

AVON WATER POLLUTION CONTROL AUTHORITY**June 13, 2013****Selectmen's Chambers, 7:30 pm****Town of Avon****I. CALL TO ORDER**

The Avon Water Pollution Control Authority was called to order at 7:32 pm by Mr. Farrell.

Present: Michael Farrell
Tom Armstrong
Terry Ryan
Lawrence Baril, Town Engineer
Tim Foster, Superintendent of Sanitary Sewer Collection, Town of Avon

Absent: Eric Johansen, Jim Miller

II. MINUTES OF PRECEDING MEETING – May 9, 2013

MOTION: Mr. Armstrong made a motion for approval of the May 9, 2013 minutes. The motion, seconded by Mr. Farrell, received unanimous approval.

III. COMMUNICATION FROM THE AUDIENCE - Mr. Farrell welcomed the two people in the audience and noted the agenda item of interest for Avonside sewers will be addressed.

IV NEW BUSINESS

2013 – 6 Farmington Treatment Plant Upgrade – Mr. Baril noted he and Mr. Foster met with officials from the Town of Farmington and discussed the potential upgrade to Farmington's treatment plant. The figures discussed are in the preliminary phase, although an anticipated amount mentioned is \$53M. Avon's share, after reducing for Clean Water Fund grants, will be approximately \$4M. Mr. Foster noted there are approximately 2,600 users in the Farmington shed from Avon.

V. OLD BUSINESS**2012 – 10 Discuss Sewer Extension for Avonside**

Mr. Baril provided a map outlining the proposed sewer extension for Avonside and also reviewed the process the Town undergoes when determining potential sewer projects. In Avonside's case, the Sewer Facilities Plan and roadway paving were the two primary catalysts. The project specifics were discussed, such as the number of laterals affected, findings from preliminary studies, length of pipe and the cost per residence for mainline assessment. Additional costs were also outlined such as connection charges, the amount needed to obtain a sewer permit, cost to hire a contractor and the annual sewer use fee to the Town of Avon. There would be three or four parcels affected. Mr. Farrell inquired if the property owned by Avon Old Farms School near the proposed project is included in the preliminary design map for Avonside. Mr. Baril noted there are challenges in obtaining easements but will contact the school and inquire about their interest. Mr. Baril noted that the meeting is for informational purposes only and a decision will not be made in the same evening whether or not to proceed with the project.

Ms. Ellen McCabe of 39 Avonside inquired about water and gas availability on Avonside if the sewer line is approved. Mr. Foster replied that the water company likes to be in the right-of-way and not in the road. If they would come in the future, they would work in the shoulder. Plans for gas are unknown and not sure if there is a nearby connection. Ms. McCabe expressed concern about utility companies returning to work in the road after the road has been paved. Mr. Baril noted that the gas company will consider installing gas if they receive enough interest from residents that makes it worth their while to install the mains. Mr. Baril noted there's a new pavement cut policy which restricts utility companies from disturbing pavement that has been paved within a 5-year period. The proper lot configuration of 291 Old Farms Road was discussed. Mr. Baril noted he would need to look and see what is considered sewerable by the State of Connecticut. Mr. Baril responded to Ms. McCabe's question regarding the amount Mr. Lobley at 291 Old Farms would pay, which is estimated to be \$8,942 due to the reduction given for those properties that need to pump to the public sewer.

Mr. Joe Zibbideo of 39 Avonside expressed that he does not want the sewer project but would like the road paved. He noted that he believes that at someday, they (utility providers) will want to come in and put in water and gas lines. He said they come in with the sewer, water, gas and maybe a line for the cable. They like to do this incrementally which causes discomfort to us. Mr. Farrell responded to Mr. Zibbideo's concerns in that the AWPCA has been responsive to residents' concerns who have petitioned the AWPCA to sewer large neighborhoods and initiated prior sewer projects. Mr. Farrell noted the AWPCA is a government entity. The water and gas companies are private enterprises and for profit. The Town is for service and have an obligation to serve the greater good. Ms. McCabe noted the poor road condition of Avonside. Mr. Farrell noted that having a sewer connection will improve one's property value. Mr. Baril responded to Ms. McCabe's concern regarding the pavement schedule after the proposed sewer project. Mr. Baril is unable to give a definite timeframe since the schedule is dictated from Public Works and budget schedule. Mr. Baril noted that Public Works, in the three most recent major sewer projects, the roads have been repaved in a timely matter. Mr. Foster noted he spoke to Ms. Richardson of 43 Avonside regarding the project and noted she mentioned cost is a concern but if other residents wish to connect, she would be supportive. Mr. Baril noted there is no hard timeframe and Mr. Farrell mentioned we would need to follow up with the paving schedule with Public Works and their commitment to pave Avonside. Mr. Foster inquired to Mr. Baril how much a full septic system replacement would cost. Mr. Baril replied there are several factors but typically it could cost over \$30,000. Mr. Farrell noted that some residents on Deepwood Drive spent approximately \$45,000. Mr. Baril noted that if construction should begin the current construction year (before November 2013) the process is lengthy in administrative terms, such as initiating and managing the bid process. Mr. Farrell extended gratitude to the two members in the audience and encouraged them to keep in touch and attend future AWPCA meetings.

Members discussed the intricacies of how a sewer assessment is handled once a home is sold during the transfer of ownership. Mr. Baril noted that a caveat was added to the land records for the affected properties during the Deepwood sewer project, so that assessments would be found during a standard title search.

2012 – 14 I and I Study at Riverdale Farms - Mr. Foster noted that smoke testing has been scheduled. He also noted that parcels nearby Riverdale will be included in the smoke test.

2013 – 5 Easement Access Management Report – Mr. Baril noted that Mr. Foster has prepared a RFP for Mr. Baril's review.

VI PLANNING & ZONING MATTERS – The number of EDUs considered for in-law departments was discussed.

VII COMMUNICATION FROM STAFF – Mr. Baril mentioned the recent requests he has received for pool house connections to the sanitary sewer. After discussing with the Town of Avon

Building Official, he learned that the Engineering Department does not have jurisdiction on sanitary connections that run from the auxiliary structure to the main house and that the jurisdiction is with the Building Department. Mr. Baril noted he wrote a waiver of the AWPCA requirement for auxiliary structures to connect directly to the public sewer for one residence. A question arose when processing the waiver whereby someone inquired whether a parcel is required to connect to the sanitary sewer if it's available. According to the AWPCA regulations, new construction that requires sanitary sewers and are adjacent to public sewers are mandated to connect. Also, if there is a septic repair required at an existing property that is adjacent to public sewers, the Public Health Director has the jurisdiction to require connection to the public sewer. The language is not clear in the AWPCA manual. He suggested members investigate the statute relating to the requirement imposed on parcels to connect to the sanitary collection system.

VIII COMMUNICATION FROM MEMBERS – Mr. Farrell suggested Mr. Ryan research whether a requirement exists imposing mandatory connection to the public sewer. Mr. Farrell directed Mr. Armstrong to investigate the issues relating to assessment conveyance.

IX OTHER BUSINESS – None

X ADJOURNMENT:

MOTION: Mr. Farrell motioned to adjourn the meeting at 9:12 p.m. The motion, seconded by Mr. Ryan, received unanimous approval.

Respectfully submitted,
Suzanne Essex, Clerk