

#### Stamford Water Pollution Control Authority Board Meeting Monday, April 18, 2022

5:30 p.m.

Meeting held via teleconference Full Meeting Minutes

<u>Attendees</u>

Ed Kelly Chairman, WPCA Board Member

Matthew Quiñones 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 (Absent) 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)

Steven Bagwin

WPCA Board Member

WPCA Board Member

WPCA Board Member

WPCA Board Member

Executive Director, WPCA

Administration Manager, WPCA

Ann Brown

Supervising Engineer, WPCA

Mark Turndahl (Absent) Accountant, WPCA
Robert Pudelka (Absent) Plant Supervisor

Steve Pietrzyk Collection System Supervisor

Crystal Blair Administrative Account Assistant, WPCA

David Yanik City Controller

John Mastracchio Collection Attorney (Ackerly &Ward)

Lynda Roca CompUtil

#### Call to Order, Pledge and Roll Call

E. Kelly, Chairman, called the meeting to order at 5:34pm with roll call. A quorum was present—seven (7) Board Members.

#### **Public Participation**

The list of public participants will be made a part of these minutes.

#### Minutes Approval of the Full Board Meeting of March 21, 2022

E. Kelly made a motion to approve the March 21, 2022 minutes; seconded by R. Barocas. There was no further discussion. **Vote: 7-0-0**.

E. Kelly made a motion to take the agenda out of order; seconded by A. Goldberg There was no further discussion. **Vote: 7-0-0**.

#### **Financial Update**

#### **CompUtil Report**

L. Roca reported that the April bill was sent out—over 19,000 bills over a three (3) day period. She stated that the money is starting to come in and that feedback regarding Kubra is good; that she's excited about working with the new online vendor. She stated that as of the April bill, this is their 23<sup>rd</sup> billing cycle for the WPCA. She provided the collection percentages and stated that there were liens placed on 569 accounts, which is a very low percentage. She went on to say that there had not been a lot of complaint calls; that customer services are making calls and receiving payments.

#### **Receivables & Arrears**

- B. Brink reported for the month of March
  - \$2.216 million received verses \$2.2182 million previous year sewer use fees

- Oldest receivables by year was paid down by \$15,340k
- Receivable balance over 120 days past due \$2.320 million versus \$2.256 million pervious year
- ➤ Average collection rate is at 94.89%
- ➤ \$47,686 cash collection through March
- > \$12.385 million sewer usage payments and \$1.871 million in assessments and collection payments

#### March 2022 Financial Update

B. Brink reported the following:

- > \$3.9 million net income loss
- ➤ \$4.2 million in Pool Cash
- > \$18.6 million in Capital Reserve Account
- > \$17.762 million in Construction Fund

#### **A&W Collections Report & Update**

- > J. Mastracchio reported the following:
- ➤ 261 Active files
- ➤ 63 accounts with balances above (\$5,000) Foreclosure Threshold
- > 32 In payment plans, 2 stayed due to bankruptcy filings
- > Fifteen (15) active foreclosures
- 3 Judgement Lien foreclosures
- ➤ 14 with payment plans below Foreclosure Threshold
- > 169 with no payment plan below Foreclosure Threshold
- > Ten (10) files closed since last month
- Collected \$40,403.90 for April
- > Total collected for 2022—\$118,133.68

J. Mastracchio reported that the customer for account # 104274-1 at 14 Larkin Street came into his office today and requested that he mention at tonight's meeting that she wants to have the WPCA stop service or cap the sewer line. He stated that she is concerned about the minimum charge for sewer while there is no water usage; that the property is being used to park vehicles only. S. Dennies stated that the Board would look into the situation.

