



WATER POLLUTION CONTROL AUTHORITY

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Regular Meeting

March 6, 2019

Present: Nunzio Parente, Chairman
Henry Boladz
Domenico Filippone, 3rd Ward Alderman
Andrew Geruntho
Dr. John Hinson
Charles Stowe, 1st Ward Alderman

Others in Attendance: Richard Bshara
Brian Capozzi, Supt. WPCA
Rita St. Jacques, Sewer Administrator

The Regular Meeting of the Ansonia Water Pollution Control Authority was called to order at 7:00 p.m. by Chairman Parente

All present rose and pledged Allegiance to the Flag.

The secretary called the roll. There was a quorum present.

Approval of Minutes

Mr. Geruntho made a motion to accept the minutes of the February 6, 2019 Regular Meeting and place on file. Dr. Hinson seconded. All in favor, so carried.

DISCLAIMER: The minutes of the WPCA provided by the Secretary are not verbatim and are the best effort of the Secretary to capture all of the conversations taking place during the meeting.

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Public Session

Chairman Parente asked if there was anyone from the public who wished to address the Commission. He asked three (3) times. There being no one, he entertained a motion to close the public session.

Mr. Geruntho made a motion to close the public session. Mr. Boladz seconded. All in favor, so carried.

John Accavallo - Audit Review

Mr. John Accavallo was present.

Mr. Accavallo reviewed pages 22 and 23 of the Financial Statement in the audit with the Board members. He said it is a clean opinion, the best opinion they can give. He reviewed the funds in the WPCA accounts and the receivables. The liabilities from the long term debt are down. WPCA paid the loan in 2017-2018. They are in strong financial position. In 2031, there will be no debt in the Financial Statement. The revenue is \$1.7 million dollars less because of the change in the sewer use fees. There is less grant revenue and less money from the nitro credits. The salaries and benefits are up in 2017-2018 along with the utilities. Last year there was \$1.4 million in net income. Depreciation is \$1.23 million. The numbers were good, the numbers were accurate during the year. There was no findings with the internal control 2017-2018. It is a clean budget process.

Alderman Stowe asked Mr. Accavallo what if we take \$1 million out of the budget this month.

Mr. Accavallo said you have enough cash to support the operation for the next year in the bank.

Alderman Stowe asked Mr. Bshara if this did happen is there funds to run the operation.

Mr. Bshara said currently there is \$7 million cash which consists of funds from the 554 project, the 311 project - it would have to be broken down. If you use \$1 million it would reduce the reserve. We are tight to the vest with the numbers. Some is from the bills and consumption. He said he would have to run the numbers and check everything before he could give a figure.

Alderman Stowe said if we need the \$1million we could go like we are and you are saying we will have to raise the rates.

Chairman Parente said if we have to use the million dollars, it will not affect the day to day operations. We do not borrow from reserve to sustain ourselves. We make cuts to what we're spending. If not then we have to raise the rates a bit.

There was discussion on the increase in the electric cost. Mr. Bshara asked about the electric rates with the new company. The utilities increased by \$40,000. Chairman Parente said the end date for the electric contract is October/November 2019.

Chairman Parente asked if there was anything that anyone did not understand that was discussed with the Auditor.

Mr. Accavallo thanked Rita St. Jacques and Richard Bshara for their help during the audit process.

Chairman Parente thanked Mr. Accavallo for attending the meeting this evening.

Sewer Administrator Report

Rita St. Jacques was present.

Ms. St. Jacques reviewed her report. A copy is on file in the Town Clerk's office. She said she is pleased with the special project collection. It is just under 85%. The Notice of Lien will be mailed out the last week in March. We have to give a 30 day notice of lien by law. The liens will be placed by the second week of May.

Ms. St. Jacques said that the Board has to discuss the rate for the Special Project for the 2018 list year. The bills need to be prepared so they can be mailed for the 1st installment which is due June 1, 2019. The Sewer Use collection is at 67%. There has been steady foot traffic and mail. The warrants have been updated that are with Marshall Davies. She said this has been a very busy month. Tracy's husband passed and WPCA/Plant sent food.

Alderman Stowe made a motion to accept Ms. St. Jacques report as presented. Mr. Boladz seconded. All in favor, so carried.

Pay Bills

Supt. Capozzi stated he has paid the bills. There is one bill in his report that must be paid. He will discuss this bill in his report to the Board.

Mr. Geruntho made a motion to pay all bills if found to be correct. Alderman Stowe seconded. All in favor, so carried.

