

WATER POLLUTION CONTROL AUTHORITY – DECEMBER 9, 2020
WATER POLLUTION CONTROL AUTHORITY MINUTES
REGULAR MEETING – WEDNESDAY, December 9, 2020
7:00 p.m. via ZOOM video conferencing

Board Members:

Louis M. Accornero, Chairman; John M. Tanski, Vice Chairman; John A. Davis, Jr., Secretary; James Campbell; Nils G. Carlson; Richard P. Lawlor **EXCUSED**; & James D. Parry

Gregory J. Mahoney, Senior Engineering Technician and Michael J. Bisi, Superintendent of Sanitation, were also in attendance.

1. Developments

A. Proposed Dairy Queen Restaurant (formerly Boston Market)
2834 Main Street
Sewer Impact Report- F.O.G. Management Requirements

The applicant, Michael Cassetta, spoke, explaining why they want to keep the existing internal AGRU grease recovery unit rather than install an exterior grease trap. He said when Boston Market was using the building they had four hoods and flat grills and were creating a lot of grease from the chickens. Dairy Queen will have a fryolator and a chain-broil grill which produce much less grease. After being used in the fryolator, the grease is automatically pumped into a receptacle which, when filled, is removed and taken away by a contractor. The grill also has a receptacle for grease which is also removed every night. The problem with an external grease trap is that they do not know exactly where the sewer line exits the building and goes out to the street. They do know it is under the drive-through window and its concrete pad.

Mr. Parry asked what process did Boston Market use? Mr Mahoney responded, saying he was unsure about their operation, but when the DEEP began requiring F.O.G. discharge permits in 2015, existing restaurants were not expected to rip up their parking lot and install external traps; the restaurants were allowed to use internal traps. When WPCA recently updated their policies, they called for external traps to be added whenever a property went under redevelopment.

Mr. Tanski inquired if there was any data how much grease is used by these operations? Mr. Mahoney said they size the tanks using the determination from the State Health Code of 5 gallons per person per meal based on take-out. They are finding that the AGRUs are not being cleaned out appropriately because the clean out is left to staff and staff, when they do clean them out, dump the waste in the dumpster enclosures where it leaks out and into the catch basins. The external tanks are cleaned out every three months by a contractor and staff does not get involved.

Mr. Parry questioned, with the external tanks, if no grease goes in the waste stream at all. Mr. Mahoney said there is grease, from the greasy dishes and apparatus being cleaned. Mr. Cassetta interjected that they use all paper products and have very few greasy dishes/pans to clean.

Mr. Davis asked Mr. Mahoney if he had a recommendation or motion –should they be “grandfathered” in? Mr. Mahoney said based on the revised WPCA policies, it fits the bill to have an external grease trap. He added there a lot of restaurants on that sewer main, and 90% have the external grease traps. Mr. Davis reiterated, if this proposal should be “grandfathered”

in, to which Mr. Mahoney added that both Engineering and the Health Department recommend the external grease trap, so the Authority needs to decide what they want to do.

Mr. Tanski asked the applicant what the fiscal impact would be if he had to install the external trap. Mr. Cassetta said it could cost between \$15,000 and \$25,000, depending on where the sewer line is. Mr. Cassetta added that he owns several Dairy Queens and only one has the external grease trap and that is because it was a completely new development.

Mr. Bisi asked Mr. Mahoney if the applicant was made aware during the approval process that he would need an external grease trap, to which Mr. Mahoney replied, yes, both the Engineering and Health departments stated they would be requiring it.

Mr. Bisi added that they have only made one exemption to their policy – for the Main Street Dunkin' Donuts that doesn't fry anything on-site, and he strongly cautioned against making an exception in this case as they will see many more cases like this in the future.

Mr. Tanski asked if more grease is contained in the external trap as compared to the internal trap. Mr. Mahoney said it is much more a maintenance issue, with staff not maintaining the trap properly.