### <u>Discussion and Vote: Amendment No. 7 to the Agreement with Hazen for Upgrading the UV System for Additional Electronic O&M Manual Development and an Updated Hydraulic Analysis of the WPCF for an Amount Not To Exceed \$20,000</u>

A. Brown explained that the requested amendment will increase the existing Hazen Agreement for the UV project by an amount not to exceed \$20,000. She explained that this increase is for Hazen to help prepare an electronic O&M Manual and to update the hydraulic analysis of the plant. She went on to say that the initial agreement was for the flow distribution study project in 2018 and that it needed to be updated with all new equipment and pumps. S. Dennies made a motion to approve Amendment No. 7 to the Agreement with Hazen for Upgrading the UV System for Additional Electronic O&M Manual Development and an Updated Hydraulic Analysis of the WPCF for an amount not to exceed \$20,000; seconded by E. Kelly. There was no further discussion. Vote: 7-0-0.

#### **Discussion and Vote: Community Petition for the Perna Lane sewers**

E. Kelly opened the discussion stating he commended the good job Brian Teitlebaum has done in getting the required amount of signature for the petition for Phase I of the Perna Lane sewers. He stated that the Board set a goal of a certain amount of signatures, which has been reached and now it was time to move ahead. He stated that he was looking for a formalized motion to move the project along and that Brian Teitlebaum of 64 Willard Terrance wanted to do a presentation.

#### B. Teitlebaum's presentation has been made a part of these minutes.

After the presentation, E. Kelly thanked him saying that he had taken on the herculean job to gather all that information to present the history to the Board. S. Dennies made the motion in favor of moving the project forward w/ the necessary re-designs required; seconded by R. Barocas. During the discussion, A. Goldberg stated he was supportive of moving the project forward. There were other discussions regarding which of the Phases the

Board would approve, the design changes if only Phase I will be completed and whether or not a new design is necessary. Therefore, S. Dennies amended her motion. She then made a motion to allow the WPCA to hire an Engineering Firm to design the project with only Phase I; there was no seconded and a discussion ensued after B. Brink provided background information beginning with the community meeting and what had occurred from that point. Afterwards, E. Kelly made a motion to proceed with Phase 1 of the Perna Area sewer project and to revisit and select the proper engineering designed to achieve the goal of providing the sewers; seconded by R. Barocas. There was no further discussion. **Vote: 6-1-0;** M. Nesin was the dissenting vote.

B. Teitlebaum said thank you to the Board and asked that a community group be a part of the Perna Lane discussion and decisions going forward. The Chairman replied that he understood his reasons and would get back to him regarding the request. A few other members from the Perna Lane area made comments before the Chairman moved to the next agenda item.

### <u>Discussion: Condition of City Facilities Building 6A located at 185 Magee Avenue occupied by SWPCA Collection</u> System and Regulatory Compliance Staff

E. Kelly provided some background information on 185 Magee Ave, Building 6A. He stated that he visited the site to see the state it was in; the building is substandard, very old and has not been well maintained. Since his visit some analysis had been done to make sure that the building is not unhealthy for the employees from a point of view of mold and things of that nature. He went on to say that B. Brink and A. Brown had some results from the analysis and asked for them to reveal the findings. B. Brink stated that the analysis came in just before the meeting, he quickly reviewed the findings. He reported that the analysis confirmed moisture in the building, but not as much as anticipated. There were also no findings of elevated levels of mold in the air samples; the analysis established that the environment is healthy enough that the employees could continue to occupy it. He went on to say it's not like one of these things where employees needed to evacuate the building tomorrow. He said there is a leaky roof which is a mess and disruptive to the staff and it's a poor working environment that requires the employees to be relocated. Planning should start to remove them into a building that is comfortable and provides an adequate work environment.

