstrong
Terry Ryan
Chris Roy
Lawrence Baril, Town Engineer

Absent: n/a

II. MINUTES OF PRECEDING MEETING – March 13, 2014

MOTION: Mr. Armstrong made a motion for approval of the March 13, 2014 minutes. The motion, seconded by Mr. Farrell, received unanimous approval.

III. COMMUNICATION FROM THE AUDIENCE – Mr. Farrell noted Mr. Ferrigno's presence and mentioned his agenda item will be discussed under New Business.

IV NEW BUSINESS –

2014 - 4 Public Hearing regarding proposed increase for sewer use fee (FY 14/15)

Mr. Farrell invited comments from the audience regarding the proposed increase and reviewed the current rate and what the new rate will be. Mr. Farrell responded to Mr. Ferrigno's question regarding surrounding towns' sewer rate and Town of Avon is considered at or below average given its size. Although the Town does not own a plant, there are other issues coming down the pike such as the I / I Study.

Given no further comments from the audience, Mr. Farrell closed public comment for the public hearing regarding increase sewer use fee.

2014 – 5 Stratford Crossing Sewer Permit Agreement –

Mr. William Ferrigno, President of Sunlight Construction, reviewed the planned subdivision, Stratford Crossing, including site location and the planned route to install gravity sewers. Mr. Ferrigno noted there's a parcel nearby, approximately 5 lots, which is unable to have gravity sewer. In order to sewer this parcel, a pump system would be required.

Mr. Ferrigno noted that all of Lenox is sewered. Mr. Baril noted the flow would connect to Simsbury. Mr. Baril inquired about any potential restrictions regarding the installation of the sewer going through wetlands. Mr. Ferrigno noted that the sewer throughout the wetlands will occur during the dry time which will work out perfectly. Mr. Farrell confirmed that no amendment is needed in relation to the current work Mr. Armstrong is conducting regarding sewer assessments due at time of sale.

MOTION: Mr. Farrell made a motion that the AWPCA authorize Brandon Robertson, Town Manager of Avon, to enter into a sewer permit agreement with Sunlight Construction for Stratford Crossing. The motion, seconded by Mr. Roy, received unanimous approval.

V. OLD BUSINESS

2014 – 3 Set the Equivalent Dwelling Unit (EDU) rate for 2014

Mr. Farrell noted there was prior discussion and recommendation to increase the sewer rate to \$325. Without any major objection noted, Mr. Farrell proceeded to make a motion.

MOTION: Mr. Farrell made a motion that the AWPCA set the EDU rate for FY 2014/2015 to \$325. Mr. Armstrong recommended a modification to the motion to state 2014 and beyond. Mr. Farrell modified the motion to set the current EDU rate to \$325. The motion, seconded by Mr. Armstrong, received unanimous approval.

2013 – 5 Easement Access Management Report – Mr. Baril noted that time is approaching, especially given the current I / I Study, that vegetation has grown and has become a challenge to walk through. This area will be targeted. Mr. Ryan noted he will stop into the Engineering Department to discuss the project. Mr. Baril mentioned that requested funds of \$60,000 via the Capital Improvement Project were denied. Mr. Baril noted that there may be a sewer fund which may be used towards the easement access project. Potential funding sources, such as supplemental appropriation, and what authority the AWPCA has control over, were discussed. Mr. Roy questioned how the AWPCA can raise the revenue side but then plead for the money that was just raised. Mr. Baril explained the required purchase order procedures needed when a project cost exceeds \$2,000. Mr. Farrell urged the project to move forward and to secure the money and make the project happen. Mr. Ryan indicated agreement and suggested the emergency fund as a funding source.

Mr. Armstrong suggested the Authority grant formal approval for Mr. Baril to go out to bid for the easement access project to support the I / I Study. Mr. Johansen suggested Mr. Robertson should attend the meeting to confirm who the appropriate authority is when requesting funds. Mr. Baril responded to Mr. Roy's question regarding the timing of the meter installations, that accessing some of the meter locations was challenging, and that after the metering is complete, there is still additional work to be done based on the testing results. Potentially walking the Roaring Brook interceptor cannot be done.

