

WATER POLLUTION CONTROL AUTHORITY – FEBRUARY 8, 2023

**WATER POLLUTION CONTROL AUTHORITY MINUTES
REGULAR MEETING – Wednesday, February 8, 2023
6:00 p.m. – Town Hall, Town Council Chambers**

Board Members: Louis M. Accornero, Chairman; John M. Tanski, Vice Chairman; John A. Davis, Jr., Secretary; Daniel Horvath; James Campbell, and Richard P. Lawlor, Brian J. Comerford

Michael Manfre, Sanitation Superintendent; Greg J. Mahoney, Civil Engineering Technician

1. Developments

**A. 51 Kreiger Lane- Proposed Multi-Family Development- Vessel Technologies, Inc.
Revised Sanitary Sewer Impact Report
(Seamus Moran, P.E.- H+H Engineering Associates, LLC)**

There was no one available to represent this item.

**B. 2815 Main Street- Proposed Bank Development- HB Nitkin
Sanitary Sewer Impact Report
(Will Walter, P.E.- Alfred Benesch & Company)**

Will Walter of Alfred Benesch & Company referred the Commission to the map included in packet Item 1.B and explained the location of the proposed 2000 square-foot bank development. He went on to explain that they are proposing to construct a sewer lateral and referred to flow rates noted in the Benesch letter also included within packet Item 1.B. Mr. Walter estimated the peak flow rate at 540 GPD which is approximately 10% of the Town's allotted flow of 5,940 GPD.

Mr. Davis MOVED, that the Town of Glastonbury Water Pollution Control Authority APPROVE the Sanitary Sewer Impact Report for 2815 Main Street- Proposed Bank Development, HB Nitkin.

Mr. Comerford SECONDED the MOTION and it was **APPROVED** unanimously.

**C. 340 Hubbard Street- Proposed Animal Shelter- Town of Glastonbury
Sanitary Sewer Impact Report
(Will Walter, P.E.- Alfred Benesch & Company)**

Will Walter of Alfred Benesch & Company explained the location of the proposed animal shelter near Glastonbury High School. He then explained that the existing animal shelter will be demolished and also noted where the existing Town sewer main is located. The proposed sewer lateral will come out of the building through a grit separator as the floor will be hosed down daily. The grit separator will separate out the solids so only the liquid will pass through to the public sewer. They will then tie in at the sewer manhole and continue to the sewer main. Mr. Walter explained Connecticut Public Health Code design criteria values for animal shelters is per dog run. The current shelter has 11 dogs runs and the new one will consist of 10 runs. He then referred the Commission to the flow figures included in packet Item 1.C which shows the Town Allotted Flows at 300,456 GPD, with the high school included. He also noted existing flow for the current animal shelter is 743 GPD, and they expect a slight reduction for the proposed shelter which estimates at 675 GPD. Mr. Walter also clarified the building size is increasing but the number of dog runs will be reduced.

David Sacchitella, Building Superintendent for the Town of Glastonbury, clarified that some of the dog runs are currently being used for other purposes and that this will not be accommodated in the new shelter. He also noted that the Town will be responsible for cleaning the grit separator. They intend to begin construction this spring and finish in the fall. Mr. Sacchitella also noted that a neighboring town will assist with animal control functions during construction.

Mr. Davis MOVED, that the Town of Glastonbury Water Pollution Control Authority APPROVE the Sanitary Sewer Impact Report for 340 Hubbard Street- Proposed Animal Shelter, Town of Glastonbury.

Mr. Comerford SECONDED the MOTION and it was **APPROVED** unanimously.

Since there was no representation for agenda Item 1.A, the Commission suggested to table the item.

Mr. Comerford MOVED, that the Town of Glastonbury Water Pollution Control Authority TABLE agenda Item 1.A, Revised Sanitary Sewer Impact Report, 51 Kreiger Lane- Proposed Multi-Family Development, Vessel Technologies, Inc.

Mr. Davis SECONDED the MOTION and it was **APPROVED** unanimously.

2. Public Comments

No public comments.

3. Subcommittees

A. Sewer Use Subcommittee

1. Subcommittee Recommendations – Sewer Use Appeals
 - a. January 26, 2023 memo from Mike Manfre- Superintendent of Sanitation- WPCA Sewer Use Subcommittee Special Meter Inspections

Chairman Accornero began by reading addresses listed on the Sewer Use Subcommittee's 2022 Sewer Use Appeals Recommendations spreadsheet included with agenda Item 3.A.1.