#### Discussion: Proposed Animal Shelter site adjacent to 185 Magee Avenue and WPCF future needs

E. Kelly opened the discussion saying that a this matter is requires further conversation given the WPCA Sludge Management Plan. He went on to say that he would not have chosen this location but understands that it's a useful location for the Animal Shelter. A. Brown presented the WPCF Sludge Management Plan and explained the footprint of the proposed shelter in comparison to the rest of the Plant's footprint. M. Quiñones stated that the discussion is to just get an overall sense of if there was a hypothetical expansion, what would that look like. He went on to say that what we are talking about here and now is difficult because the presentation was just sent out today and obviously, everyone hadn't had a ton of time to digest it, but that he would say we all [Board] should know more before moving forward with advocating against. He stated that the presentation presented is dictating to us that any expansion and the shelter can coexist at the Plant, and that the design phase of the project can move forward; that this campus can accommodate both. After a lengthy discussion, it was agreed that A. Brown would send a letter to the Board of Finance indicating that while the WPCA does not object to a new animal shelter, that there are concerns about the proposed location within the plant facility and advise the City that should a plant expansion be necessary in the future, the WPCA may need to acquire property by eminent domain to accommodate such an expansion if the animal shelter is located within the WPCA site.

#### **Safety Report**

R. Bull reported that last year April, this time there was (9) nine injuries totaling \$38,500 and (20) twenty injuries in the current year totaling \$1,500.

#### Administrative/Budget Report

R. Bull reported the following:

- Staffing
- Employee resignation
- Detailed staffing vacancies and upcoming vacancies
- Workers' Comp open claims for the WPCA
- Other Admin topics
- WPCA's current budget financial position
- > Darien current payment status

#### **Sub-Committee Reports**

#### **Finance Committee**

R. Barocas stated that the meeting was held prior to the Board meeting. No quorum was present therefore the prior meeting minutes could not be approved. He went on to say that Dave Yanik, the City's Controller gave an update on the audit report and it has been singed off. He stated that he appreciates all the hard work that Yanik and many others on this call have done to make it happen. In light of the M. Turndahl absence B. Brink gave an update on the March financial. He said he would like to formalize the Finance Committee official members at the next month meeting.

#### **Technical Committee**

M. Nesin reported that the committee meeting was held Wednesday, March 13, 2022. He stated that Plant is running well and the site looked good. He reported that there are minor vibration problems, which the engineering firm Wright Pierce is looking into. The Perna Lane and the Animal Shelter projects was discussed as well.

#### **Workforce Development Committee**

S. Bagwin reported that there was a committee meeting held Wednesday, March13, 2022. He stated that the full committee was in attendance. Position vacancies, staffing changes, conditions of the City facilities building at 6A was discussed. R. Bull had reported more detailed information in her Admin / Budget report; no further discussion needed.

#### **Executive Director's Top Ten**

B. Brink briefly went over his monthly report; the report will be made a part of these minutes.

#### Old Business:

No old business for discussion.

#### **New Business:**

R. Bull reported the issues and problems WPCA is having with the DayForce system. She stated that the system has been a problem since the onset but lately, the problems have been even more pronounced. She went on to say that one employee's check hasn't been correct since December and that the mistake is not with the editor but with the system. She explained that when information is put into the system somehow it's not captured by the system on the back end or other editors make changes on their end which affects WPCA entries. She said that some employees have been affected by the glitches and that there could be more with the employees that don't check their stubs regularly. She stated one main issue is that the employees were supposed to be able to check their accrual balances and they're still unable to do so. S. Dennies stated that a meeting should be held with the appropriate parties to work out the issues, because otherwise when the rest of the City gets onboard, it's going to be a disaster.

At 7:35pm, S. Dennies made a motion to adjourn the April meeting; seconded by E. Kelly. There was no further discussion. **Vote: 8-0-0.** 

