

Town of Middlefield, Connecticut
Water Pollution Control Authority
Regular Meeting
February 1, 2023
Minutes

Call to Order by Gregory P. Makuch, WPCA Chairman at 6:11 p.m.

Members Present: Gregory P. Makuch, Robert Veeley, Vice Chairman and Roberta Curtis. Also present: Rob Poturnicki, Ex-Officio (non-voting). Members absent: Bob Monthei and Rich Rynaski.

Motion to approve the agenda by Greg Makuch, 2nd by Roberta Curtis. Vote: all members in favor. Motion carried.

Motion to approve the minutes of the November 2, 2022 meeting by Roberta Curtis, 2nd by Robert Veeley. Vote: all members in favor. Motion carried.

Public Comment: None.

Old Business:

- #102 Mattabeseck Road, reference: Chairman's Report for October 2022. Need an electrician to relocate the WPCA's control panel and electrical meter for Duplex Grinder Pump Station #39 to a permanent location. Bob Monthei, electrician, is unable to do this work at this time.
November: Chairman contacted Electric Works, Inc and met with Wally Wyskiel at the site (Nov. 11). The homeowner, Terry Martin, was also present. Received a written proposal from Electric Works Inc approximately a week later. Discussed the hiring of an electrical contractor with Al Rusilowicz, Finance Director, who felt we should have a second proposal. Al Rusilowicz contacted Jeremy Renninghoff, electrician. The Chairman met Jeremy Renninghoff at the site (Nov. 22). Homeowner was also present. After some time had passed, Jeremy Renninghoff was contacted. He decided not to submit a proposal.
December and January: further action on hold due to the weather.

Chairman discussed the expense of this relocation work with the members. The Chairman will contact another electrician for a second proposal. Expecting to have this work done by March 1.

- At the November 2, 2022 WPCA meeting, it was brought to the Chairman's attention that #22 Lake Road is not connected to the Lake Beseck public sewer. Researched the files at the Land Use office. Prepared a letter (dated January 23, 2023) and mailed (certified) to the homeowner, Jennifer Fontanella. Chairman brought to the attention of the members that this noncompliance issue dates back to 2002 with the former property owner, Genevieve Henderson.

References:

1. Letter dated November 18, 2002: "...on October 16, 2002, the Middlefield Water Pollution Control Authority hereby orders you to connect your property..."
2. Letter dated October 3, 2003: "At the September 24, 2003 board meeting of the WPCA, it was voted to charge the same user fee to all properties within the Lake Beseck Sewer District, whether or not they are connected..."

New Business:

- # 5 Meriden Road:

The Land Use office received an inquiry from the new owner of #5 Meriden Road. Chairman spoke with the new owner and he wishes to replace the potable well with a water service (this service would be provided by the City of Middletown). Researched the files at the Land Use office. This property is currently connected to the public sewer.

Farogh Hasan and Sheeba Farogh, representing #5 Meriden Road, attended the meeting. The WPCA does not have an issue with this proposal.

The Chairman explained the steps the owner(s) must take:

1. Contact the City of Middletown, Water Department, Berlin Road, Middletown. They would install a service for a fee from the main to a curb stop. The property owner(s) would then be responsible to hire a contractor to bring the water service into the house and to plumb for a meter setting.
2. The existing well would have to be abandoned per the state health code and inspected by the local health department. All expenses are the responsibility of the property owner(s).

If the owner(s) wish to keep the well, in addition to having the water service, permission must be granted by the City of Middletown, Water Department.

3. If you, the property owner(s), decide to proceed with the water service, contact me.

The Chairman pointed out to the members of the prior practice regarding sewer use fees for properties connected to the City of Middletown's water distribution system.

Prior Practice:

WPCA Meeting of April 6, 2016 - New Business re: #48 Meriden Road:
"New commercial structure added onto Supreme Auto Care. RT 66 meter rates are: less than or equal to 1-1/4" equals 1 EDU, 1-1/4" and up equals 2 EDU's. This property qualifies for the 1 EDU and will, therefore, pay Middlefield WPCA that fee (\$425.00/yr.). They will pay Middletown the metered water/sewer costs."