Mr. Cassetta said he would be happy to provide the Authority with a copy of a contract to have the internal trap drained every three months.

Mr. Davis asked Mr. Mahoney how many facilities have that separate tank that Mr. Cassetta is referring to where it is not going through the AGRU at all. Mr. Mahoney replied he did not know as it is based on whether you have fryolators. Mr. Cassetta added that within the last five years, a lot of establishments have purchased fryolators that have a pump that automatically filters the oil and pumps it into a rendering tank.

Mr. Campbell asked if there were examples of environmental or safety issues caused by poorly maintained AGRUs that resulted in the recommendation for external tanks. Mr. Mahoney responded that he did not know of any specifically; he believes the concern is with the on-site grease storage.

Mr. Davis said he agreed with Mr. Tanski who said earlier they could base their recommendation on a contingency plan that says they can keep the internal storage, but if it is not maintained, they would need to install an external tank.

Mr. Tanski suggested referring this item to the Engineering Subcommittee to consider waiver language and review of the facility. Mr. Bisi said it would be good to check with the State and also that he has seen this facility's parking lot excavated recently so he does not believe installing the external grease trap can be considered a hardship.

Mr. Davis MOVED that the Water Pollution Control Authority FORWARD this item to the Engineering Subcommittee.

Mr. Tanski SECONDED the MOTION and it was unanimously APPROVED.

2. Subcommittees

A. Sewer Use Subcommittee

Mike Bisi reported that they currently have about 34 appeals submitted. He will be in touch with members to set up a meeting. He mentioned a glitch in bills sent to people that need to read their meters and send in their numbers. He said they should have everything ready for the Authority's meeting on January 20.

B. Assessment Subcommittee – No Report

C. Engineering Subcommittee – No Report

D. Legal Subcommittee – No Report

3. Acceptance of Minutes

A. Regular Meeting and Public Hearings – October 14, 2020

Mr. Davis MOVED that the Town of Glastonbury Water Pollution Control Authority APPROVE the Minutes for the Regular Meeting and Public Hearings of October 14, 2020

Mr. Carlson SECONDED the MOTION and it was APPROVED 5-0-1, with Mr. Parry abstaining.

4. Other Business Properly to Come Before the Authority

**A. 75 Glastonbury Land LLC, 75 Glastonbury Boulevard
RESCIND Resolution 2020-02, Assessment of Benefits #930**

Mr. Davis MOVED that the Town of Glastonbury Water Pollution Control Authority RESCIND Resolution 2020-02, Assessment of Benefits #930, for 75 Glastonbury Boulevard - 75 Glastonbury Land LLC

Mr. Parry SECONDED the MOTION.

Mr. Mahoney said the project stopped when the pandemic started and they had been granted an extension, and now they do not know when they will start again. Their TPZ approval is good for five years, so Mr. Mahoney is suggesting the Authority rescind their assessment of benefits and provide a new one when the project starts up again, at the rates current at that time.

The MOTION to RESCIND was APPROVED.

B. Water Pollution Control Authority – 2021 Regular Meeting Schedule

1. 2021 Regular meeting time change discussion

Mr. Davis MOVED that the Town of Glastonbury Water Pollution Control Authority APPROVE the change of meeting time from 7 to 6 o'clock in the evening going forward.

Mr. Campbell SECONDED the MOTION.

Mr. Carlson asked why the change.

Mr. Davis thought with the pandemic and most people working from home and meetings via Zoom, it might be nicer to have the meeting earlier.

The MOTION was APPROVED 5-0-1, with Mr. Carlson abstaining.

C. COVID Sewage Sampling/Testing

Mr. Bisi referred to an email he had sent previously to Authority members, saying they have started sampling but do not yet have any information to report.

Mr. Davis MOVED to adjourn the meeting.

Mr. Tanski SECONDED the MOTION and it was unanimously APPROVED.

The meeting ADJOURNED at 8:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Glynis McKenzie
Recording Secretary