New Business

Set the Public Hearing Date for the Sewer Rates

Alderman Stowe made a motion to hold a Public Hearing to set the rate for the Special Project 554 on Wednesday, April 3, 2019 at 6:45 p.m. Mr. Geruntho seconded. All in favor, so carried.

Alderman Stowe said that he has new business to discuss. He said that everyone knows about the big break. It is 40' deep. Frank Pepe was awarded the job because there were time restraints. We had an emergency meeting with the Board of Aldermen and WPCA. We said we will be a team member in fixing the break. It is 98' long by 30' deep. Alderman Stowe said yesterday he went to Public Works Dept. He said there was one thing that should be done – WPCA should be doing a log – time and material log. Public Works as of now has talked to the City Engineer to come up with a plan.

Chairman Parente said City Engineer D'Amico will be there every day.

Alderman Stowe said my suggestion is that Supt. D'Alessio, Supt. Capozzi and the contractor have to sign the log every day. Then there is no question on what was done – every day the log is signed. He said he believes WPCA needs someone there to do the same thing.

Supt. Capozzi said he could not have someone there every day all day.

Alderman Stowe said give someone a pad and have them write everything down. There are more machines there – 5 machines. To keep it fair for everybody, there are guys working there and they get paid. If the public wants to know, there is a log. That way we have a record bolt to bolt.

Chairman Parente said he was asked the night of the double meeting to go there every day. He was asked unofficially by the Administration. He has gone to observe. Today he was told he should go there every day. Today, he learned the City Engineer will be there every day taking notes, keeping track of the people and pieces of equipment. He said there are too many voices coming out of the Administration, you don't know who has responsibility to go down there. Whomever hired the Contractor should come out with the criteria for the job.

Mr. Geruntho said you need someone there watching what is going on because there will be a bill.

Alderman Stowe said he ran his own business and did jobs where we had logs. A guy would come at the end of the day, in the middle of the day, you never knew and he would have receipts. You need to have copies of the receipts and they would be signed off in the log. Time and material is the most secure way to have everyone sign.

Alderman Stowe said Supt. Capozzi or someone from WPCA or someone representing WPCA, should be there. Public Works has the City Engineer – we need back up for WPCA. At the end of the day they all sign off on the log. If they do not sign off we have a problem.

Mr. Geruntho said do we have a cost for everything.

Chairman Parente said it is probably with Mr. Pepe. He said somebody lead the way at some point in time. Someone took charge of the operation.

Alderman Stowe said Supt. D'Alessio's done with what he has to do. The daily log, the City Engineer is there every day. Mike from PWD will be there every day taking pictures. The City needs someone there from WPCA to do the log together. The City believes the WPCA should be paying the whole bill. We have to have a calendar, a log and a record of what is going on over there.

Alderman Stowe said it's a \$860,000 job without a log. We need to have a log to verify the work being done and the equipment being used. A log is good for everybody – the WPCA, PWD and the contractor. WPCA needs to have three contractors on a bidding list at all times.

Alderman Stowe said we have to have a spreadsheet on what is happening on the site. We have to have somebody from WPCA there every day signing the log.

Supt. Capozzi said our mechanic has been there quite a bit. Who do you want there?

Chairman Parente said the Mayor, PWD and City Engineer are there. The City Engineer will be there every day. Whomever led this program is responsible to get this done.

Alderman Stowe said when you go and get the bill you need to feel you have some control there.

Chairman Parente asked who called the contractor?

Alderman Stowe said Mike, he's in Public Works Dept. He was looking at the pipes. Alderman Stowe said he begged to have something done, he said you guys have been fixing pipes for years.

Supt. Capozzi said Mike Ehemann went to the site. At the time it was a blockage. We found out three days later it was broke. The options were to contact a local company to blast out the pipe – Trenchless Solutions – a company to clear the pipes. There is another company that contacted him – Premier Company from Montana. He said he will send someone out to look at the pipe and he was pretty confident he could clear the pipe. The pipe was broken.

Mr. Bshara said the first call was Thursday, that there was a backup at the Lemko Club.

Alderman Stowe said that is why we need a log so we know what is going on.

Chairman Parente said his understanding is that this is what Mr. D'Amico, City Engineer is doing.

Alderman Stowe said if it gets passed at the end of the day.

Supt. Capozzi questioned signing a log when he wasn't there to witness what was happening on the site all day.

Alderman Stowe said if WPCA does not participate, when it's time to pay WPCA will have no information.