Mr. Davis MOVED, that the Town of Glastonbury Water Pollution Control Authority APPROVE the Sewer Use Subcommittee's recommendations on all appeals listed on the spreadsheet within packet Item 3.A.1 with the following exceptions: #6 171 Boulder Circle, #8 45 Bunker Hill Road, #13 208 Fairway Crossing, #18 64 Hampshire Drive, #26 1803 Main Street, #27 1823 Main Street, #33 28 Pine Hurst, #34 41 Princeton Lane.

Mr. Comerford SECONDED the MOTION and it was **APPROVED** unanimously

Lisa Cassidy-Rollins of 171 Boulder Circle came forward and stated that for years 2021 and 2022 she was charged at the highest rate of 140.00 ccf's and both bills were over \$475. Ms. Rollins stated that she sent a letter to Lisa Dunnack on November 15th noting the usage history, which from 2015-2022, ranged between 44.79 – 82.09 ccf's. She noted that there are only two people currently living at this residence so usage is low. Ms. Cassidy is requesting a refund due to the misplaced meter card that she states was mailed in on time but misplaced, possibly by the mail system.

The Commission suggested that, since water is serviced by a well, it is important that Ms. Rollins send in the meter card on time and confirm receipt by Sanitation. The Commission also explained the importance of the receiving the meter card by the June 30th date, and how that is utilized for accurate billing. Ms. Rollins argued that the Town has a 5-year history on their usage and feels that should be taken into consideration for refund. The Commission then explained that, if she turns her meter card in by the June 30, 2023 due date, they will then have an accurate usage reading and she will receive a refund for year 2022. As requested by Ms. Cassidy, Mr. Manfre will mail a written letter confirming the eligible time period for the refund.

Paul Gagnon of 45 Bunker Hill Road asked for further information on a letter he received stating there would be no adjustment made to his sewer use bill. The Commission noted that the meter card was received on August 15, 2022 which is past the June 30th due date. Mr. Gagnon said that he installed a secondary deduction meter for a lawn irrigation system in 2021. Due to miscommunication between him and his contractor, he was under the impression that the contractor would handle notification to water company and note that the meter was installed. Mr. Gagnon did not understand that it is the responsibility of the homeowner to notify the Town that a deduction meter was installed and a meter reading was required to be sent in by June 30th. When questioning his 2022 bill with the Sanitation Department, he was informed that accurate billing is based on timely reception of the meter card and, if the meter card is received by the June 30, 2023 due date, he will receive a refund for 2022 and will also receive an accurate bill for 2023. The Commission also informed him that he will receive a letter in the mail noting the eligible time period for the refund and confirmed how the process needs to be followed going forward.

Arlene Goldberg of 208 Fairway Crossing is appealing her sewer use bill of \$950 for her irrigation system. She sent in the meter card and is aware that it was received late but she has never been late in the past 25 years. Ms. Goldberg stated that there was no adjustment made regardless of her letter of appeal and feels a \$700 late fee is excessive. The Commission reiterated the importance of ensuring the card is received by the June 30th due date and receiving it after that date will result in a higher bill as they do not have accurate usage data. The Commission reassured Ms. Goldberg that, if her card is received by the June 30, 2023, she will receive a refund for 2022. Ms. Gagnon continued to state that she feels the late fee is unreasonable and the Commission reassured her that, again, if the meter card is received by the June 30th due date that she will be eligible for a refund from the 2022 bill.

Dan Elliott of 64 Hampshire Drive stated that he has lived at the property since October 16, 2020. He noted that in that time he has paid nearly \$4,000 in usage bills. He shared payment information from 2020-2021 and his bill from 2022 was \$1,529.09. Mr. Elliott stated that he hired a plumber to install a separate deduction meter in 2022 which cost nearly \$800. He said that he has paid almost \$5,000 in usage bills and plumber's fees and feels that historical usage should be used to calculate an accurate bill. Mr. Elliott noted information from his appeal and felt there should be a reduction based on information from 2021 and 2022.

The Commission reassured Mr. Elliott that, provided the meter card is received by June 30, 2023, that he will receive a refund for 2022, and also noted that they go back one year only. Mr. Elliott asked if the Commission would take his 2021 bill into consideration although there was no deduction meter installed for that year. The Commission reiterated the importance of receiving the meter card by the June 30th deadline so that accurate usage data can be utilized in calculating the bill. Without data from the meter card, this cannot be done. The Commission again clarified that the 2022 numbers will adjust if the meter card is received by the June 30, 2023 due date. Mr. Manfre suggested that, now that Mr. Elliott has a deduction meter installed and he is in the system, that he should submit his meter reading by taking a picture with a mobile phone and email it to Sanitation as soon as possible.

