

**PUBLIC HEARING OF THE WOODRIDGE LAKE SEWER
DISTRICT SEWER AUTHORITY AND THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE WOODRIDGE
LAKE SEWER DISTRICT SATURDAY JULY 9, 2016, 9:00 A.M.
AT THE WOODRIDGE LAKE PROPERTY OWNERS ASSOCIATION'S CLUBHOUSE 260 EAST
HYERDALE DRIVE, GOSHEN, CT**

CALL TO ORDER: Raymond A. Turri, President of the Board of Directors of the Woodridge Lake Sewer District called the hearing to order at 9:00 A.M.

ATTENDANCE: Board members Raymond Turri, James Mersfelder, James Hiltz, Alfred Shull, and Richard Reis, also attending were Tax Collector/Secretary Laurie Mosley, Ken Green, Charlie Roraback, Edward Goodhouse and Maureen Goodhouse.

President Raymond Turri opened the hearing by asking that everyone introduce themselves and their interest and/or involvement with the WLSA. All attending responded.

Raymond Turri then introduced Jim Mersfelder who presented The Wastewater Treatment System Improvement Project that is proposed to connect to the Torrington Wastewater Treatment Facility (the "Project"). Jim started with the history of the sewer plant. He continued going over the history of events from a timeline of the last five years, including a discussion of the Facilities Plan and other documents- ; all of which can be found on the Authority's web site at (<http://www.wlsa-goshen.org>) on the Community Meeting page.

The Authority has been operating under a restrictive Consent Order issued by the Connecticut Department of Energy and Environmental Protection (DEEP) issued on July 27, 1989. The Authority has been planning for many years to address these issues raised in the Consent Order. The Authority believes this Project resolves these Consent Order issues and will result in protecting the affected watershed. The Authority has been working with its consultants Woodard & Curran, Inc. and David Prickett Consulting, LLC to complete an acceptable plan for managing its wastewater and resolving the Consent Order. The final Facilities Plan was submitted and approved by the DEEP on May 17, 2016. On May 28, 2016, the taxpayers of the Woodridge Lake Sewer District approved an appropriation of \$15,500,000 for the Project. A necessary part of the Project will be the constructing and laying of sewer pipe transmission lines under portions of properties with the addresses 533 Old Middle Street, Goshen, CT 06756 and 37 Brush Hill Road, Goshen, CT 06756. Accordingly, the Authority is seeking to acquire utility easements over portions of these properties.

Nancy Wadhams, the owner of the 533 Old Middle Street property, was notified of the hearing but did not attend since she has already reached an agreement with the Authority for a utility easement over portions of her property.

Maureen Goodhouse, one of the owners of the 37 Brush Hill Road property, and Edward Goodhouse, brother of the other owner, Francis Goodhouse, listened to the presentation by the Authority and brought up their respective concerns. Maureen was upset that they were not properly notified by the Authority of work that was being done by Authority engineers and surveyors on or near their property. Maureen emphasized that this was her home and these changes were very upsetting to her. The Authority has not been able to complete the land surveys of the road, wetland markings nor the planned borings to locate rock ledges. All these items are needed to complete the Authority's plans. Ed asked what the plans are for the plant and disposal fields after the facility was decommissioned and was told that the Authority had considered leasing the property to a local vineyard or perhaps developing a solar field, but no decisions had been made.

Maureen asked what the timeline was for their decision on their utility easement agreement and what was needed from them to move on. Jim Mersfelder responded that the Authority had agreed to a decrease in the

width of the utility easement footage from 66 feet to 20 feet with an additional 10 foot width added during the construction period to address concerns earlier raised by the Goodhouses. To finalize the agreement and to come up with a revised money agreement the Authority would like agreement by the Goodhouse's to: 1) Allow the completion of the boring testing 2) Allow the surveyors to mark the wetland areas and 3) Allow the surveyors to complete the road survey so they can determine exactly how the pipe will be placed in the ground. The Authority's lawyers will determine if they can develop a utility easement agreement without any of these elements being completed. It was noted that the Authority has already submitted an application to the Goshen Inland Wetlands Commission and has not included the Goodhouse property review in its submission. It would be helpful if the Authority could receive the Goodhouse's permission to complete the wetlands and survey work in time to amend the application in advance of the hearing to be held on August 4, 2016. Time is of the essence and it was requested that the Goodhouse's notify the Authority as to their decision regarding these three activities on or before July 16, 2016. If the Authority and the Goodhouse family are unable to agree on a purchase price for the necessary utility easement, the Authority may take action to acquire the utility easement by eminent domain in accordance with the Authority's powers of eminent domain pursuant to Connecticut General Statutes § 7-248.

Maureen Goodhouse stated she would discuss all the information with her husband and lawyer and get back to the Authority as soon as possible. Maureen and Jim exchanged phone numbers and agreed to continue the dialog. Both Maureen and Ed thanked the board for all their hard work with this project and left the hearing.

A MOTION WAS MADE by Raymond Turri, seconded by Richard Reis to close the public hearing at 10:55 A.M.

Meeting of the Authority continued.

After this public hearing, the Authority discussed approving the acquisition by purchase, or if necessary, by eminent domain, of the utility easements over a portion of the properties with addresses of 533 Old Middle Street, Goshen, CT 06756 and 37 Brush Hill Road, Goshen, CT 06756. The Resolution is attached to these minutes.

A MOTION WAS MADE by James Mersfelder, seconded by Alfred Shull to Approve the Resolution. **All in favor, passed. The board then signed the Resolution.**

Charles Roraback suggested that the district mark where the easement would be for the Goodhouses, so they could better understand the actual area. The board agreed with that idea and would contact the Goodhouse's and Dave Prickett.

There was no other business to come before the meeting. Raymond Turri asked for a motion to adjourn. The motion to adjourn was made by Al Shull, seconded by Richard Reis and the meeting adjourned at 11:10 A.M.

Respectfully submitted,

Alfred L. Shull, Clerk

Laurie Mosley, recording Clerk

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