

**Avon Water Pollution Control Authority**  
**February 8, 2024 – 7:00 PM**  
**Public Hearing**  
**Via GoToMeeting**

**I. CALL TO ORDER**

The Avon Water Pollution Control Authority was called to order at 7:00 p.m. via GoToMeeting by Chairperson Chris Roy.

**AWPCA – Roll Call:**

Present: Chris Roy, Chairperson  
Pam Monroe  
Aden Baume  
Rob Gonse  
Drew Bloom  
Lawrence Baril, Town Engineer  
Tim Foster, Superintendent of Sanitary Sewers

**II. MINUTES OF PRECEDING MEETING**

On a motion made by Ms. Monroe, seconded by Mr. Gonse, it was voted:

**RESOLVED:** That the Authority approves the minutes of the January 17, 2024 meeting as amended. Ms. Monroe, Messrs: Roy, Baume, Gonse, and Bloom voted in favor.

**III. COMMUNICATION FROM AUDIENCE**

Audience in attendance:

Charles Herbert, 10 Timber Lane, Richard Sennett, 33 Timber Lane

No comments other than as will be made during agenda item discussion.

**IV. OLD BUSINESS**

On a motion made by Ms. Monroe, seconded by Mr. Gonse, it was voted:

**RESOLVED:** That the Authority approves to move up agenda item 2021-8 Timber Lane Sewer and open the Public Hearing to address the Special Benefit Assessment.

Ms. Monroe, Messrs: Roy, Baume, Gonse, and Bloom voted in favor.

**2021-8 Timber Lane Sewer**  
**PUBLIC HEARING – Special Benefit Assessment**  
**PUBLIC HEARING – Sewer Acceptance**

Mr. Baril provided a brief presentation regarding the Timber Lane sewer benefit assessment.

Mr. Herbert commended the execution of Town of Avon for this project and asked if there is annual sewer tax that gets levied and if so, what is the amount.

Mr. Baril stated that there is an annual sewer use fee that pays for O&M charges which mostly includes the fees the Town of Avon pays to Simsbury, Canton, and Farmington to treat the Town of Avon's effluent. Mr. Baril asked Mr. Herbert if he was on a well or public water.

Mr. Herbert replied he is on public water.

Mr. Baril provided an overview of how sewer use fees are charged.

On a motion made by Mr. Bloom, seconded by Ms. Monroe, it was voted:

**RESOLVED:** That the Authority approves to close the Public Hearing.

Ms. Monroe, Messrs: Roy, Baume, Gonse, and Bloom voted in favor.

Mr. Herbert asked if there is a document that needs to be returned to the Town of Avon.

Mr. Baril responded that the payment option document should be returned only if they intend to make a single payment in full rather than the 10-year payback option.

On a motion made by Mr. Bloom, seconded by Ms. Monroe, it was voted:

**RESOLVED:** That the Authority approves to open the Public Hearing regarding 2021-8 Timber Lane Sewer Acceptance.

Ms. Monroe, Messrs: Roy, Baume, Gonse, and Bloom voted in favor.

Mr. Baril provided a brief explanation of the sewer acceptance process that is obligated by law to formally accept by Public Hearing any part of a public sewer system.

On a motion made by Ms. Monroe, seconded by Mr. Gonse, it was voted:

**RESOLVED:** That the Authority approves to close the Public Hearing regarding 2021-8 Timber Lane Sewer Acceptance.

Ms. Monroe, Messrs: Roy, Baume, Gonse, and Bloom voted in favor.

## V. **NEW BUSINESS**

### **2024 – 1      Sewer Billing 2024 PUBLIC HEARING**

On a motion made by Ms. Monroe, seconded by Mr. Gonse, it was voted:

**RESOLVED:** That the Authority approves to open the Public Hearing regarding agenda item 2024-1 Sewer Billing 2024.

Ms. Monroe, Messrs: Roy, Baume, Gonse, and Bloom voted in favor.

Mr. Baril provided a brief overview of the sewer billing.

Mr. Roy asked if Mr. Bloom received some background information from Mr. Baril in advance of the meeting.

Mr. Bloom stated he did get to speak with Mr. Baril and had the chance to look into billing and the statutes.

On a motion made by Mr. Bloom, seconded by Ms. Monroe, it was voted:

**RESOLVED:** That the Authority approves to close the Public Hearing regarding agenda item 2024-1 Sewer Billing 2024.

Ms. Monroe, Messrs: Roy, Baume, Gonse, and Bloom voted in favor.