Chairman Parente said under no circumstances is the WPCA going to pay that bill.

Alderman Stowe said it is up to the Board.

There was discussion as to who was on the site managing the pump from WPCA. There was also discussion on Supt. Capozzi signing off on a log every day and having a man there during the day. Supt. Capozzi said that WPCA is not there any longer, that PWD is doing this. WPCA was there during the night. Chairman Parente asked the number of men that work for PWD. Alderman Stowe said he didn't know. Mr. Geruntho said 16 men. Chairman Parente said WPCA has 4 men. Alderman Stowe said to Supt. Capozzi if you do not want to do it just say it.

Supt. Capozzi said that he is behind at the Plant. They have four guys.

Alderman Stowe said it is not that big of a deal.

Alderman Stowe made a motion that WPCA has someone verify the logs done on this job. Someone to represent WPCA to verify the log.

There was no second.

Supt. Capozzi said that he is not there during the day so how can he verify the log.

Chairman Parente said we are not in a position to commit a man there every day.

Alderman Stowe said Supt. Capozzi had a guy there for 85 hours.

There was discussion on the overtime that occurred when the break first happened and the number of men that were on the site during those first days.

Chairman Parente said he spoke to Supt. D'Alessio and Mr. D'Amico will be there on the site every day verifying the equipment.

Mr. Boladz said Supt. Capozzi will be there. Make a schedule with Supt. Capozzi, Mr. D'Amico and Supt. D'Alessio. He can be there 10 minutes in the morning, in the afternoon and in the evening.

Alderman Stowe said all he has to do is verify that it looks good.

Supt. Capozzi said he can't say it looks good when he hasn't been there all day.

Chairman Parente discussed common construction sense.

Supt. Capozzi said he cannot have someone there every day. He will try to get someone there daily and do our best to verify what went on there every day.

Discussion continued on WPCA having a worker there at the construction site every day. Mr. Geruntho suggested WPCA hire an Inspector to be there. This would give us a third party verification. Alderman Stowe said that someone from Public Works is keeping a log.

Chairman Parente asked Supt. Capozzi to e-mail Supt. D'Alessio tomorrow for the procedure to monitor the job. He said he is off tomorrow and he will go to the site also.

Alderman Stowe made a motion that WPCA will participate in having to log everything that goes on at the site and sign the log. Alderman Filippone seconded.

There was no vote on the motion.

Discussion followed the motion. Chairman Parente said that Supt. Capozzi can e-mail Mike Eheman on the process and on what is happening on the site. Alderman Stowe said we don't want everything that happens. WPCA will not be liable. It is simple, all it is is a log of activities. Public Works Dept. will be there with the Engineer and Supt. Capozzi can keep updated.

Discussion continued on the payment of the bill for the work to repair the sewer line break. Alderman Stowe said rather than get into an argument when we have to pay the bill, we will have a log. WPCA will have been part of the project if we have any questions.

Dr. Hinson said he is not sure about signing off on a log for work done if one is not at the site.

Discussion on the log and signing off on work continued. Alderman Stowe said we may not be in agreement when it comes time to pay the bill. If we have a log we will know what was done. We can say here is the bill to the Mayor. Mayor we give you something toward the bill or WPCA will pay the bill.

Ms. St. Jacques said is there a difference if we have a log by Mike D'Alessio and Fred D'Amico. They are responsible when the time comes as to whether City of Ansonia or WPCA is responsible. By asking Supt. Capozzi to sign something without actually seeing it – once his signature is there, he is responsible. Why ask him.

Chairman Parente said he has a responsibility to be at that site. If he can't go have John Tomasella go.

Alderman Stowe said this is being done for the taxpayer. Please put it in the motion that we do not need anyone to sign off.

Chairman Parente said he doesn't like it if we are making motions and we don't know the policy that was established. What if he goes there tomorrow at 3 o'clock and says he is there to sign off on the log and they look at him and say what log. Who told you we were doing a log.

Alderman Stowe said Public Works knows that they are doing a log. I said, I walked out of here, from the building committee this week and Mike ran up to me and said this is all set, I got it all set with the Engineer, we'll look in this, we're going to have camera's there, we're going to be there – blah, blah blah. All I'm looking for is somebody from your side of the WPCA to go to Mike's log, whom you trust as a human being, I'm know I not sure of the wording but to view the log and sign the log and say to the best of my knowledge this log looks OK. You're off the hook.

Chairman Parente said yes Rich.

Mr. Bshara said, is this an emergency situation we are in?

