AVON WATER POLLUTION CONTROL AUTHORITY
January 14, 2016
Selectmen's Chambers, 5:30 p.m.
Town of Avon

I. CALL TO ORDER
The Avon Water Pollution Control Authority was called to order at 5:30 pm by Mr. Johansen.

AWPCA

Present: Eric Johansen
Terry Ryan
Chris Roy
Lawrence Baril, Town Engineer

Absent: Tom Armstrong

II. MINUTES OF PRECEDING MEETING – November 12, 2015

MOTION: Mr. Johansen made a motion for approval of the November 12, 2015 minutes. The motion, seconded by Mr. Ryan, received unanimous approval.

III. COMMUNICATION FROM THE AUDIENCE – None

IV. NEW BUSINESS – 2016 – 1 Election of AWPCA Chairman
MOTION: Mr. Ryan made a motion for Mr. Johansen to become Chairman of the AWPCA. The motion, seconded by Mr. Roy, received unanimous approval.

MOTION: Mr. Roy made a motion for Mr. Ryan to become Vice Chairman of the AWPCA. The motion, seconded by Mr. Johansen, received unanimous approval.

The political party affiliation of two members were clarified and noted there is a correction to be made on the AWPCA's web site noting the correct affiliation for Messrs. Roy (Democrat) and Ryan (Unaffiliated).

V. OLD BUSINESS -
Mr. Baril provided an update on the potential sewer project for Paperchase Trail.
The design drawings are done and the specs are in legal review. The plan is to only go to gravity.
Mr. Baril provided feedback he received from speaking to representatives from other municipalities who have low pressure systems. The topic of odor was discussed noting that when there's a large gap in the line between someone injecting into the system and the exit point, the odors grow rather quickly. He learned that when this happens, it's important a chemical is poured into the drain on a routine basis. The potential of this happening is a concern for the Town of Avon given past practice of not forcing homeowners to connect to the public sewer. Mr. Roy commented on Congamond Lake in Southwick, MA which froze and caused some issues with the low pressure pumps. Mr. Roy also commented on a pump system that was recently put in locally where the check valve is stuck open and the homeowner wasn't able to pump for a week. When discussing the costs, Mr. Ryan commented it's too much of a spread when comparing the price for installing low pressure sewers vs. gravity.

Mr. Johansen recommended sending a questionnaire to residents requesting feedback on their preference to have either low pressure sewers or gravity. Mr. Baril noted the cost of installing gravity sewers is more expensive than installing low pressure sewers. Mr. Roy commented he has a problem forcing everyone to connect. Mr. Baril said that if we are going to pursue low pressure sewers, you will need some kind of minimum mass of connections so you don't end up with effluent sitting in the line for days and days. Mr. Johansen noted there hasn't been a project where everyone agrees and clarified the term 'water pollution control authority', controlling water pollution is probably not trying to have the whole town on septic systems. Mr. Baril provided a timeline for the bid process. Mr. Johansen commented on the large re-sale value of someone's home having access to public sewer.

Further discussion included the Rt. 44 Pump Station, the development plan for Avon Park North which is geared for retail, office and residential space. Mr. Ryan shared with the commission various news articles he read about Engineering Department projects such as the Old Wheeler Lane Bridge, capital improvement requests and the Inflow and Infiltration Project. Mr. Johansen inquired about the Old Farms Road project and Mr. Baril encouraged members to stop into the Engineering Department to review maps which will provide more detail regarding the northern alignment option.

VI PLANNING & ZONING MATTERS – Please see above.

VII COMMUNICATION FROM STAFF – None

VIII COMMUNICATION FROM MEMBERS – None

IX OTHER BUSINESS – None

X ADJOURNMENT –

MOTION: Mr. Ryan motioned to adjourn the meeting at 6:20 p.m. The motion, seconded by Mr. Roy, received unanimous approval.

Respectfully submitted,
Suzanne Essex, Clerk