

Town of Lebanon

WATER POLLUTION CONTROL AUTHORITY

Special Meeting

Public Hearing

Lyman Memorial High School ~ Auditorium
917 Exeter Road, Lebanon, CT

Thursday, April 1, 2010 – 7:30 PM

MINUTES

Members Present: Jason Hofmann, Chairman
Yaw Nsiah, Vice Chairman
David Benjamin
Brandon Handfield
David Martin
Paul Oliver
Albert Wilder

Others Present: Holli Pianka, Clerk

- 1.0 The meeting was called to order at 7:30 p.m. by Chairman Hofmann. He introduced the members of the WPCA. which includes the background, history, project detail and design, the projected implementation schedule, permitting and construction, and projected cost and funding options of the Amston Lake Sewer Project.
- 2.0 A presentation of the proposed Amston Lake Sewers was given by WPCA members. The presentation included the background, history, project detail and design, the projected implementation schedule, permitting and construction, and projected cost and funding options of the Amston Lake Sewer Project.
- 3.0 Chairman Hofmann opened the public hearing. The following persons voiced concerns and questions:
 - 1) Marge Nichols, 18 Spafford Drive: Why are the meetings going on while the residents are away during the winter?
 - 2) Donna Reynolds, cottage owner: Has installed new septic system. Can she receive exemption?
 - 3) Ron Nimzuk, Spafford Drive: A grinder unit will be installed at each house? with an alarm if not working properly? What happens when water is shut off on seasonal properties? Who is responsible for maintenance?
 - 4) Steve McDonald, WMC: Explained winterizing the system.
 - 5) Henry Meckle, seasonal cottage owner: Cost of hooking up sewer line from house to the road?

- 6) Don Blakeslee, Spafford Drive, seasonal cottage owner: Will there be an increase in the property value once the sewer line is installed? Are there concessions for seasonal use only?
- 7) Andre Bourque, Andrews Street: Reduced fee for year-round use?
- 8) Jim Machee, Deepwood Drive: Concern of addressing storm water runoff.
- 9) Jim Speno, Deepwood Drive: Is it feasible for a storm water review during construction?
- 10) Steve McDonald, WMC: Less salt use for snow removal.
- 11) Rooney, Deepwood Drive: Are vacant lots required to hook up to sewer? What about a lot with a building but not a dwelling?
- 12) David Banks: Will he be assessed twice if owning two lots? Owns a lot across the street with an existing garage only.
- 13) Marge Nichols, Spafford Drive: If owner of more than one lot will only be assessed on one lot?
- 14) Donna Reynolds: Bathrooms or bedrooms determine assessment?
- 15) John Neal, Ryan Terrace: Location of sewers? Possible that some roads will not receive sewers?
- 16) Regina Spate: If having septic issues now, what should be done now? 2013 is a long time away.
- 17) Donna Reynolds: New septic installation on Beech Road.
- 18) Dave (inaudible): Help in paying for upgraded age of system through intermunicipal agreement?
- 19) Jim Speno: First time sewer is being addressed?
- 20) Anderson, Ryan Terrace: Seasonal new septic has to hook up? Ledge and blasting during installation?
- 21) Paul Halley, Deepwood Drive: Location of grinder pumps? Installed close to house?
- 22) Jim Machay: Storm water runoff
- 23) Lynn Nauss, Ryan Terrace: Benefit assessment costs? If sewer is not installed on her road, does she still have to pay fees?
- 24) Marge Nichols: Procedure of abandoning existing septic tanks during installation?
- 25) Anderson, Ryan Terrace: Does this make all parcels buildable?
- 26) Morin, Kelly's Corner: Cost to run line from house to grinder pump?
- 27) WMC: Costs should be minimal to hook up.
- 28) Lynn Nauss: Number of dwellings hooking up, 311 or 195 properties of concern?
- 29) Mr. Banks: Can grinder pumps be installed in the existing septic tank?
- 30) Cafferty, Ryan Terrace: Will the line to house be additional cost to homeowner?
- 31) Chuck Harrelson: Cost in 1986 vs. cost today?
- 32) (Inaudible) Why does this go to a Town referendum?
- 33) George (inaudible): Can seasonal property owners vote?
- 34) Donna Reynolds: What if the referendum doesn't pass?
- 35) Mike Bucas, seasonal property owner, Deepwood Drive: Property values and taxes increasing due to higher assessment.
- 36) Marge Nichols: Certified letters were sent to every resident of the Town of Lebanon?
Can incomes be reassessed?
- 37) Don Blakeslee, Ryan Terrace: Increase in population due to sewers?
- 38) Renee Weaver, Deepwood Drive: User fees for single income owner vs. dual income owners.
- 39) Theresa (inaudible): Cost over time.
- 40) Les Palmer, seasonal owner: Cost of low pressure sewer?
- 41) Julian Lane, Ryan Terrace: Map question.