Chairman Parente said yes,

Mr. Bshara said that puts all hands on deck. I'm sorry if you got other things to do so does Public Works (interrupted by Alderman Stowe not audible).

Mr. Bshara said let me finish, if this were a pump station and I was here when Bart Ave went down they pulled people out of the Memorial Day parade, Public Works guys to go up and re-route to Derby, I think you were involved on the Derby side. OK if this were a pump station you would be expecting the Public Works guys to help you.

Supt. Capozzi said yes, and we had a guy there helping PWD but at that time we brought the pipe.

Mr. Bshara said at all times, all hands would be on deck.

Supt. Capozzi said absolutely,

Mr. Bshara said at all times means all hands on.

Supt. Capozzi said I'm not saying I'm not going to help, I'm saying I can't verify something if I'm not there.

Mr. Bshara said I know but if we can put it on the verification – review. You know what if it means you got to put 20% of your staff there around the clock then maybe that needs to be done. You are talking about \$800,000, you know what my fear is the bill comes in at \$1.2 million and then we say what is the difference. It is something to go on. If you pay \$10,000 for an outside party to stay there and monitor for you it would probably save you a hundred thousand in costs.

Supt. Capozzi said that's what I've been saying.

Mr. Bshara said you do what you got to do to fix the problem and it means all hands on deck. Mike Ehemann has been there for three days in a row a couple times already. They have all their guys going around, they are in the middle of snow storms so you know what, they're put out a

little bit too. That doesn't mean that you guys can't do something. You have one guy over there I don't know how many others you put over there on an overtime situation.

Supt. Capozzi said we had only one there since the beginning.

The discussion continued on the Public Works and WPCA coverage of the site during working hours and overtime hours. Chairman Parente said I don't think from this point on, he has been there and there are Brennan people there. Mr. Bshara discussed the pump float thing and that it is working. Chairman Parente said aside from that, is that what you're talking about, after everyone leaves. The last 8 days, a week ago, employees were there every day. Supt. Capozzi said he has been there every day.

Alderman Stowe said even if you have a private entity, it behooves us to still go over the log. Either way whether you have an engineer or not, you should have somebody from both departments. You're the one to give the release and you should ask to do the release which is all you got to do and you're there. It's a log, you look around a little bit and then say I reviewed it and these look correct to the best of my knowledge.

Supt. Capozzi said I'm not arguing that.

Alderman Stowe said Ok so you can do that. Review, that's the word, review.

Mr. Geruntho said if you have someone that you can trust that is legitimate, you can do it. I'm saying inspector wise, you can have Brian and whatever check it once a week because that is what they do. They can go there once a week and sign off on it. That's it.

Alderman Stowe said why is he stuck on this. These are employees of the City. I've been around the corner quite a bit and I've seen things and you absolutely just go there and review that. You will not have any problems at all.

Chairman Parente said OK. So we have wasted enough time, I will be at the Board of Aldermen meeting asking for you to have the floor for at least an hour on this subject. I want to see what happens at the Board of Aldermen meeting when I ask for you to have an hour.

Alderman Stowe said they are going to have to because they are going to have this almost finished. I made a motion and it was seconded. He said he made the motion with the word review. There was discussion on the previous motion.

Alderman Stowe stated this is his new motion and he withdraws the previous motion.

Alderman Stowe made a motion that WPCA shall have someone review the log from the Engineer and the Public Works Dept. daily.

Alderman Filippone seconded.

Chairman Parente called for a roll call vote:

Roll Call Vote:

H. Boladz: Yes

D. Filippone: Yes

A. Geruntho: Yes

C. Stowe: Yes

N. Parente: Yes

J. Hinson: Abstain

Chairman Parente declared the motion passed: 5 yes, 1 abstain.

Alderman Stowe said to Chairman Parente, you asked a question?

Chairman Parente said yes, where do you get the idea that that we're going to pay this bill.

Alderman Stowe said the first question was who picked the contractor, how did that work, how did he get there.

Chairman Parente said yes, who picked the contractor.

Alderman Stowe said I don't know who the first person was that called Pepe. Do you?

Mr. Geruntho said Public Works.

Discussion on who called in Pepe Construction. Supt. Capozzi stated he was not at home when the break occurred. He arrived home Monday morning. Mr. Geruntho said we don't have an on-call contractor, do we? Alderman Stowe said yes, he is. Chairman Parente said no, he is not our on-call contractor. Alderman Stowe said I thought I heard that at our emergency meeting. Chairman Parente said that is what Pepe said. He said I'm the on-call contractor for the City and WPCA. He is not our on-call contractor. Alderman Stowe said so I don't know who called him. Chairman Parente said alright, it's irrelevant because I know who called him. It wasn't us.

