**Town of Franklin**

**Office of the First Selectman**

**Franklin Town Hall**

**7 Meetinghouse Hill Road**

**Franklin, Connecticut 06254**

TELEPHONE: (860) 642-6055 EXT: 16 FAX: 860-642-6606

EMAIL: franklin@99main.com WEBSITE: [www.franklinct.com](http://www.franklinct.com)

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**MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF THE**

**FRANKLIN WATER POLLUTION CONTROL AUTHORITY**

**Held at the Franklin Town Hall at 6:45 p.m.**

**Wednesday, the 13th day of November 2019**

**CALL TO ORDER**: First Selectman Charles Grant called the meeting to order at 6:48 p.m.

**PRESENT**: Selectman Russell Beisiegel and Selectman Thomas Craney

**RECOGNITION OF VISITORS**: Jim Erickson from Lenard Engineering and Philip Cote

**CORRESPONDENCE:** None

**ADDITIONS TO THE AGENDA:** None

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES:**

1. Minutes of the October 30, 2019 Meeting

**MOTION #1:**  Selectman Thomas Craney made a motion to approve the meeting minutes of October 30, 2019 as presented. Selectman Russell Beisiegel seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.

**OLD BUSINESS**:

1. **Update on Water and Sewer Project:** First Selectman Charles Grant gave an update on the water and sewer project. He reported that he thought the milling and paving was going to start this week on Route 32 but it hasn’t. He said that he will get an update next week at the weekly progress meeting for the water and sewer project. Mr. Erickson said that Baltazar should be removing the temporary patch and laying down the nine inches of pavement on the trench starting on Thursday or Friday for the winter. The paving portion will probably start next week. The work will continue north on Route 32 as weather permits and partial days if necessary.

First Selectman Charlie Grant said that he recently had a telephone call regarding blasting permits for the water and sewer project. He said that there was nothing in the contract for the project calling for blasting. Jim Erickson said that Baltazar could be talking about removing rock through mechanical means only. First Selectman Charles Grant said he would reach out to Gary for more information.

Selectman Russell Beisiegel reported that the town of Mansfield is looking for someone to manage its four sewage pumping stations. First Selectman Charles Grant will reach out to Mansfield for more information on how they manage their pumping stations.

1. **Discussion on WPCA Regulations:** Jim Erickson stated that he had discussions with Norwich regarding the sewer capacity agreement only. Mr. Erickson previously gave out copies of the WPCA Regulations currently being used by the town of Manchester to the Franklin WPCA to review. Selectman Russell Beisiegel had some questions and comments on the waste water (sewer) section. He asked if the town of Franklin will have control over residents applying for water and sewer service. Norwich will be the contract operator only; Franklin will own the water and sewer pipes. First Selectman Charles Grant said that a legal agreement will be worked out between Norwich and Franklin with Franklin in charge of the connections.

Mr. Erickson and the WPCA discussed options for Franklin’s WPCA Regulations – Franklin would handle permit applications then turn over to Norwich Public Utilities to handle; provide a set of materials standards, inspections would be required, Norwich would set up meter and open line caps; water quality, testing, flushing and repairs. The homeowner would be responsible for everything on his property down to the curb including connecting the pipe from his property to the main water and/or sewer lines. Residents could be billed a surcharge for water access and possibly for the maintenance of the sewer station pump; residents using private wells will have to be metered. First Selectman Charles Grant noted that the town of Bozrah is mandating that any property owner that wants to tie into the sewer, will have to tie into the water as well. The WPCA discussed potential penalties for problems to the system caused by homeowners or businesses.

Jim Nicholson said that the DEEP grant given to Franklin for the water and sewer project includes the waste water (sewer) connection. The USDA loan covers other expenses for the water and sewer project.

First Selectman Charles Grant stated that the town of Bozrah held a public hearing to discuss what their WPCA Regulations should be. Selectman Russell Beisiegel said that Franklin will need to do its own public hearing like Bozrah. First Selectman Charles Grant said that Franklin isn’t required to do a public hearing because it is set up differently than Bozrah. Franklin has 90 days to submit its WPCA Regulations to Norwich (starting from the date that the memorandum of intent was signed). The due date is the first of January.

Selectman Thomas Craney asked what would happen if Norwich didn’t accept Franklin’s draft WPCA regulations. First Selectman Charles Grant responded that Bozrah didn’t receive any feedback from Norwich after submitting their draft WPCA regulations. Mr. Nicholson then discussed domestic and industrial sanitary sewer regulations and rules required for everyone in the state. The WPCA also discussed the impact of future development outside of the current planned area for the water and sewer project. First Selectman Charles Grant said that he would ask Norwich if they offer any type of financial assistance to homeowners wanting to add a connection from their property to Franklin’s future water and sewer system. Franklin still has several weeks to discuss and revise regulations for the water and sewer project.

**NEW BUSINESS**:

1. **Discussion on Sodom Road:** First Selectman Charles Grant reported that he had a conversation recently with the Sherry family about the water and sewer project. The Sterry’s live in the house on Sodom Lane just opposite Nutmeg International. The Sterry’s and Nutmeg share a common well with Nutmeg having property rights on the well. Nutmeg plans on shutting off the well and connecting to the town water and sewer systems once the project is completed. First Selectman Charles Grant will discuss possible options with the Sterry’s.

Mr. Nicholson and the WPCA discussed the ongoing water and sewer project and the implementation of some stub lines on Sodom Road to connect residences not on the direct path of the future town water and sewer lines. First Selectman Charles Grant asked Jim Nicholson for an estimate on the cost of adding additional stub lines for just the residences on Sodom Road. Mr. Nicholson said that right now the cost of adding additional stub lines would be approximately $80,000 for just water and $280,000 for water and sewer. The cost includes everything excluding rock.

**COMMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC**: None

**ANNOUNCEMENT OF NEXT MEETING**: The next meeting of the Franklin Water Pollution Control Authority will be Wednesday, November 27, 2019. First Selectman Charles Grant noted that November 27 is the day before the Thanksgiving holiday. The WPCA agreed to cancel the next regularly scheduled meeting on November 27. The next meeting of the WPCA will be held on Wednesday, December 11, 2019.

**ADJOURNMENT**:

**MOTION #2:** First Selectman Charles Grant requested a motion to adjourn the meeting. Selectman Thomas Craney made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Selectman Russell Beisiegel seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously. The meeting was adjourned at 8:08 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Lee Ann D’Ambrosio

Administrative Assistant to the First Selectman