42) Donna Beauchea: Cost question.

In closing, Chairman Hofmann stated that it is important for residents to understand what a yes and a no (referendum) vote means. A yes vote will allow the Town to apply for funding through various programs while complying with the time requirements of the State of Connecticut DEP Consent Order. If the Town votes no, voting the project down, it does not stop the sewer project, it only slows it down and causes the project to be more costly. The longer the Town waits to install the sewers, the more expensive the project will become. If the Town votes no, all the lake residents will still receive a benefit assessment (for installation of the sewers) at the maximum rate and the remaining cost will be passed on to all Lebanon taxpayers. And regardless of a yes vote or a no vote, the residents of Amston Lake will get a benefit assessment charged to them for hooking up and use of the sewer. That is why it is very important to follow the timeline within the guidelines of the Department of Environmental Protection Consent Order, otherwise the DEP will issue fines on a daily basis (up to \$25,000 per day) for non-compliance, and the Town will be brought to court as it has happened in other towns. These fines and legal costs will be passed on to the residents by an increase in taxes.

A second public information meeting is tentatively scheduled for Thursday, April 15, 2010, at Lyman High School.

- 4.0 The public hearing was closed at 9:26
- 5.0 The "Resolution of Water Pollution Control Authority" was read into the minutes record by Chairman Hofmann.

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RESOLUTION OF WATER POLLUTION CONTROL AUTHORITY

Item :

RESOLVED, that the Water Pollution Control Authority recommends that the Town of Lebanon construct the following sewer project:

Design, construction and equipping of the Amston Lake Area Sewer Project, including a low-pressure sanitary sewer system with individual property pump systems to serve the Amston Lake area and connect to the existing Town of Hebron sanitary sewer collection system to address identified potential pollution problems in a manner consistent with Consent Order No. WC0005663 entered into between the Connecticut Department of Environmental Protection and the Town of Lebanon and issued on December 28, 2009, including the extension of a sewer main through a portion of the Town of Colchester and the Town of Hebron to connect with the existing Hebron sanitary sewer system at a sewer manhole on Deepwood Drive in the Town of Hebron, and related work and improvements including roadway restoration. The project is contemplated to be completed substantially in accordance with the recommendations with respect to such a system included in the study prepared by Wright-Pierce, dated November 2007, and entitled "Amston Lake Wastewater Management Study for the Town of Lebanon, Connecticut".

- 6.0 Vote on adopting resolution to recommend that the Town of Lebanon construct the Amston Lake Sewer Project. Paul Oliver made a motion to approve, Brandon Handfield seconded. Vote: Approved unanimously.
- 7.0 Brandon Handfield motioned to adjourn the meeting at 9:30 p.m., Paul Oliver seconded. Vote: Approved unanimously.

Respectfully Submitted,
Holli Pianka, Clerk
April 7, 2010

(Minutes are unapproved as of transcription date.)