There was discussion on who called the contractor. Alderman Stowe said it doesn't matter it was in a group of people who called him. Chairman Parente said so where do you get the idea that we're paying the bill. Alderman Stowe said so before you move on to that, before you move on to the paying of the bill, we, not tonight we reserved enough time tonight, it doesn't have to be done tonight we, and Brian I want you to think about this, we need to get a list of contractors that will work for WPCA that you're comfortable with so that next time something like that happens all the contractors are brought to the crisis site and they're all competing against each other.

Chairman Parente said so where did you get the idea we are paying the bill.

Alderman Stowe said well, it's never been cleared up who is responsible for paying for these repairs.

Chairman Parente said I'm not even going back to that. That's your interpretation. It has been cleared up.

There was discussion on who is responsible for the repair to the sewer system and pipes, etc. There has been a ruling from the WPCA attorney on the responsibility for maintenance, etc. of the lines.

Chairman Parente said come January when you have 7 Alderman sitting here on the WPCA Board then you make all the decisions you want.

Alderman Stowe said I'm going to and I don't, it doesn't matter.

Chairman Parente said Superintendent's Report.

Alderman Stowe said Nunzio we're still in New Business.

Alderman Stowe said well just one more thing I want to finish and I'm done. OK I want to make a motion, another motion, well you got to make motions in order to make the commission be in charge, the whole commission.

Alderman Stowe said I want to make a motion that when this job is finished and we go over the bill, the WPCA is going to pay for this break because it's so big. That's my motion.

Alderman Stowe said that's my motion.

Chairman Parente said OK you made a motion.

Alderman Stowe asked if anyone seconded it. He asked to have the motion read.

The secretary read the motion.

Alderman Stowe made a motion that when this job is finished, WPCA will go over the bill and WPCA will pay for this bill.

The secretary asked is that what you said?

Alderman Stowe said yes.

Alderman Filippone seconded.

Chairman Parente said to have a roll call vote.

Dr. Hinson asked if he could ask a question. He said he understands the break is yadda, yadda, yadda. Are those our pipes?

Chairman Parente said no.

Dr. Hinson said it's unclear

Chairman Parente said no it's not unclear. We have a ruling from our attorney that says the pipe underneath the ground is the responsibility of the City.

Alderman Stowe said it is unclear. We were told when they made that determination that there were going to be times when this board should work together with the city.

Chairman Parente said we intend to work together but we are not paying that whole bill.

Alderman Stowe said and then it also said, in that determination that if the Board of Aldermen, the full Board of Aldermen and I don't want any of this to happen but this is what I got out of that, the full Board of Aldermen can close this commission down and put new commissioners in. I don't know if it's a 60% or 70% vote of the Board of Aldermen.

Chairman Parente said so listen.

Alderman Stowe said whether it's a 60% vote or 70% vote of the Board of Aldermen but there is a rule that they can close this commission down if the Board of Aldermen chose to and then a new commission will be elected.

Chairman Parente said so listen to me, they don't close any commission down they replace the Board members as they come up for appointment. I told you next January you will have 7 Aldermen here and you can do whatever you want when you get there.

Alderman Stowe said I've done nothing but compliment you ever since you've taken this position, however this is a crisis.

Chairman Parente said you will come to find out what municipalities want is, they don't want people that do the best job, they want people that say yes the most. That's what they are looking for not the best job. You have a motion, is there a second.

Mr. Filippone seconded.

Mr. Boladz said can I ask a question. This is the second time I was on this Board and I'm getting a little confused. The first time when I was on this board anything that broke in the city – sewer lines, pipe breaks we paid for it. What changed? You said, we had a lawyer.

Chairman Parente said yes, we have an opinion from our attorney who interpreted the Charter. Anything in the ground is the responsibility of the City. Water Pollution Control Authority was

not established to take care of all the lines underneath the City because if it was we wouldn't have 4 people.

There was discussion on the City of Ansonia repairing the pipes because it is their responsibility. Mr. Boladz is concerned that if WPCA fixes this sewer break it would set a precedent. He asked if there was a copy of the Charter.

Alderman Stowe said the Charter is very unclear that is part of the reason that report was done. He said in that report it pretty much defined it, I think about as good as you can. He suggested everyone get a copy and read the Murtha & Cullina report.

