

**TOWN OF SOMERS
WATER POLLUTION CONTROL AUTHORITY**

**REGULAR MEETING MINUTES
OCTOBER 2, 2012
7:30 PM TOWN HALL**

I. CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order at 7:30 pm by Chairman James Botellio. Members present were Charles Colby, Dan Fraro, Mark Marschall, and Steven Getman. Also present was Steve Jacobs, Town Sanitarian.

II. MINUTES

A motion was made by Steven Getman to approve the minutes as written. Seconded by Dan Fraro, all in favor, motion carried.

III. MAPLE STREET UPDATE

Steve Jacobs gave a report on the insurance claim regarding 40 Maple St. The Town of Somers insurance carrier, (CIRMA), has denied the claim. The letter from their claims dept. found that the underground sewage pipe loss is NOT covered under Property Coverage as this does not involve “covered equipment” and does not involve Town owned property.

Commission members discussed the letter from the CIRMA. Mr. Botellio suggested a meeting be set up with Lisa Pelligrini, Brenda Gillis(the CIRMA claim representative) and possibly the town attorney to discuss the denial. Mr. Botellio felt the the claim representative's interpretation of what is town property, etc. is incorrect. It needs to be clarified what exactly is “covered” in detail.

Commission members agreed it would be a good idea to get legal opinion on the easement. Members discussed the importance of finding out how much of the town is really covered to avoid this issue in the future. Mr. Botellio felt it was important to get a copy of the insurance policy and take a closer look at what is considered “covered equipment”.

Mr. Botellio suggested attaching the CIRMA denial letter to the minutes for information purposes.

IV. SOMERSVILLE WPCF

Steve Jacobs reported the UV chamber has been working fine. The test came out good this past month and flows have come back up.

Steve also reported on several alarms on some valves not opening and some levels not reading correctly. During a power phase outage the generators did not kick in and it caused a problem with the pumps. This issue was addressed by a technician from the generator manufacturer and was thought to be resolved.

The past few weeks Steve has been getting alarms regarding the levels being off. Two transducers had to be replaced. When that was being fixed, it was discovered that one of the gate valves (which is only 5 years old) was totally rotted. It was discovered the valves were cast iron not stainless steel like Steve had thought. Steve brought pictures of the rotted valves to show the commission members.

Steve also noted there were no isolation valves in between the three actuators. The transducers and gate valves have been fixed. He is still waiting for the transfer switch to be looked at. Safety issues were discussed. Steve reported that the primary wet wells were not epoxy coated and needed to be. Steve will get a quote regarding the epoxy coating and get back to the commission regarding this issue. He is also looking into a Dioxide feed to reduce the corrosive hydrogen sulfide and odors.

Commission members discussed possible fraud if we were quoted stainless steel valves and were given only cast iron. Steve will look into this matter and obtain the parts list to see what was ordered for the chambers.

V. KING/WATCHAUG RD. (ARSENIC CONTAMINATION)

Steve Jacobs reported several isolated wells contaminated with arsenic in this area. Steve showed a map to commission members of homes affected. DEEP is involved and more tests are being done. Bottled water is being provided to families and filtration systems are being assessed.

The short term plan for this issue is to continue to work with the state and provide families with bottled water. Commission members discussed how to protect families in the future from this happening. Members felt a new town ordinance should be made to have all new developments/buildings/ wells be tested for contaminants/arsenic.

Steve will look into how to get a test for common contaminants into town ordinance. Commission members want to protect all Somers families.

VI. CORRESPONDENCE/AUDIENCE PARTICIPATION

Steve Jacobs passed out copies of the WPCA update for the town report. Commission Members reviewed it. It was suggested to add a paragraph about the mill fire with the date it occurred. Steve will make the changes in the report.

An invitation to bid was sent out to for septic tank pumpers. Only one bid was received. Avery construction sent back a price of \$11,000.00.

A motion was made by Mr. Colby to accept Avery's bid. Seconded by Mr. Getman, all in favor motion carried.

An FOI request was received from Mr. Albert Harris asking for info on the water pollution issue and the prison. A letter was sent back to him telling him where to get information and his letter was forwarded to the Dept. of Corrections since it is not in WPCA jurisdiction. There was no audience participation. Two Somers high school students were in the

audience to observe for a class.

VII. BILLS/TRANSFERS

The bills were as follows:

Phoenix Labs	\$75.00
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Ace Hardware	\$32.82

A motion was made by Dan Fraro to pay the bills listed above. Seconded by Mark Marschall, all in favor, motion carried.

VIII. ADJOURNMENT

A motion to adjourn the regular meeting was made at 7:55 by Mr. Marschall. Seconded by Mr. Colby, all in favor, motion carried.