MOTION: Mr. Farrell made a motion that the AWPCA authorize Mr. Baril and the Engineering Department to submit to the bidding process to seek out bids for easement access management to fully support the full scope of the I / I Study. The motion, seconded by Mr. Roy, received unanimous approval.

Mr. Johansen inquired about the bidding process and how the AWPCA is involved during this process. Mr. Ryan provided input on the bidding process from his experience.

2013 – 7 Assessment Conveyance – Mr. Armstrong provided an overview of his research and discussion with the Town Clerk and Finance. When a lawyer misses the note on the land records indicating an assessment is due, discussion suggested the Town will deal with that after the fact and collect the appropriate money. When the lien assessment and payment is recorded, it should be recorded for each individual homeowner. Mr. Baril noted his discussion with Ms. Glovach from Murtha Cullina regarding creating a caveat. Mr. Armstrong provided a document from 2011 for 131 Deepwood Drive regarding special benefit assessment which was filed on the land records. Mr.

Armstrong is finalizing the wording to ensure payment of an assessment is paid at time of sale. The proposed wording will be reviewed by the Town of Avon's attorney. Mr. Armstrong will provide an update for the next AWPCA Meeting.

2011 – 10 I & I Study – Mr. Baril noted meter installation was done. Four rain gauges were also installed. The meters will be in place for approximately 8 weeks. Heavy rain events are ideal for an I/I Study.

VI PLANNING & ZONING MATTERS – Mr. Armstrong noted the Plan of Conservation's plan to enter into negotiations with Avon Old Farms School for cluster housing in the exchange for open space. It's a precaution against building. Mr. Baril elaborated upon Mr. Armstrong's comment and provided a historical background on the Old Farms Road relocation project, including the possible routes and the Town's plan to acquire open space which will enable connection of the rail trail to Fisher Meadows. It will also provide access to the property south of Beaver Pond, which is a developable property should it be re-zoned. The Avon Old Farms School would stand to benefit with such a project as the road is dangerous for students to walk upon. There are merits to relocate the road; however it's a large dollar project which the Town is unable to financially undertake. The Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) has been involved and the project may be eligible for potential funding from the FHWA given independent utility status. The Town of Avon and School may split the cost for the southern road realignment. Mr. Baril invited AWPCA Members to come into the Engineering Department to look at a map which will provide further detail.

VII COMMUNICATION FROM STAFF – Mr. Baril commented on two letters he received from Cider Brook residents based on a letter sent in 2012 to area residents requesting input on potential sewers. Both residents indicated they are not in favor of installing sewers. Mr. Baril mentioned that Cider Brook Road is not on the Public Works' pavement management budget because it is a road, capital project. There is CIP money set aside for Cider Brook and money set aside for road rehabilitation. The money is set aside, i.e., encumbered, should the project move forward. Cider Brook would be the first low pressure system in the Town of Avon. Mr. Baril followed up on Mr. Ferrigno's Stratford Crossing presentation regarding the possibility of purchasing a specific parcel near Stratford Crossing that will not be a gravity sewer system. This project may appear before the AWPCA in the future to potentially approve low pressure sewer system.

Mr. Baril commented on the CAWPCA (Connecticut Association of Water Pollution Control Authority) Spring Workshop on May 9, 2014. Mr. Armstrong noted he may call the CAWPCA to suggest AWPCA-relevant topics appear on a future workshop agenda.

VIII COMMUNICATION FROM MEMBERS – Mr. Armstrong mentioned his conversation with Mr. Dennis Greci and noted that Mr. Greci said he is working on the \$18,000.00 for the Town of Avon. Mr. Armstrong noted a Suburban Sanitation truck near Max-A-Mia. Mr. Baril noted they may be working on a grease trap. Mr. Farrell noted his experience from a local restaurant whereby he notices a constant odor of sewage. There is standing water in the floor drains. Mr. Baril confirmed someone could call the Farmington Valley Health District regarding this matter.

IX OTHER BUSINESS – None

X ADJOURNMENT -

MOTION: Mr. Farrell motioned to adjourn the meeting at 8:45 p.m. The motion, seconded by Mr. Johansen, received unanimous approval.

Respectfully submitted,
Suzanne Essex, Clerk