There was discussion on the Murtha & Cullina report. This opinion and report was given out to the commissioners a few times. It will be sent to everyone again.

Chairman Parente said so anyway we have an opinion from our attorney. The Charter says this Board was not created to maintain the lines under the ground.

There was discussion on why WPCA collects the sewer use fees. Chairman Parente explained these fees are used to run the plant and the operational costs. He said if WPCA were to maintain the lines under the City the WPCA budget would be as big as the Public Works budget.

There was a question on the amount of money the WPCA has for their cash flow. Mr. Bshara stated that he doesn't know at this time. He would have to analyze the funds to be able to answer the questions specifically. Over the years money was put away for the capital fees. Alderman Stowe said when the Auditor was here he asked questions that were specifically for this purpose. He said the Auditor said there was about \$1.2 million. There was concern from the commissioners that the reserve would be "wiped out".

Mr. Boladz said Richie can I ask you one more question. In figures, how much do we have in cash flow? I think we have plenty.

Mr. Bshara said I don't know that I believe, Nunzio, over the years, a few years, \$1million, \$1.2 million put away for the capital fees. I may have given a couple hundred thousand towards that. I would have to analyze the whole thing I don't know the answers specifically.

Alderman Stowe said well when the Auditor was here, the questions I was asking were specifically for this because this was coming and the Auditor doesn't stay here all night so you can't start asking sub-questions and it may not be the answer the auditor would have answered.

Alderman Stowe said so go on -- so how much did he say - \$1.2 million.

Alderman Stowe said just to make sure I heard this right, when the auditor was here and I asked about it just roughly a million dollars and I said how is that going to affect us. Will that affect us negatively and he basically said no.

Mr. Bshara said he is looking at a million dollar cash flow basically, a lot of that is the collected money from the 554 project and some from the 311 project so not all is usable.

Alderman Stowe said if you had to take a million dollars out it wouldn't change anything that you're doing from next year. That's basically what he said and that is why I asked him that.

Chairman Parente you wanted to prep everybody to say that I think we should pay that bill.

Alderman Stowe said no, I wanted to prep everybody that the money is in there. It's catastrophic event that happened which Richie made very clear. We are in a catastrophic event, it's an artery that goes into the plant and it's not just a repair of a pipe, it's a sewer. Mostly sewers are empowered by 8 or 6 inches if you went linear feet. But then you have bigger ones that go down Main St. and this thing here I don't know how close it is to the plant and they are talking about we may end up having to re-line the pipe. You are talking a crisis here. The attorney who did the report said there may be times when the WPCA should work together with the City. This just could end up well over a million dollars. I don't think it could ever go to 2 million but if the pipe has got to be relined.

Mr. Bshara said that is why you need to monitor the work.

Alderman Stowe said yes, we don't know. In my opinion the City of Ansonia is not prepared to be able to pay this and the WPCA can and the WPCA is supposed to help take care some of this.

Chairman Parente said exactly, you said the magic word help.

Mr. Geruntho said I could see half. I can't see more, what if something happens at the plant.

Alderman Stowe said I know what's going to happen here ahead of time and so I'm just saying, I made the motion and it's been seconded.

Chairman Parente said you made your motion. Mr. Filippone seconded the motion. We have a first and a second. He asked if there is any further discussion.

Dr. Hinson asked with this motion do we become responsible for the entire debt.

Chairman Parente said yes. That's what he is pushing here.

Dr. Hinson said opposed to a partial helping.

Chairman Parente said correct.

Alderman Stowe said he is going to make a statement. I tried to be, anything I have ever done in my life I try to be fair, I try to tell the truth and whatever, this is just the truth. There is a provision in that report that says that if something goes on with the WPCA commission cannot get along with the City that the Board of Aldermen, not the Mayor, but the Board of Aldermen can take this commission, all the commissioners out, me included if they desire to and change the

whole board. They can change the whole commission, the Board of Aldermen will put all new people on the Board. The way it works, the Aldermen will take the seats first and they end up giving them others.

Alderman Stowe said and that is going to happen. That is going to happen I am telling you.