### Stamford WPCA Top Issues (4/13/22)

No.	Issue Actio	n Description	Impact	Status	Schedule
1	COVID-19 Outbreak	Take action to reduce impact on SWPCA Operations and Finances	Operations and Financial	No positive COVID cases since last Board meeting. All have returned to work. 93% of staff is fully vaccinated.	Unvaccinated staff no longer required to be tested weekly by City contractor.
2	Primary sludge pumping and degritting equipment is aged and in need of replacement. Equipment in primary clarifier No. 1 is severely corroded and needs to be replaced.	Upgrade the primary sludge pumping and degritting system with new equipment to improve primary sludge pumping and grit removal.  Replace the equipment in Primary Clarifier No. 1	Increase system reliability and improve grit removal to protect downstream equipment.	Received only two bids on March 17 <sup>th</sup> , both approx. \$10 million. Bids were much higher than capital budget of \$5.6 million or Engineer's estimate of \$6.4 million.	Will "value engineer" design to reduce construction costs without sacrificing quality and rebid project. Plan to start construction by fall 2022.
3	UV System Performance and Permit Exceedances	Upgrade UV System adding 2 new UV channels for system redundancy during peak flow and replacing aged Wedeco UV equipment with Trojan.	Regulatory and Operations	No UV dose exceedances since last Board meeting.	New UV system is substantially complete. Only a few items on punch list remain.
4	Extreme wet weather - high flow discharge and permit exceedance on 5/1/14. Record rainfall on 7/9/21 and 9/1/21 caused plant flows that approached or exceeded plant capacity.	Perform an Infiltration and Inflow (I/I) Study to identify and remove extraneous flows caused by rainfall and high groundwater	Regulatory and Operations	Have completed rehabilitation of sewers in Pilot and Phase I sub areas. Have completed sewer system evaluation surveys (SSES) in Phase II subareas.	Phase II sewer subareas next on priority list have been selected for rehabilitated in FY 21-22 with CDM-Smith to provide design. Will re-examine past smoke and dye test results to determine that all inflow sources have been removed.

5	BOR Resolution No. 4113 calls for planning for upgrading City drainage infrastructure and the WWTF to cope with extreme weather events.	Coordinate with City Engineering to evaluate impact of extreme weather events on the Hurricane Barrier and three (3) pump stations. Evaluate impact on SWPCA's pump stations and WWTF	Regulatory and Operations	Presented work completed and proposed short and long term measures to address high wastewater flows from extreme weather events to BOR Operations Committee on March 3 <sup>rd</sup> .	Will coordinate with Matt Quinonese, Director of Operations and City Engineering to develop a short and long term action plan for SWPCA.
6	Personnel Safety	Comply with requirements for arc flash protection.	Operations	Siemens has completed electrical preventive maintenance (EPM) on the electrical switchgear at the treatment plant.	Data collected by Siemens from the EPM will be used by Tighe & Bond to complete the arc flash analyses and MCC panel labeling.
7	Sludge dryer before explosion was operating close to its capacity and there are limited options for disposal of sludge cake due to incinerators operating at their capacity and landfills that are closing, or won't accept sludge cake.	SWPCA needs to evaluate its future options for sludge processing and disposal and develop a long term Sludge Management Plan.	Operations	Met with Hazen on March 10 <sup>th</sup> to further discuss the ranking of the seven (7) short listed alternatives.	Hazen to refine the life cycle costing and selection criteria for the most viable alternatives. Plan is to visit treatment plants having sludge processing facilities similar to those being evaluated.
8	WPCF evaluations and improvements	Study, design, and construct WPCF improvements to replace aged equipment and increase operations and energy efficiency.	Regulatory and Operations	The Raw Sewage Pump Station, Secondary Treatment and UV Disinfection Improvements are substantially complete with all equipment now in service.	Vibration testing of the raw sewage pumps identified that the pumps' shafts have experienced excessive vibration at various pump speeds. Steel beams will be added to stiffen the structural steel columns supporting the pump shafts.
9	Providing sanitary sewers to Perna Lane Area	Evaluate cost effective options for providing sanitary sewers to the Perna Lane Area.	Operations	W Brink and A Brown will attended BOR Operations Committee meeting on March 21 <sup>st</sup> to answer questions on the project raised by committee members.	Project is currently on hold pending receipt of petition signed by 2/3 of property owners in favor of the sewer project.