Reference:

"Route 66 / Harvestwood Road Proposed Sewer Use Charge," three pages prepared by Edward P. Bailey, Chairman WPCA (no date).

Chairman's Report for the month of November 2022:

- #102 Mattabeseck Road - see Old Business.
- Pete Parker, WPCA's part time employee, reported the following for the month of November 2022:
 1. Blake Equipment replaced the battery and the battery cables on the stationary emergency generator at the Mattabeseck Pump Station.
 2. #61 and #72 Lake Shore Drive: simplex grinder pump failures. The tanks were pumped out by Cahill Company. Electrical repairs by Williamson Pump Company.
Per Pete Parker: this type of electrical pump failure seems to occur after an interruption of street power. There was a "power flicker" most likely caused by a tree against the overhead wires on Baileyville Road.
 3. #16 Lakeview Estates: simplex grinder pump failure. Tank was pumped out by Cahill Company. Williamson Pump Company replaced the diaphragm (gasket) at the pump to piping break away fitting. Lakeview Estates has a history of this type of failure.

Chairman's Report for the month of December 2022:

- Lake View Estates history of diaphragm (gasket) failures: The existing Duplex Grinder Pump Station #334 (former connection point for Happy Acres) was removed and the new single sanitary force main from the Lakeview Estates project was tied into the existing sanitary force main in King Road per Pete Parker. This may be the cause of high pressures within the project causing diaphragm failures.
- Met with Al Rusilowicz, Finance Director and Bob Yamartino, First Selectman (Dec. 22) to discuss a possible power outage by the approaching storm. Concern with the operation of the duplex grinder pumps at Lake Beseck. Discussed past consequences of power outages with Pete Parker.
- Prepared a schedule of WPCA meetings for 2023. Forwarded electronic copies to the Town Clerk and the Land Use office.
Mailed copies to the WPCA members and the WPCA Ex-Officio.
- Mattabesock Pump Station - Average Daily Flow for the prior 6 months:
Meter reading Dec. 28, 2022 = 224,421,609 gals
Meter reading June 29, 2022 = 219,419,828 gals
June 29 to Dec 28 = 183 days
Average = 5,001,781 gals / 183 days = 27,332 gals per day.
As per the Middlefield / Meriden Intermunicipal Agreement 1995, Section 3.1
Maximum Flow: "...shall not exceed 92,783 gpd and the maximum peak flow rate of 219 GPM. When the arithmetic mean of the average daily flows from the Town of Middlefield, for the previous 180 days, exceeds the permitted capacity (92,783 gpd), Meriden reserves the right to impose a fine ..."
- Pete Parker reported the following for the month of December 2022:
#24 Algonquin Road: Williamson Pump Company repaired/replaced an electrical switch at the pump control panel (Dec 24).

Chairman's Report for the month of January 2023:

- # 22 Lake Road - see Old Business.
- Prepared an agenda for the February 1, 2023 WPCA meeting.
- # 5 Meriden Road - see New Business.
Added #5 Meriden Road to the February 1, 2023 WPCA agenda (now amended).
- Forwarded electronic copies of the February 1, 2023 WPCA agenda to the Town Clerk and the Land Use office. Mailed copies to the WPCA members and the WPCA Ex-Officio.

- Pete Parker reported the following for the month of January 2023:
#257 Baileyville Road - Duplex Grinder Pump Station #307:
One pump has reached its service life and will be replaced by the Williamson Pump Company. This is a work in progress, to be completed in February.

Motion to adjourn the meeting by Robert Veeley, 2nd by Greg Makuch. Motion carried at 7:16 p.m.

Minutes Prepared by
Gregory P. Makuch
Gregory P. Makuch
WPCA Chairman