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City of Norwalk Mayor's Water Quality Committee Meeting March 5, 2020 Minutes

CALL TO ORDER 6:00 PM

ATTENDANCE

Members: Joe Schnierlein, John Crespo, Pete Johnson, Jim Bartley, Chris Malik, Steve Bartush, John Romano, Louise Washer

Staff: Thomas Closter

Guests:

PUBLIC COMMENT

None

MINUTES OF LAST MEETING

Motion to Approve by Pete Johnson, second by Jim Bartley. Unanimous Vote.

DISCUSSION

- 1) Chairman Schnierlein talked about Per and Polyfluoroalkyl Substances (PFAS). He said that Aquaculture will start testing shellfish and testing labs will be set up at UConn, Central and Western Connecticut, as of now there is no further update. Louise Washer passed out a letter regarding an act concerning the use of PFAS substances in Class B Firefighting Foam.
- 2) Chairman Schnierlein attended a public information meeting in Ridgefield regarding the future of the Fox Hill flood control dam. The cost of improving the dam is 6,275,000 million and the cost of removal is 1,605,000 million. Concerns are the impact of communities downriver like Wilton & Norwalk and the effect if there is no flood control and the impact to Norwalk.
- 3) Chairman Schnierlein said there has been no communication with Eversource and their plans for the transmission line relocation project. Committee members are still very concerned about the path and method. There also has been no recent communications with DEEP.
- 4) Chairman Schnierlein talked about the potential for the Department of Agriculture to start water quality monitoring. They could monitor salinity, dissolved oxygen and turbidity and they could establish baseline data and look at cycles and growth rates. He is hoping the City will have access to the data.
- 5) Louise Washer talked about State Bill 301 which would ban Chlorpyrifos in Connecticut. Scientific studies have linked it to brain, neurological, organ, and developmental damage in children, autism, cancer, Parkinson's disease, and a whole host of other negative human health issues. Chairman Schnierlein will contact the local golf courses to request they cease the use of Chlorpyrifos.

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A motion by Jim Bartley, second by Pete Johnson for the Mayor's Water Quality Committee to support State Bill 301 and send a letter to Governor Lamont and the Environment Committee. All in favor.

- 6) Next meeting scheduled for Thursday, April 2, 2020 at 6:00pm in the Health Department.

Motion to adjourn meeting by Jim Bartley, second by Louise Washer 6:51pm
Minutes by Thomas Closter