10	Facilities Building 6A which houses	Evaluate options for relocating	Operations	City Facilities has retained Fuss &	Building 6A was inspected and tested on
	SWPCA Collection System,	staff that currently work in		O'Neil Consulting Engineers to	4/13/22. Will await test results to
	Electricians and Regulatory	Building 6A		investigate and test the Facilities	determine near term housing plan for staff
	Compliance staff is deteriorated			Buildings, including Building 6A,	located in Building 6A. Will issue a RFQ for
	and has a leaking roof that cannot			for mold and other contaminants	an architect to develop a conceptual design
	be fixed.			that could adversely affect the	for a new building to house SWPCA staff
				health of building occupants.	displaced from Building 6A plus provide
					needed vehicle and equipment storage.

# Prepared for WPCA Full Board Meeting April 18, 2022

Prepared by Brian Teitelbaum representing the Community

### Background

- Homes located on High Ridge and off streets
- Between the Parkway and Nature Center
- Unusually small lots for North Stamford
- Lot sizes are similar to those in the Cove
- These homes use Septic Systems not sewers
- Would not be allowed to build on by today's standards
- Most properties have original septic's which are old, undersized and antiquated
- Many of these homes border the Rippowam River

## which drains into Long island Sound through Stamford's West Branch

### **Project History**

- Project first proposed and early 2000s
- Northeast School Septic Failure
- High rate of failing septic systems in Perna Area
- City attempts to solve problem by proposing sewers
- North Stamford Association Fights sewers and succeeds
- No sewers for Perna area homes
- Dedicated Force Main installed for Northeast School
- Sewer Avoidance Area created by referendum
  - Does not prohibit Perna area

### **Project History**

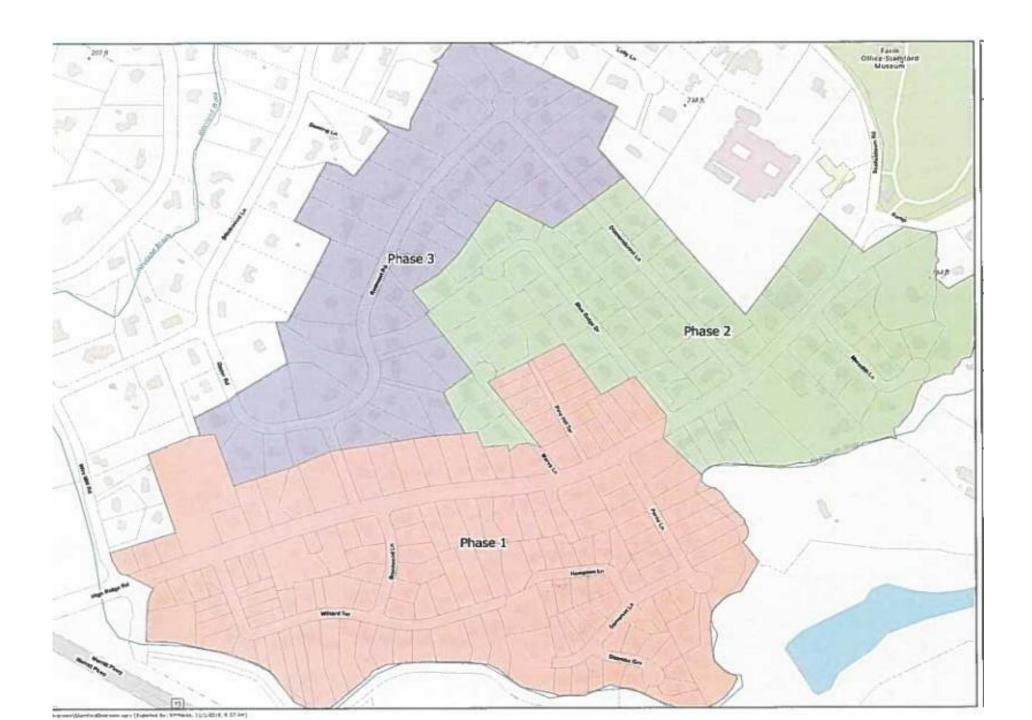
- Project to expand sewers was initiated
- Project broken down into 3 phases
- Phase 1 has the smallest lots and thus the most problems
- Many lot sizes are ¼ Acre and smaller
- Phase 1 would be completed first and then 2 and 3 to follow