Gary DeGroff of 1803 Main Street stated that his meter card was submitted on July 6, 2022. He also stated that in 2021 his card was submitted on December 7th and he received an \$873 credit and he was not aware of a policy change noting that the meter card deadline was June 30th. The Commission reassured him that a refund would be received for 2022 as long as the meter card was received by June 30, 2023.

Rob Abel of 1823 Main Street stated that he now understands how the process works and had an irrigation system with deduction meter installed on May 25, 2022. He noted that the meter was certified by Town staff and had assumed the contractor would send meter reading to Sanitation at time of installation. This year Mr. Abel will send a picture of his meter reading by the June 30, 2023 due date.

Srikanth Babu Tummala of 28 Pine Hurst stated that he understands the process now but was only 37 minutes late in submitting his meter reading. He asked the Commission to confirm that he would receive his refund if the meter card is received by the June 30, 2023 due date. Mr. Tummala suggested that the refund policy be communicated more clearly. The Commission reassured Mr. Tummala that, based on the information from tonight's appeals, the Sewer Use Subcommittee will meet again and discuss providing clearer communication and at least some leeway in certain circumstances. The Commission also provided clarity as to why the meter cards are required by the June 30th date.

Carole Hicks of 41 Princeton Lane states that she sent her card in on time. Her bill the previous year was \$86.01 and this year it was \$850.48. She realized later that in 2022 she submitted data from the incorrect meter. Ms. Hicks worked with Lisa Dunnack and Sanitation staff to rectify the situation and resubmit the correct data. She was then informed that an adjustment would be made after the appeals review. She is confused as to why she would still need to pay the bill. Mr. Manfre confirmed that the meter reading Sanitation received in June was the MDC meter reading and not the deduction meter reading for the irrigation system. They ultimately received a deduction meter reading on November 2, 2022. The Commission suggested to refer this back to the Sewer Use Subcommittee for further discussion and they will make a revised recommendation based on all information received.

Mr. Davis MOVED that the Town of Glastonbury Water Pollution Control Authority APPROVE the Sewer Use Subcommittee's recommendations as presented in the spreadsheet within packet Item 3.A.1, except line item #34, 41 Princeton Lane.

Mr. Horvath SECONDED the MOTION and it was **APPROVED** unanimously.

Mr. Davis MOVED that the Town of Glastonbury Water Pollution Control Authority refer back to the Sewer Use Subcommittee, line item #34, 41 Princeton Lane, for further recommendation.

Mr. Lawlor SECONDED the MOTION and it was **APPROVED** unanimously.

Chairman Accornero MOVED, that the Town of Glastonbury Water Pollution Control Authority UNTABLE Item 1.A, 51 Kreiger Lane- Proposed Multi-Family Development, Vessel Technologies.

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

Attorney Peter Alter was now available to represent agenda Item 1.A on behalf of Vessel Technologies for 51 Kreiger Lane and explained that they appeared before the authority about one year ago with a Sanitary Sewer Impact Report for a project that consisted 44 one-bedroom units.

They are now submitting a Revised Sanitary Sewer Impact Report that consists of 48 one-bedroom units for consideration by the Authority. The Commission referred to the memorandum and letter within packet Item 1.A noting estimated excess flow data based on the slightly increased tank size.

Mr. Davis MOVED, that the Town of Glastonbury Water Pollution Control Authority APPROVE the Revised Sanitary Sewer Impact Report for 51 Kreiger Lane- Proposed Multi-Family Development, Vessel Technologies, Inc.

Mr. Comerford SECONDED the MOTION and it was **APPROVED** unanimously.

B. Assessment Subcommittee

No report.

C. Engineering Subcommittee

Chairman Davis stated that the Subcommittee is awaiting a decision on who the Engineering firm will be for the Parker Terrace Pump Station project so it is currently on hold. Mr. Manfre then noted that the two proposals received last week have since been submitted to the Town Manager's office.

D. Legal Subcommittee

No report.

4. Acceptance of Minutes

A. Regular Meeting & Public Hearing- January 18, 2023

Mr. Davis MOVED that the Town of Glastonbury Water Pollution Control Authority APPROVE the minutes for the Regular Meeting and Public Hearing of January 18, 2023.

Mr. Comerford SECONDED the MOTION and it was **APPROVED** unanimously

5. Other Business Properly to Come Before the Authority

Mr. Davis, MOVED to adjourn the meeting.

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

Meeting adjourned at 7:03 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,



Dawn Luke
Recording Secretary