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**CITY OF NORWALK
WATER POLLUTION CONTROL AUTHORITY VIA ZOOM VIRTUAL
VIDEOCONFERENCE AND TELECONFERENCE
REGULAR MEETING
April 17, 2023**

Attendance: Darren Oustafine, Chairman
John Bove
John Ignéri
Neil Konstantin
Greg Burnett
Chris Mannella

Staff: Vanessa Valadares, Chief of Operations and Public Works
Chris Torre, Superintendent of Operations
Ralph Kolb, WPCA Senior Environmental Engineer
Neyla Bauer, Wastewater Systems Manager

Others: John Marcin, Project Manager, Veolia
Mathew Brown, Asst. Project Manager, Veolia
Jason O'Brien, Veolia

1. CALL TO ORDER

Mr. Oustafine called the meeting to order at 5:30PM.

2. APPROVE THE MINUTES FROM WPCA MEETING HELD ON MARCH 20, 2023. (COPY INCLUDED)

**** MR.IGNERI MOVED TO APPROVE THE MINUTES AS SUBMITTED.**

**** THE MOTION PASSED WITH (4) FOUR IN FAVOR AND (1) ONE ABSTENTION- MR. BURNETT**

3. APPROVE CHANGE OF STAFF FOR VEOLIA

Ms. Valadares said that Veolia has submitted a transition plan for the management team and John Marcin the project manager for the site will be promoted to a new role and they are proposing that Mr. Brown take his position and hire a new Assistant Project Manager. She said they are planning to establish the transition plan over the next few months so that there is a smooth transition, and staff supports the request, and it is a good opportunity for Mr. Marcin. She said in the original contract with Veolia it stated that for three years they could not change the management that is onsite but that time has expired and with the acquisition from Suez to Veolia there was a clause to approve or disapprove further changes to management because at that time there was a concern that if a new company where to take over there would be a change to management on site, but that did not happen and are confident that the clause does not need to be extended for upper management and are also confident that Mr. Brown will do a good job as the Project Manager. She said according to the transition plan it will not occur immediately and will first fill the Asst. Project Manager position and even after that Mr. Marcin will still be engaged with the project to help with the transition plan.

Mr. O'Brien said as stated in the transition plan there was a plan all along was that Mr. Brown would be the Project Manager and nothing has changed with the merger and are still in support of this project for regulatory and contract compliance and will continue that with the WPCA's approval of the change.

Mr. Igneri thanked Mr. Marcin for his service over the last three years and welcomed Mr. Brown as the Project Manager.

Mr. Marcin said the last three years have been very rewarding and enjoyable and he could not think of a better community to transplant to and the people have been so warm and friendly, and at the same time have worked very hard and city staff is always looking to make improvements which is fantastic, and Norwalk has one of the best teams that he has seen in his experience. He said he will always be available and will come back and help whenever he is needed.

Mr. Brown thanked everyone and said that he is looking forward to the opportunity and over the years has worked with different WPCA's and coming to work is enjoyable and thanked the WPCA.

**** MR.IGNERI MOVED TO APPROVE THE ITEM.**

**** THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

4. CONTRACT OPERATIONS REPORT:

a. Veolia Monthly Operating Report-March 2023 (copy included)

Mr. Marcin reported and said they were able to work with their technical services group and implement a chlorination program to the microbiology which has helped to eradicate a bacteria that was in the biomass which was impacting the sludge sediment, and it has improved the settling.

Mr. Marcin said that 0.3 miles of tv inspections were done, and cleaned 2 miles of sewer line were cleaned, over 6 miles of SL RATT inspections were done, and 228 manholes were inspected.

Mr. Marcin said there was a daily exceedance on March 14th during a rain event but the chlorination improvements that were done will eliminate any possibilities of that happening going forward.

b. Smoke Testing- Webster Lot

Mr. Marcin said as part of the Webster Lot investigation they will be completing the final steps and will include mapping the system and conducting smoke testing to identify where all of the connections are in the system so the city can move forward with the plan. He said a contractor will be performing that work and there will be significant notifications that will go out to the residents and business owners in the area that will be impacted. Mr. Kolb said they just received notification that the work will be performed the week of May 1st weather permitting.

c. Major Repair or Replacement/ Out of Scope Items:

1) Wall removal for sludge blend tank repairs (copy included)

Mr. Marcin said a wall has been removed to continue the repair of the sludge blend tank.

2) Smoke testing

This was discussed under item 4b.

3) Seaview Avenue sanitary sewer rehabilitation (copy include)

Mr. Marcin said there were some sanitary and storm connections on Seaview Avenue that are also included on the list.

4) New Flygt scum pumps (copy included)

Mr. Marcin said a new scum pump removal system has been ordered.

- 5) 60-inch Interceptor (copy included)

Mr. Marcin said there are repairs to the 60" interceptor which had a building pile that had gone through it, and they will be scheduling to have Green Mountain to make the repair.

5. REPORTS:

- a) FY 22/23 Revenues/Expenditures MUNIS Report (copy included)

There was no discussion.

- b) Discussion on WPCA Engineering Projects:

- 1) WPCF Facility Plan Update

Ms. Bauer provided an update and said there was a meeting held last week with ARCADIS and staff had received some of the draft content of the report and has begun to review it, and also had a meeting regarding the status of the remaining content and reviewed some of the comments.

- 2) Sammis and Bell Island Sewershed Design

Ms. Bauer reported and said there was a site visit last week to investigate the commercial and multi-unit properties to get a better idea on how to access the laterals for those properties for the lining work so that the bid documents can be finalized and are expecting to see them next month.

- c) Discussion on WPCA Construction Projects:

- 1) Collection- Wall Street/2 Knight Street Relocation and Improvements

Ms. Bauer said the contractor had a staffing change and is in the process of regrouping to come up with a plan to abandon the old sanitary sewer and is waiting for more information on that.

- 2) Dreamy Hollow Project

Ms. Bauer said a box culvert has been installed over the last few weeks and are now working on sanitary sewer improvements on Daphne Drive.

- 3) PS- Five Mile, Old Trolley Way, Karen Dr., and Woodward Ave. Rehabilitation

Ms. Bauer said at the Woodward Avenue pump station they have completed the wet well coating and the pump station is no longer on bypass and the consultant will also be taking a core sample on the concrete area above the wet well.

- d) Sewer Use Bill Appeals/Adjustments Update

- 1) Appeal Status

Ms. Bauer said the adjustments to date are \$39,693.

- e) Information Copies:

- 1) Draft Nitrogen Credits (copy included)

Mr. Kolb said that Norwalk ranked fifth in the state to receive nitrogen credits and will be receiving just over \$31,000.

- 2) Wilton Sewer Invoice FY 21/22- Audited Actual Expense

Mr. Kolb said the invoice is based on audited actual expenses so an additional \$106,000 will be billed to Wilton, and the fiscal year 2022/23 invoice should be going out soon.

Mr. Mannella asked when the facility plan needs to be submitted to the state. Ms. Valadares said by June 30, 2023.

6. ADJOURNMENT

**** MR. BURNETT MOVED TO ADJOURN.**

**** THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

The meeting adjourned at 5:55PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Dilene Byrd