### Why is there a need for this project?

- In a properly functioning septic the wastewater remains in the subsurface and is broken down by bacteria
- In a failed system the waste water pools on top of the ground and travels due to rainwater and gravity
- Many septics are failing
- What Happens when a septic fails?
- How does this impact the environment?
- Fecal coliform bacteria in Rippowam River
- Many homes in this are on well water and many have questioned if the contamination has encroached the water

### table

• This has become a public health issue



### Lot Size Comparison

Perna Area The Cove



### Lot Size Comparison

Perna Area

**Gary Rd (North Stamfod)** 



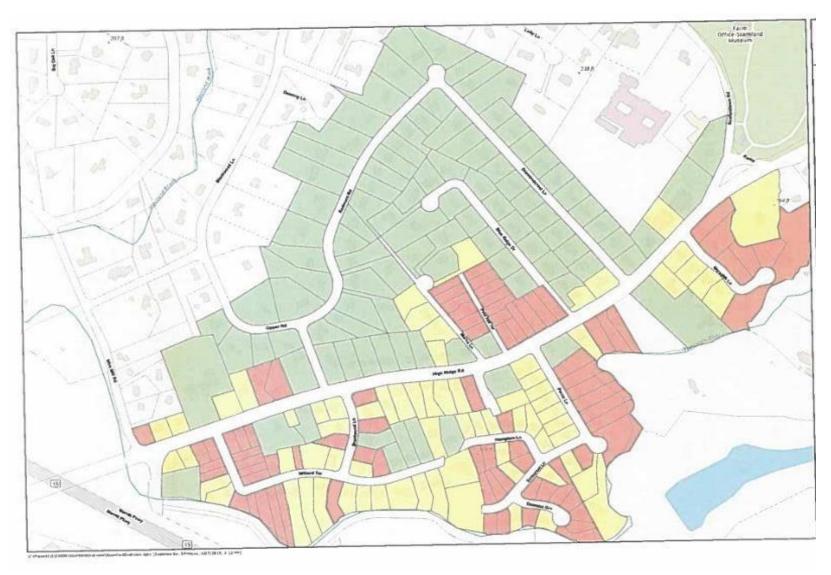
### Why is there a need for this project?

- Homeowners are faced with huge problems and no solutions
- Not enough property to build a replacement septic per today's codes and standards
- Once this happens there is no way to fix the leach field
- Typically when a system fails, the old system will be abandoned, and a new system is build in another location on property

### Why is there a need for this project?

- Often there's no room or suitable area for a new system
- The old system and bad soils need to all be removed (very expensive) in order to make space for a new system
- A engineering study commissioned by the WPCA in 2019 found that in Phase 1, at least 40% of the homes replace their septics due to extremely small lot sizes

### Septic Replacement Feasibility Study



### Why is there a need for this project?

- The study also found that another 40% of Phase 1 homes could replace their septics but it would require complicated engineering and advanced materials
- This would cause the price of a new septic to be shockingly expensive
- What are homeowners to do when faced with these costs?
- Many homes have had no choice but to leave

### there systems in a state of failure

### **Project Beginning**

- Perna Sewer project began being designed and funded prior to 2010
- WPCA spent 250,000 on conception, feasibility and system design
- As of 2019 phase 1 of the project was fully funded (7 Million)

### Project went to bid in 2019

- Project put out to bid but resulted in only 1 Bidder
- The bid was for an amount twice what the project had been estimated for
- Why was the bid so high?
- The WPCA directed the engineers to design a system with only one pumping station despite the fact the engineers called for additional pumping stations
- Having only 1 pumping station meant that the sewer main on High Ridge Rd would have to be extremely deep (25 Feet deep)

- At the time the project went out to bid, the city did not seek permission from the State to re-route some traffic from High Ridge during work hours
- What Impact did this have on potential bidders?
- None of the Contractors that usually bids on sewer jobs placed a bid
- The job was professionally estimated to be 7 Million
- The one bid was for 14 Million
- Stamford pays about \$100 per Foot for sewer jobs
- The one bidder specked a price of \$700 per Foot
- Was the true cost of this job really 14 Million?

