

Avon Water Pollution Control Authority
May 11, 2023—5:30pm
Via GoToMeeting

I. CALL TO ORDER

The Avon Water Pollution Control Authority was called to order at 5:43pm via GoToMeeting by Vice Chairperson Thomas Armstrong.

AWPCA – Roll Call:

Present: Tom Armstrong, Vice-Chairperson
Chris Roy
Pam Monroe
Lawrence Baril, Town Engineer

Absent: Eric Johansen, Chairperson
Micah Rousey

II. MINUTES OF PRECEDING MEETING

March 16, 2023

On a motion made by Mr. Roy and seconded by Mr. Armstrong it was voted:

RESOLVED: That the Authority approves the minutes of the March 16 meeting as drafted.
Messrs.: Armstrong, and Roy voted in favor.

III. COMMUNICATION FROM AUDIENCE – None

IV. NEW BUSINESS

2023 – 3 AWPCA Membership Changes: Welcome new member Pam Monroe
Thank you to outgoing member Tom Armstrong

V. OLD BUSINESS

2023 – 2 Stony Corners – Sewer Extension

Mr. Baril asked the Authority to recall the information provided at the March meeting concerning the construction of gravity sewers for the Stony Corners / Stony Corners Circle neighborhood. Mr. Baril reiterated that the benefitting properties would have an assessment of \$44,283 for gravity connections and \$37,640 for pumped connections. If the need for permanent pavement patching was eliminated, the resulting benefit assessments would be approximately \$30,811 for gravity connections and \$26,189 for pumped connections. Mr. Baril stated that because of COVID and inflation, the impact on the construction industry has been remarkable in terms of cost. Mr. Baril explained that based on these high numbers, changing the design from gravity sewers to a low-pressure sewer installation may be an

alternative. To assist with the preliminary design and rough cost estimate, Mr. Baril stated that a company called eOne, that sells quality equipment for low-pressure sewer systems, was used. Mr. Baril also contacted a contractor familiar with this type of installation and acquired their budgetary cost estimate for the work. Based on these inputs, Mr. Baril provided an estimate for the project to cost in the range of \$468,900 to \$562,700, with an assessment to each benefiting resident between \$13,025 and \$15,630. Mr. Baril stated that there are negative connotations to low-pressure, as this type of installation will require that all residents in the neighborhood that wish to connect must install a low-pressure sewer pump. Mr. Baril stated that these pumps will also need to run on electricity and if residents lose power and don't have a backup generator, there is limited storage capacity, which residents are often concerned about. Mr. Baril recommended the Authority convene a public information meeting of the residents at the June meeting to present the gravity sewer and low-pressure sewer information so that the WPCA can decide whether to move forward with the project. Mr. Armstrong inquired if a regulation needed to be in place governing low-pressure sewers. Mr. Baril stated he did not believe so. Mr. Roy asked how many of the residents needed to be on board to make the low-pressure work. Mr. Baril stated it depends where the residents are in the line, and at this time he was unsure. Ms. Monroe asked if this project is optional for the residents. Mr. Baril stated that all residents will have to pay the assessment, whether they connect to sewer or not.

The Authority gave consensus to hold a public information meeting for Mr. Baril to provide the update on item 2023 – 2 to the benefitting Stony Corners residents on June 8, 2023.

2021 – 7 Benefit Assessments – Sub-dividable lots – No Update

VI. PLANNING & ZONING MATTERS – No Update

VII. COMMUNICATION FROM STAFF – None

VIII. COMMUNICATION FROM MEMBERS

Mr. Armstrong thanked the other members of the Authority and provided that he will be moving to Reading, MA by month's end. Mr. Armstrong stated that he enjoyed his 42 years in Avon and serving on the AWPCA and Planning & Zoning boards. Mr. Armstrong welcomed the new member Pam Monroe and asked her to provide her background. Ms. Monroe stated that she previously served on the Town Council in Windsor and comes from a non-profit background and is currently working for an appraiser. Mr. Baril encouraged Mr. Armstrong to join the June meeting as a member of the public.

IX. OTHER BUSINESS – None

X. ADJOURNMENT

On a motion made by and seconded by, it was voted:

RESOLVED: That the Authority adjourn the meeting at 6:12pm.

Messrs.: Armstrong, Roy, and Monroe voted in favor.

Attest: Nicole Chambers, AWPCA Clerk