Mr. Roy stated that a vote was next for the three AWPCA Public Hearings.

Concerning the matter of levying benefit assessments on the 10 Timber Lane properties that specifically benefit from the Timber Lane Sewer Extension project as presented during the public hearing, Ms. Monroe made a motion to approve the benefit assessment amounts of \$22,024.25 for 4, 10, 16, 22 and 28 Timber Lane and \$18,720.61 for 15, 21, 27, 33 and 34 Timber Lane. Further, residents will have the option to pay the assessment via annual installments with an interest rate of 2.75% in accordance with the payment schedules presented or as a single lump sum payment, seconded by Mr. Gonse, it was voted:

**RESOLVED:** That the Authority approves.

Ms. Monroe, Messrs: Roy, Baume, Gonse, and Bloom voted in favor.

Concerning the matter of accepting the sanitary sewers constructed in Timber Lane in 2023, Ms. Monroe made a motion to accept said sewers into the Town of Avon sewer collection system, seconded by Mr. Bloom, it was voted:

**RESOLVED:** That the Authority approves.

Ms. Monroe, Messrs: Roy, Baume, Gonse, and Bloom voted in favor.

Concerning establishing the commercial sewer use rates for 2023, and the residential sewer use rate for 2024, Mr. Gonse made a motion to approve the rates as presented during the public hearing, seconded by Ms. Monroe, it was voted:

**RESOLVED:** That the Authority approves.

Ms. Monroe, Messrs: Roy, Baume, Gonse, and Bloom voted in favor.

#### VI. **PLANNING & ZONING MATTERS** - NONE

#### VII. **COMMUNICATION FROM STAFF**

Mr. Baril stated that the Authority should have received an email from Jennifer Worsman regarding an upcoming webinar regarding an overview of the Freedom of Information Act (FOIA), ethics, and how to run a legal and effective public meeting. Mr. Baril wanted to promote the idea of the Authority attending.

The Authority continued to discuss the topic.

Mr. Baril provided a brief background of Authority conversations preceding new members over the course of that last year regarding flow allocation and the physical capacity of the collection system. Mr. Baril stated that WPCA will have to decide how to address flows in excess of the as-predicted. Mr. Baril shared that he had come up with a reasonable method by which to get some compensation from developments that are going to exceed the capacity from their areas of Avon, if/when additional capacity needs to be purchased. Mr. Baril stated he was sharing this information to prepare the WCPA for the March meeting, as he felt the WPCA would have an obligation to give the developer for Avonwood an answer as to whether the WPCA would serve the developer.

Ms. Monroe asked if the development would go ahead either way.

Mr. Baril responded not necessarily as the developer was investigating putting a septic system on the site.

Ms. Monroe asked if in a previous meeting someone was given the authority to ask Simsbury if there was more capacity to purchase and if that was being backed off because of the additional cost.

Mr. Baril stated that given the Town of Avon is only flowing between 500,000 and 550,000 gallons per day, versus 980,000 gallons available, even if Simsbury did or didn't have additional capacity, it wouldn't change what he intends to present as a logical policy.

Mr. Foster stated that the intention was to protect the current capacity and if down the road there is a concern for capacity, a value has been placed a value on the capacity's worth so that down the road nobody can come back and say you let it go with addressing the capacity.

The Authority continued discussion regarding capacity.

#### VIII. **COMMUNICATION FROM MEMBERS**

Mr. Bloom introduced himself to the Authority.

Mr. Baril expressed his appreciation to the Authority for their time and dedication to the WPCA, and with that he would request the importance of responding and attending to convene a quorum.

Mr. Foster stated that a lack of attendance can affect the public and developers.

Mr. Gonse asked if more in-depth information would be provided to the Authority regarding the developer prior to the March meeting.

Mr. Baril stated that the developer did make a presentation and the requirement was placed on them to do an analysis of the impact on the Town of Avon's collection system, as is a requirement of any of these kinds of developments. Mr. Baril stated he could provide information from prior will-serve developments.

Mr. Bloom stated he would be interested in receiving that information as well.

IX. **OTHER BUSINESS** - NONE

X. **ADJOURNMENT**

On a motion made by Ms. Monroe, seconded by Mr. Bloom, it was voted:

**RESOLVED:** That the Authority adjourn the meeting at 8:00pm.

Ms. Monroe, Messrs: Roy, Baume, Gonse, and Bloom voted in favor.

Attest: Nicole Chambers, Clerk