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STAFFORD, CT

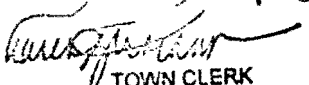
Town of Stafford

Joint Meeting of the Water Pollution Control Authority, Board of Selectmen, and the Board of Finance

Special Meeting

Thursday, November 8, 2018

7:00 P.M. - Veteran's Meeting Room

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TOWN CLERK

WPCA Members Present: Chairman Allen Warren; Scott Bonett, Douglas Fassett, Mandy Fisher, Roger Thomas, David Walsh

Board of Selectmen Members Present: First Selectman Mary Mitta, Selectman/WPCF Superintendent Rick Hartenstein, Selectman John Locke

Board of Finance Members Present: Chairman Jane Slater, Brian Bagley, Gary Fisher, Fran Moriarty, Richard Shuck, Conrado Ulloa

Treasurer: Neil Hoss

Also present were members of the public.

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1. Discussion – West Street Sewer Replacement Project
2. Discussion – WPCA Projects
3. Discussion – Project Funding

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m. Quorums were established. WPCA Chairman Warren welcomed all to the meeting and led with introductions.

1. Discussion – West Street Sewer Replacement Project

Superintendent Hartenstein began with a presentation regarding the current and future projects at the Waste Water Treatment Facility. It has been found that the sewer line on West Street is too small to handle the current flow and has out lived its life expectancy. There have been overloading incidents in the manhole at RT 32 and RT 190. The existing 8-inch pipe fills and backs up at the manhole causing backflow and overflow. Inspection found large cracks and missing pieces. Approximately six (6) weeks ago a spot repair was dug and replaced at the worst section due to imminent failure and possible collapse.

Meetings were held with the Selectmen, Public Works and Connecticut Water to discuss complete road reconstruction. There were catch basins found to be connected to the sewer that must be separated. Connecticut Water expressed an interest in replacing the water line on West Street and would contribute funds for paving. Cumberland Farms is planning to develop a new store at the corner of West Street and RT 190 and would be putting in sidewalks around its property. It would be in the Town's best interest to extend the sidewalks another 425 feet to Center Street to accommodate high foot traffic in the area.

2. Discussion – WPCA Projects

In the summer of 2014 it was discovered that the generator and electric transfer were starting to lean to one side at the RT 190 Pump Station. An RFP was issued and Weston and Sampson were selected to issue a technical memorandum on the problems that were being seen at the pump station. It was noted that the soil was washing away due to the recent construction

to replace the force main. The generator has failed and been rebuilt two times in the last eight years. The electrical transformer and generator need to be relocated due to the soil erosion. Since the pump station is almost thirty years old, it was recommended to upgrade/rebuild.

An inflow and infiltration study has been ongoing since 2013. Inspections have been made in sewer lines, manholes, frames and covers. A complete report will be distributed in 2019. Through the inspections several leaks and roots protruding into the sewer lines have been discovered through the service district. Excessive rainfall shows spikes in the treatment plant's average daily flow so the object is to find problem areas and eliminate water entering the system that does not need to be treated.

3. Discussion – Project Funding

West Street – RT 190 sewer line – road reconstruction is estimated at \$1.5 million. RT 190 pump station rebuild is estimated at \$1.4 million. It was recommended that these projects be done at the same time. The repair costs for the Inflow and Infiltration Study is possibly up to \$5 million. This is an ongoing project and repairs can be made over time. Options for project funding are as follows:

1. Town of Stafford to pay for out of the general fund surplus
2. Town of Stafford can bond this project and pay for it over a period of time
3. Town of Stafford can bond the project and assess sewer users for a percentage of the sewer portion of the project.

Discussion continued among the three boards. Questions that arose are as follows:

- Should residents in the Town be taxed for a benefit they do not use?
- Since the sewer benefits the entire Town, should a small portion of users be required to pay for upgrades?
- Town's goal is to bring in business along the RT 190 corridor, would an assessment deter them?
- Could Cumberland Farms be given an abatement of taxes for putting in the sewer line replacement on West Street?
- Can the Town and the WPCA share the cost?
- Since individuals along the RT 190 corridor have been previously assessed for the installation of the sewer line, has their property value increased enough to be assessed again?
- Are there other Town projects in need of funding that can be bonded at the same time as the sewer projects?
- What is our bond rating? And, will it be affected by new projects?

It was recommended that each Board hold separate meetings to discuss the funding options of these projects. Another joint meeting will be held on Monday, December 10, 2018, at 6:30 pm, in the Town Hall Veteran's Meeting Room.

The meeting adjourned at 8:42 pm.

Respectfully Submitted,



Jane LaMorte
Recording Secretary