Chairman Parente said your term expires and they put another alderman on. The Mayor has control of all the aldermen. That is what he is talking about. Since this was established it could have happened. Any Mayor in the history of the city at any time could say I'm just going to put the aldermen on the Board. Anytime. So now what Charlie is trying to say is here's the real deal Charlie is an alderman and he doesn't want to have to raise the taxes so he figures the way to get around it is the WPCA will pay the bill, the City will be free from the bill and the city won't have to raise taxes. Approximately \$400 thousand represents a mill. So they have to pay \$600 thousand that is half of \$1.2 million. They would be in the hole a mill and a half. I just read something where the city did something where they didn't have to pay. So what he is trying to do is scare you by telling you if you don't approve paying this bill as terms come up in Dec. the Mayor will appoint the aldermen to take everybody's seats so that he would have control of this Board.

Alderman Stowe said OK, I don't want to see any of that happen. I say I'm a nice guy it doesn't pay to be wishy washy tell it like it is and I'm telling you this is what will happen if this commission starts trying to not pay this bill. I think that's what's probably going to be the drastic step that will be taken.

Chairman Parente said if you didn't hear Charlie, let me tell you what Charlie is trying to tell you. If you don't agree, in December when your appointments comes up they'll appoint the aldermen.

Aldermen Stowe said I was going to bring up the Charter. The Charter and the description from Murtha & Cullina both of those, whoever doesn't have copies of those I suggest you get a copy from somebody here, it is very clear in my eyes what can happen here. Very clear. Nunzio and I will share a little bit of a difference of opinion here. Four years ago plus, they had Charter Revision maybe twice and I've asked and asked City Hall to get this thing done on the Charter because it needs to be revised the way the description is in the Charter. Obviously it doesn't work for us in the time it was done. Now you have a mess. I was proposing to change the Charter that anything over one hundred feet long should be, because it is not fixing a break over 100 feet long you are doing a considerable main and its 30 feet deep so that is something a lot different than a pipe repair. I did make a motion that you have to vote on.

Alderman Stowe continued the discussion on the Murtha & Cullina report and the Charter regarding the responsibility and duty of the WPCA Board. He said he has been asking for Charter Revision to further clarify what WPCA and the City is responsible for. He said he did make a motion that the WPCA commissioners have to vote on.

Dr. Hinson said he is hearing two things here one is the lawyer says we don't have to pay for it. It is not in our jurisdiction, it is underground. I'm hearing another thing over here that says yes we are going to have to be responsible to pay it. Quite frankly I don't know either document so I don't know one way or the other so when it comes up to vote on this matter until I can be clear in my own head I will just abstain from it which is not a good way to go.

The report from Murtha & Cullina was mailed out to the commissioners and given out to them at a meeting. Everyone should have a copy. It will be re-sent to the members.

Ms. St. Jacques said she would like to go on record as the Sewer Administrator to say, Charlie, that yes, if this is what your plan is and whether anybody disagrees or agrees when it comes time and you don't want to raise the taxes that's perfectly clear but when it does come time to set the rate for the WPCA, please don't stand on your head upside down about pleasing your constituents when we have to raise the rate because we keep emptying our coffers. Eventually it will catch up to us and bite us also the way it has the City and don't complain Charlie when the time comes that we have to raise the rate because it has to happen. We lowered the rates every single time since Nunzio has come onboard under his leadership and Richie with the budget and cutting back with Brian, etc., etc. But if you are going to be emptying the coffers then here we go. So when the time comes don't be jumping up and down about it.

Chairman Parente said we have a VacTruck that the City owns. The City went out to referendum to get the money to purchase that VacTruck. Why would the City want to buy that VacTruck? Because they are responsible for that line, that's why.

Chairman Parente said we have a motion and we have a second. The discussion is over. We will have a roll call vote.

The motion is:

Alderman Stowe made a motion that when this job is finished, WPCA will go over the bill and WPCA will pay for this bill. Alderman Filippone seconded.

Roll Call:

C. Stowe:	Yes
D. Filippone:	Yes
H. Boladz:	Yes

A. Geruntho:	No
N. Parente:	No

J. Hinson:	Abstain
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The vote is 3 yes, 2 no, 1 abstain. The motion carried.

Chairman Parente left the meeting at this time.

There was discussion on the payment of the bills. Supt. Capozzi stated there is an invoice for the I&I Study that requires payment. There are transfers that must be done from the last meeting.

Mr. Bshara said they need transfers from legal, he needs authorization and a resolution for the bank transfer that has to be done.

Alderman Stowe said we still have a quorum so we should be able to pass the transfers and authorizations.

There was discussion on how much money would be available if WPCA had to write a check to the sewer break. Mr. Bshara stated he couldn't give an accurate figure because he has to do the analysis. He said the money is 554 money collected. WPCA stopped billing at the end of the cycle but we have to pay the bill so we are building that reserve to pay three years' worth of bills. There was discussion on the sewer use operating fund. An analysis has to be done to get figures for the fund.

