

**City of Norwalk
Mayor's Water Quality Committee Meeting
January 2, 2020
Minutes**

CALL TO ORDER 6:02 PM

ATTENDANCE

Members: Joe Schnierlein, Diane Lauricella, John Crespo, Dick Harris, Pete Johnson, Jim Bartley, Chris Malik, Steve Bartush, John Romano

Staff: Thomas Closter

Guests: Deb Goldstein

PUBLIC COMMENT

None

MINUTES OF LAST MEETING

Motion to Approve by Pete Johnson, second by Dick Harris. Unanimous Vote.

DISCUSSION

- 1) Chairman Schnierlein gave an update on Per and Polyfluoroalkyl Substances (PFAS). He explained what the State of CT is doing to address PFAS. Governor Ned Lamont established the Connecticut Interagency PFAS Task Force on July 8, 2019 which is led by the Department of Public Health and the Department of Energy and Environmental Protection and contains representatives from a broad variety of State Agencies and is tasked with delivering a PFAS action plan. Joe discussed filters, testing and how Europe has banned PFAS. He talked with DEEP and they will not be sampling for PFAS. Here is a copy of the draft for the action plan, but not the final draft:
https://www.ct.gov/deep/lib/deep/pfastaskforce/Draft_CT_Interagency_PFAS_Task_Force_Action_Plan.pdf
- 2) Chris Malik talked about the Norwalk River Watershed Initiative and met with representatives from the watershed towns on December 5, 2019 @ 3:00pm at Wilton Town Hall. Items discussed were DEEP funding, projects in Wilton for Schools and dams and the Natural Resources Conservation Service. The next meeting is scheduled for February 6, 2020 at Wilton Town Hall @ 3:00pm.
- 3) Chairman Schnierlein discussed the Department of Transportation turbidity results for the Walk Bridge and the implications on water quality. Concerns centered on how measuring devices are fixed and don't move with the tides, no automatic closures, and no way to view results on-line. EPA has established protocols for monitoring that should be followed. Earthplace has turbidity baseline data at the Bridge in digital format that may be helpful. Harbor Management and Shellfish Commissions have a Consultant that is reviewing the data and will make recommendations.
- 4) 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. He noted work has started near the Police

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Station and will follow up to see if proper permits were taken. Joe will try to gain more information on Eversource's plans.

- 5) Diane Lauricella said there is a public information meeting regarding Ridgefield's Fox Hill flood control dam on January 29, 2020 @ 6:30 in the Ridgefield Recreation Center.
- 6) Dick Harris said that shellfish harvesters are finding mitten crabs and will be monitoring the spread of this invasive species. The burrowing activity can undermine infrastructure and significantly increase the occurrence of stream bank erosion.
- 7) Next meeting scheduled for Thursday, February 6, 2020 at 6:00pm in the Health Department.

Motion to adjourn meeting by Dick Harris, second by Pete Johnson 6:58pm
Minutes by Thomas Closter