

**CITY OF NORWALK
MAYOR'S WATER QUALITY COMMITTEE
REGULAR MEETING
SEPTEMBER 1, 2022**

ATTENDANCE: Joseph Schnierlein, Chairman; Steve Bartush; John Crespo; Diane Lauricella

STAFF: William Mooney

OTHER: Lynnelle Jones

CALL TO ORDER

Chairman Schnierlein called the meeting to order at 6:00. There was a quorum present.

ROLL CALL: STEVE BARTUSH: BILL MOONEY, JOHN CRESPO, DIANE LAURICELLA, DICK HARRIS, HARRY RILLING, JOE SCHNIERLEIN, GEOFF STEADMAN, LOUISE WASHER

A roll-call of those present was performed.

COMMUNICATIONS

D.E.E.P.

A correspondence from D.E.E.P. has been received that was reviewed later in the meeting.

DEPT. OF AQUACULTURE – STEVE

There was no communication at this time.

DEPT. OF HEALTH – BILL

There was no communication at this time.

HARBOR COMMISSION –GEOFF

Mr. Steadman was not present to provide any communications.

PLANNING AND ZONING

There was no communication at this time.

OLD BUSINESS

MS 4 - DIANE

Ms. Lauricella reported that no one had submitted comments to her, and she would put together her own comments. The deadline for comments is midnight.

WILSON POINT COVE TESTING AND BEACH CLOSURES - BILL AND DICK

Testing had been performed the prior day and the results were good. Village Creek was tested as well and, despite failing initially, passed a retest.

UCONN PROGRAM TO REDUCE RUNOFF FROM IMPERMEABLE SURFACES - LOUISE

Ms. Washer was not present to deliver a report. Chairman Schnierlein said he had sent an e-mail out regarding this item but had not heard any feedback yet. Further discussion followed.

NEW BUSINESS

USGS DATA PRESENTATION ON SEPT. – JOE

Chairman Schnierlein reviewed the data presented by the USGS. He noted that that a 10-degree difference in temperature had been found and reviewed the effects that had on the water. Due to issues with oxygen lower down he was concerned that there might be fish kills. Further review followed.

CTDEEP CONSENT DECREE MAY 5TH 2022 FOR PAST VIOLATIONS (DISCUSSION ITEM).

Mr. Bartush commented that the employee who had replied to him seemed to be focused on letting the documents speak for themselves than comment themselves. He was unclear on some of the information as a result. It was noted that the City had made efforts to separate the sewers in the documents. Ms. Lauricella expressed a desire to have an ongoing communication with both the Water Pollution Control Authority and the Public Works Department. She further detailed her plans to improve communication. Further discussion followed regarding improving communications. Concerns were raised over how to properly respect and handle the boundaries of the various organizations. Disagreements ensued regarding the role of the Committee.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Ms. Jones came forward for public comment. She has had previous concerns which she voiced to the Committee. She had concerns about educating the public regarding pollution and the role that the Committee had in this process. She voiced her disapproval with how the Committee had previously handled various issues. She said she had previously proved issues with pollution that had been ignored by both the City and the State. She said that, in the future, she would be going straight to the EPA and DEEP with reports of pollution instead of to the Water Quality Committee. She complained that things were being done behind the scenes. She further voiced her dissatisfaction with the Committee and said that she felt that she had been insulted by the Committee.

Mr. Bartush suggested that they set up a meeting with the state official that Ms. Jones had been in discussion with to see what could be resolved in regard to Ms. Jones's issues.

- ** MR. BARTUSH MOVED TO INVITE THE INDIVIDUAL FOR THE MEETING ON OCTOBER 6, 2022.**
- ** CHAIRMAN SCHNEIRLEIN SECONDED THE MOTION.**
- ** THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

READING AND APPROVAL OF MINUTES FROM AUGUST 4

- ** MR. BARTUSH MOVED TO ACCEPT THE MINUTES OF AUGUST 4, 2022 AS SUBMITTED.**
- ** MR. CRESPO SECONDED THE MOTION.**
- ** THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

ADJOURNMENT

- ** MR. BARTUSH MOVED TO ADJOURN.**
- ** MR. CRESPO SECONDED THE MOTION.**
- ** THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

The meeting adjourned at 6:57 P.M.

Respectfully Submitted
Ian A. Soltes
Telesco Secretarial Services