Mr. Geruntho is concerned that WPCA will spend a million dollars from the monies designed for the projects and operating costs. What if WPCA has another catastrophe and there is no funds to pay for it. What if we have to line the pipes? There will be no reserve for emergency.

Mr. Bshara said WPCA by Federal Statute and State regulation says because the towns designate the money the federal government gave to them for the sewer pipe and sewer plants and the government didn't control it, they created the WPCA in the town to oversee running of the entire WPCA facility including the lines because that's where the money was mostly spent or gotten from the federal government was for the sewer project. We put in sewer lines all through the town we didn't pay for that. The federal government paid for most of that. The towns would not maintain them, they would not take care of them. They said they would get more funds from the federal government and seek 70% funding. The government say no we are not doing that. We are creating a separate committee to oversee the funds and they could collect money and maintain the equipment that we are paying for so that we as a federal government don't have to keep paying into the towns over and over again because they are letting it go. I'm sorry that we all don't always agree here. As far as I'm concerned WPCA includes the pump station, the pipes the facility and anything to do with the collection and processing the sewage.

There was discussion that Derby WPCA takes care of their own lines and pipes. Shelton does not take care of their lines. The way it was done in Ansonia because it was part of the Sewer Commission, it was always a blended and shared responsibility. The Public Works guys helped WPCA. WPCA helped the PWD guys. The guy that was in charge was the Supt. of PWD and held the permit for the WPCA. The original concept as to why we had to create the WPCA. We had a Sewer Commission and it was the Board of Aldermen. The Board of Aldermen said they can't do that anymore. The City created a separate WPCA to oversee the collection money and the maintenance of the system.

There was discussion on the City and WPCA getting together at some point and coming up with who is responsible for what. The bottom line is if there is a problem it's all hands on deck. Everyone moves and goes where they have to go when there is an emergency. If something drops, it drops and you come back to it later. The City as a whole needs to come together and work this problem together. It needs to find a path for what's going to happen in the future.

There was discussion on the employees from Public Works working the sewer break and doing their own jobs and the WPCA helping out with the emergency and with the Public Works duties that needed coverage during the snow storms. .

Discussion on the work that needs to be done to maintain the sewer lines – the SSES and I&I study, running cameras through the lines, checking to see if the lines need to be lined, etc. With the right process WPCA can do a lot for the plant and get funding from the government, but they have to work together, we can't be pointing fingers. WPCA really needs to get together, this can really work and get things done. Nunzio Parente has done good things here. He really has brought cost down, he finds a cheaper and better way to do things and it's a good thing. It's got to be working together.

Alderman Stowe asked what needs to be passed with regard to the transfers.

Mr. Bshara explained the transfers that need to be approved.

Mr. Boladz made a motion to transfer the following items. Mr. Filippone seconded. All in favor, so carried.

Line Item	Transferred from	Transferred to
1-108-0999-21-860-0003 Contingency	\$9000	
1-108-0999-21-321-0000 Legal		\$9000
1-108-0999-21-860-0003 Contingency	\$12,000	
1-108-0999-21-437-0001 Contract Services		\$12,000
1-108-0999-21-371-0003 Chemicals	\$10,000	
1-108-0999-21-437-0001 Contract Services		\$10,000

Mr. Boladz made a motion to pay the Purchase Order (Inv. 19-3) for Richard Bshara in the amount of \$1000. Covers February 1, 2019 to March 3, 2019 Dr. Hinson seconded. All in favor, so carried.

Superintendent's Report

Supt. Brian Capozzi was present.

A copy is on file in the Town Clerks office.

Financial Report

Mr. Richard Bshara was present.

A copy is on file in the Town Clerk's office.

Alderman Stowe made a motion to approve the following resolution:

"Resolved to approve the opening of the accounts at Webster Bank and to transfer the funds currently being held in deposit at ION Bank to Webster Bank."

Mr. Geruntho seconded. All in favor, the motion carried.

April Meeting


The April meeting of the Water Pollution Control Authority will be held as follows:

Wednesday, April 4, 2019 at
6:45 p.m. Public Hearing to set the Rates
7:00 p.m. Regular Meeting

Adjourn

Alderman Filippone made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 9:15 p.m. Dr. Hinson seconded. All in favor, so carried.

Respectfully submitted,


Jo-Lynn Flaherty
Secretary