

## **DERBY BOARD OF ALDERMEN PUBLIC HEARING**

**DERBY CITY HALL – October 1, 2009 – 7:00 P.M.**

### **MINUTES**

Board of Aldermen President Ken Hughes called the public hearing to order at 7:01 p.m. All rose and pledged allegiance to the flag.

#### **Pledge of Allegiance**

All rose and pledged allegiance.

#### **Roll Call**

**Present:** Anthony Szewczyk, Sam Pollastro, Beverly Moran, James Benanto, David Lenart, Joseph Bomba, Ken Hughes, President, Ronald Sill and Scott Boulton.

**Also Present:** Corporation Counsel - Joseph Coppola.

#### **Public Portion**

No one from the public spoke. Public Portion closed.

#### **WPCA - Article XIV - Sec. 7-63. Composition. Discussion.**

**MOTION** to open up public hearing on the WPCA - Article XIV - Sec. 7-63. Composition. Discussion by Mr. Bomba, second by Ms. Moran, all in favor, **motion carries**.

Leo DiSorbo - 7 Benanto Drive, WPCA Chairman. He would like to see the board to see this as a separate authority and he thanked the Board of Apportionment & Taxation Chair for joining him tonight in this effort. Among the Tax Board members, by pretty much a unanimous vote was in favor of splitting the tax board and the WPCA. The biggest concern for him is continuity. The plan is to set long term goals. The tax board changes every two years and this year may lose five or six members. It makes it difficult to operate. Mr. King has said it works better as a separate authority, there have been long meeting nights, on the same nights and it has been unfair to the public during budget season. It is difficult to schedule different WPCA meetings. He has talked with the Commissioner of Public Works and he feels the Superintendent should be reporting to a separate WPCA Authority.

Carolyn Duhaime - 25 Elm Street. Chairwoman, Board of Apportionment & Taxation and member of the Water Pollution Control Authority. Ms. Duhaime read the following into the record:

*"Pursuant to the Derby City Code, Article XIV Sections 7-61 and 7-63, (Adopted December 17, 1986 and amended in its entirety July 24, 2003), currently, the individuals who are elected to the Board of Apportionment and Taxation also serve on the Water Pollution Control Authority with **concurrent** terms). Many candidates don't realize when they run for ONE elected position on the Board of Apportionment and Taxation; they're going to end up doing two positions (tax board and WPCA).*

*CT General Statutes Chapter 103 Municipal Sewerage Systems, Section 7-246 subsection (a) states "Any municipality may, by ordinance designate its legislative body, except where the legislative body is the town meeting or any existing board or commission, or create a new board or commission to be designated, as the Water Pollution Control Authority for such municipality.*

The Board of Apportionment and Taxation devotes extensive time to the City budget process and the addition of the concurrent WPCA annual budget process (including public hearings) are formidable challenges for the members as both entities share the same fiscal year deadlines. I am refraining from any sewage component references because this is a serious matter.

I don't mind serving on the WPCA in addition to the tax board, as I have the time to devote to both entities and I recommend **some** representation, **not all** representation from the Board of Apportionment and Taxation (regarding possible bonding issues, annual water pollution control authority draft budget preparation, respective public hearing, an adoption of final water pollution control authority budget) be included in the creation of a new board or commission to be designated as the water pollution control authority.

Lindsay King - 150 Pine Ave, Milford. Superintendent WPCA. He agreed with the points made. The plant is a complex system. He feels the tax board is not equipped to handle the issues of the plant and the turnover presents problems. He has dealt with two different boards before as a separate authority and as the tax board and he recommends a separate authority.

**MOTION** to close the public hearing by Mr. Lenart, second by Mr. Szewczyk, all in favor, **motion carries.**

Mr. Sill said the old ordinance stated the Authority shall utilize the City Clerk to supervise the clerical staff of the authority. Now it says the authority shall maintain proper accounting and financial records. Where would they be maintained? The authority shall make written bi-annual reports. Mr. King said it was done separately. That was one of the points lost when the tax board was created as the authority. The authority never went before the tax board before.

Mr. Szewczyk said many people left because they did not know they were also to serve on the water authority. There are members on the tax board who don't have the enthusiasm to serve on the water authority.

Meanwhile, there are a lot of people in town who would love to serve on the water authority who are not on the tax board. This makes a lot more sense.

Mr. Hughes said this will be voted on the next Board of Aldermen meeting.

**Emergency Response Committee - Article XXIV - Sec. 7-121 Creation of Duties, Sec. 7-122 Committee Members and Sec. 7-123 Chairman. Discussion.**

Mr. Hughes read the creation of duties into the record: *An Emergency Response Committee is hereby created in order to gain study and recommend procedures regarding response by the various agencies of the City to major disasters. The committee shall recommend the role of each agency involved and their primary activities due to a disaster response. The committee shall provide assistance for grant funding, training and projects in order to establish said procedures for emergency disaster response. The committee shall act and coordinate such programs as Griffin Hospital, Red Cross and the Valley Health Department.*

**MOTION** to open up public portion by Mr. Sill, second by Mr. Bomba, all in favor, **motion carries.** No one from the public spoke. **MOTION** to close the public portion by Mr. Sill, second by Mr. Pollastro, all in favor, **motion carries.**

Ms. Moran asked if this was all volunteer....Mr. Hughes indicated the Chairman shall serve without compensation. Each agency will appoint a member.

**Adjournment**

**MOTION** to adjourn by Mr. Benanto, second by Mr. Boulton, all in favor, **motion carries** at 7:12 p.m.

*Respectfully Submitted,*

*Denise Cesaroni  
Recording Secretary*

**\*\*\*\*These minutes are subject to approval by the Board of Aldermen at their next meeting.**