



**Stamford Water Pollution Control Authority **Special** Board Meeting**

**Thursday, February 17, 2022**

**5:30 p.m.**

**Meeting held via teleconference**

**Full Meeting Minutes**

**Attendees**

Ed Kelly	Chairman, WPCA Board Member
Matt Quinones (absent)	WPCA Board Member/ Director of Operations
Sandra Dennies	WPCA Board Member / Director of Administration
Amiel Goldberg	WPCA Board Member/Board of Reps
J. R. McMullen	WPCA Board Member/Board of Finance
Merritt Nesin	WPCA Board Member / Technical Committee Chair
Robert Barocas	WPCA Board Member / Finance Committee Chair
Adam Perlaky (Absent)	WPCA Board Member
Steven Bagwin	WPCA Board Member
William Brink	Executive Director, WPCA
Rhudean Bull	Administration Manager, WPCA
Mark Turndahl	Accountant, WPCA William Brink
Ann Brown	Supervising Engineer, WPCA

**Call to Order, Pledge and Roll Call**

E. Kelly, Chairman, called the Special meeting to order at 5:35pm with roll call. A quorum was present seven (7 Board Members).

**Presentation, Discussion and Approval: SWPCA Fiscal Year 2022 - 2023 Operating Expense and Revenue Budget**

R. Bull presented the SWPCA Fiscal Year 2023 SWPCA Operating budget. She reminded the Board that the budget lines highlighted in orange are benefit costs that are determined by the City and are not finalized. She explained that the Active Medical and Life and Payment to Insurance Fund line items highlighted in dark green arrived today and are said to be final numbers; that these numbers are different than those in the spreadsheet sent earlier in the week.

B. Brink began the discussion providing detail on the budget lines with large dollar variances compared to FY 2022 budget. He explained that salaries are up due to contractual obligations, which is a result of the MAA and UAW salary increase settlement and position adjustments. He provided justification for the positions the WPCA plans to adjust. He discussed the increase in the benefit line items stating that they will more than likely increase once the final amounts are provided. He briefly discussed Legal Services decrease and

stated that Contracted Services decreased is due to the completion of Sludge Management Plan. He explained that electrical costs are up and that the utility accounts have increased as a result. S. Dennies inquired if the WPCA does its own electrical assessment or do we connect with the City's Energy Manager, to which B. Brink replied that the WPCA coordinates with Energy Manager, N. Pipicelli, who assists with agreements with a third party to purchase electricity at a fixed price.

He provided detail for Sludge Processing Contracted Services increase and after further discussion, he concluded stating that the budget increased by \$560,020.10 or 2.1% over FY 2022 budget. J.R. McMullen inquired about the offset to the City Lateral Repair account, to which B. Brink replied that there is an offset in revenue. A. Goldberg inquired if the WPCA unions are the same as the City's, to which R. Bull replied that they are except for the IUOE, which is separate from the other IUOE Union and is negotiated separately. Also, R. Bull explained that funds have been accrued for the IUOE salary increases upon contract settlement and that the salary increases are not included in this budget.

**NOTE:**

At 5:59, A. Goldberg exited the meeting.

S. Dennies stated that the WPCA's two biggest increases, which are salaries and utility costs, are the same as the City side; that the State has set a guide for increases at 3.0%, which the WPCA falls below. S. Dennies made a motion to approve the FY23 Operating Expense and Revenue budget at \$27,804,779.10 contingent upon new benefits updates from OPM; seconded by R. Barocas. There was no further discussion. **Vote: 6-0-0.**

After approval of the FY'23 Operating Expense and Revenue Budget, Chairman, E. Kelly questioned why there was no presentation for the revenue side of the budget, to which B. Brink replied that the Board does not approve WPCA revenue but, from viewing the draft summary document, it appears that sewer use is at a 2.6% increase, contingent upon consumption numbers. S. Dennies stated she understands the Board does not approve WPCA revenue but it would be good to view when approving the budget. She proposed that management should present both revenue and operation expense numbers when presenting the budget. J.R. McMullen seconded her proposal and the Board agreed.

B. Brink stated that the updated operating expense numbers and revenue numbers will be presented at the February 28<sup>th</sup> meeting.

**Adjournment**

At 6:13 pm, S. Bagwin motioned to adjourn the February 17<sup>th</sup> Special Board meeting; seconded by S. Dennies There was no further discussion. **Vote: 6-0-0.**