Or was this a case of a ridiculously high bid?

- The WPCA waited a few months and then put the project back out to bid
- Again, approval from State not granted to re-direct High Ridge traffic
- Again, same loan bidder. Same amount (14M)
- Why was this not appealing to other Contractors?
  - Too deep
  - Re-directing High ridge traffic not granted

### What Happened Next?

- Residents asked WPCA to look at other options like adding an additional pump station for example
- The WPCA voted and commissioned the engineering firm Tighe & Bond to do a study and evaluate both the feasibility of residents to replace their septics, and evaluate other alternative ways to design the system

### What did the Study Find?

- Study found that almost half of homes in phase 1 cannot replace septic
- Study identified 4 alternative designs
- One of those designs added two small pump stations which changed that High Ridge Sewer pipe depth to 10 Feet deep as oppose to the prior 25 Feet
- The cost estimation of this updated design was not much higher than the original
- Within the 4 alternatives were also less expensive

### options

### A public meeting was held

- At this public meeting support for sewers was overwhelming
- Many people preferred a gravity system over one of the alternatives options in which every single home would need a pump
- We were told at the meeting that in the upcoming weeks the WPCA would select the best option, and move forward with design completion and bidding

### Things began to get murky

- The day following the public meeting, then District 20 Reps Susan Nabel and Denis Mahoney went to meet in person with Bill Brink and WPCA Staff
- The Reps wanted the WPCA to send out a survey to all residents to gather information about their septic systems and to ask if they were in favor or oppose to the sewers

- Why was the survey being proposed?
- This project was overwhelming supported by residents
- We were years past the conception and feasibility phase of this project
- To date, a survey has <u>Never</u> been issued to weigh support or opposition for a sewer expansion project
- Who really answers surveys these days?

 Despite community members pleading at the following board meeting not to send survey.....the survey was sent out



### SURVEY FOR PROPERTY OWNERS AT WILLARD TERRACE, BRENTWOOD LANE, HAMPTON LANE, DZAMBA GROVE, SOMERSET LANE, PERNA LANE, MEREDITH LANE,

### PERNA LANE AREA SANITARY FEWER PROJECT- PHASES 1.2 AND 3

Regarding the extenñon of sanity' sew era to serx e Peru.s Lane Area Stamford. CT. please fd1 in the age of Stour septic s\mem and cbeck the boxes belcnx that are appropriate to >•our

My (our) septic system isyears old.
$egin{array}{l} I$ (we) believe our septic system is adequate for the foreseeable future.
$egin{array}{cccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccc$
I (we) currently have problems with our septic system.
I (we) have had to repair our septic system in the past.
$\square$ I (we) believe we <u>need</u> sanitary sewers on our street to serve our property.
I (we) <u>favor</u> extending sewers to our street to serve our property.
I (we) oppose extending sewers to our street to serve our property.

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Address:	Stamford CT 06903
Date:	
Signature of Props Outer(s).	_

# The Survey

- A long letter was sent with the survey that listed all the costs
- Few surveys were sent back
- The WPCA sent a second survey out a few months later
- Most of those that returned surveys were in favor
- The WPCA counted the non-returned surveys as opposition and thus deemed that the majority of residents do not want sewers

### **Project Canceled**

- The chair of the Technical Committee unilaterally decided that the project would not move forward
- Residents were outraged and voiced their concerns at the next Technical Committee meeting
- At this meeting the Technical committee voted and unanimously passed to move forward with the project if the community residents organized a petition and gathered 2/3 support
- At the next full board meeting, a resolution was voted and unanimously passed that if 2/3 of phase 1 residents specifically agreed, that they would proceed but other Phases put on hold

## What happened to the money?

- In April of 2019 this project (C22046) was fully funded with 7 Million in Capital
- According to Director Bill Brink, the money for this project has been re-purposed
  - Where did the money go?
  - Was this approved by the planning board?
  - Board of Finance?
  - Board of Representatives?

