

**Town of Montville Town Council
Public Hearing Minutes for August 10, 2009
Ordinance Regarding Sewer Use
6:30 PM – Town Council Chambers
Town Hall**

Chairwoman Buebendorf called the Public Hearing to order at 6:30 PM.

Remarks from the Public

Attorney Ronald F. Ochsner, legal counsel for the WPCA, addressed the Council stating the proposed Sewer Use Ordinance is a complete replacement of existing sewer regulations of the Town, as it addresses sewer connections, uses and related services charges and penalties. He referred to the WPCA's authority under Chapter 103 of the CGS and Town Charter for operating the Sewer Department by implementing and enforcing the regulations of the state and town. He referred to the document entitled "WPCA Sewer Rules and Regulations" recently adopted by the WPCA and to become effective September 1, 2009; and he also referred to the CT DEP regulations and oversight. He outlined stages and methods of enforcement. He also answered questions from the Council.

Councilor Geary asked to clarify the basis for the \$250 fine this ordinance mentions. Attorney Ochsner replied this amount is by state statute the maximum fine that may be imposed for the violation of a town ordinance.

Councilor Jones expressed a concern about the short turnaround time of the citation process and the potential health risk if the property owner cannot meet the timeframe of the ordinance. She inquired if there had been any previous citations issued and what impact such had on the system and the environment. Mr. Mike Didato, WPCA Superintendent, explained that there have been a couple of citations issued in the past, but that either they were situations handled by the Connecticut Department of Environmental Protection (DEP), or handled by the WPCA and the property owner with a positive outcome. Mr. Brian Lynch, WPCA Administrator, explained that this proposed ordinance will protect the Town primarily in case of industrial waste, and that the WPCA is willing, and has always been in a position, to work with private property owners should a situation arise. Attorney Ochsner explained that this proposed ordinance is in line with State DEP language.

Chairwoman Buebendorf called the Public Hearing to an end at 6:54 PM.

Respectfully Submitted by:

Sandra Anderson, Minutes Clerk