## Community members begin petition

- Going door to door was significantly challenging due to the pandemic and as a result took two years
- What did the residents have to say?
  - Not happy that the project was delayed
  - Many did not return survey because it was confusing
  - Many did not return survey because they are having septic problems and did not feel comfortable disclosing that they have issues
  - Many were unaware that septics fail and that there are major problems with trying to replace a system on a tiny lot

#### The Petition

- While going door to door, we gave residents a copy of the same letter that the WPCA mailed out with the original survey
- Residents that were in favor were asked to complete the WPCA survey
- At this point, with 100 Phase 1 homes in favor of sewers, we submitted the results to WPCA Supervising Engineer Ann Brown

### Myths about the need for this project

- "Its to expensive "
  - Estimate for the revised Phase 1 design is for 7.8 M
  - By Charter homeowners share 40% of the costs
  - Road paving and storm drain improvements are not assessed
  - Estimated cost to homeowner is \$11,000 for a 2 bathroom home
  - This costs is spread out over 15 years
  - The last sewer expansion project was Carriage Drive in 2014
  - The average assessment for Carriage Dr homes was

#### \$14,230

- "Most people don't want it"
  - Where did you get this from??
  - -2/3 of phase 1 want it
  - 100 of the 145 Homes are in favor
  - 22 are oppose
  - 23 Never replied

- "It's an engineering nightmare"
- "There are two water mains running bellow High Ridge"
  - All streets in phase 1were examined 2013 for the existence of ledge in the proposed excavation areas
  - According to the report submitted by Haley & Aldrich, bed rock is not a substantial issue at the newly proposed sewer pipe depth
  - There are alternatives like having a "Bore cut" as opposed to convectional digging

- "The current WPCA customers shouldn't have to pay for it"
  - The cost share concept is not a new
  - In every single past sewer expansion project, revenue from all WPCA customers went towards debt service of new capital projects

- "The people with septic problems should fix their own problem by using less water, installing re-circulation showers, re-using grey water or buying there neighbors home....knocking it down and using that property to install your new septic"
  - When a system is in a state of failure in cant be repaired
  - Most homes are families with 2 working parents....working class families don't have the luxury to modify and spread out when they do laundry, bath their children and clean up dishes
  - Grey water systems and re-circulating showers are illegal in the State of CT

— Who can afford to spend \$500-700 Hundred Thousand dollars to buy their neighbor's home, knock it down and install a septic??

#### In Conclusion

- This is a Public Health Issue
- Isn't the (WPCA) Water Pollution and Control Authority charged with protecting the Environment?
- We have a problem, we had a solution, you failed to implement it
- Stop trying to undo what the previous board did
- We need to remove the politics and focus on what

#### is right for this community and the environment

#### How we would like to move forward

- We would like to have a committee formed that includes district 20 Reps, two members from the community and the appropriate WPCA members and staff
- We would like the scope and purpose of this committee to be for community representation in deciding how this projects moves forward
- This will help to move the project forward
- Community input will also help build back the lost

#### trust

#### Questions we want Answered

- Why did you proceed with only 1 pump station?
- Why did you put the project back out to bid without redesign?
- Where are the water quality records?
- Have any innovative solutions been looked at?

#### Questions

- Where did the 7 Million Dollars go that wasbonded for this project?
  - Did this re-allocation go in front of the planning board, board of finance of representatives?
  - When was it approved ?
  - Where are the meeting minutes that show this?