

Minutes of the April 25, 2014 Meeting
Warwick City Council Sewer Review Commission

THE FOLLOWING IS A BRIEF SUMMARY OF DISCUSSIONS. FOR COMPLETE MEETING AUDIO MINUTES GO TO:

http://www.warwickri.gov/index.php?option=com_content&view=article&catid=196:sewer-review-commission&id=1264:sewer-review-commission

Meeting was called to order by Councilman Ed Ladouceur, Chairman at approximately 10:10 AM in the conference room at the Warwick Sewer Authority.

The Chair stated that Mr. Bill Russo has been appointed by Mayor Avedisian to represent his office on the Sewer Review Commission.

Commission members present:

Councilman Ed Ladouceur, Chairman

James Boyd, RI Coastal Resources Management Council

Michelle Komar, Chairman's Citizen Appointment

Angelo Liberti, RI Department of Environmental Management

Topher Hamblett, Save The Bay

Steve Sylven, Warwick Sewer Authority Board

William Russo, Advisor to Committee/Designee of the Mayor's Office

Members not present: Councilman Joe Gallucci, Vice Chairman, Mark Carruolo, Mayor's Chief of Staff, Peter Ginaitt, Warwick Sewer Authority Board, David Picozzi, City of Warwick Department of Public Works Director, Doug Harris, Narragansett Indian Tribe, Senator William Walaska, District 30, Ernie Zmyslinski, City of Warwick Finance Director, Aaron Guckian, Warwick Sewer Authority Board, Representative Frank Ferri, District 22

Also present: Janine Burke, WSA Executive Director

10 Minute Open Microphone Session

Roger Durand: Commented that there seemed to be a double standard with respect to public comment at Commission meetings versus City Council meetings. He said that the new City Council Auditor participating in the last Commission meeting was inappropriate. He commented on the WSA's budget hearing and the rate increases and said that 10% of WSA revenues were going to repay the general fund but not the phosphorus project. He said Ms. Burke's credibility was an issue. He asked Mr. Russo to answer the question "Where did the money go?" and made some additional comments.

Don Fife: Suggested that Mr. Durand be put on the Commission. He said people cannot afford new sewers. He commented that the Bay has been closed for 3 weeks due to rain, not cesspools.

Public Comment ended at 10:18 AM.

April 23rd Minutes

Ms. Komar provided comments to the minutes and the amendments were accepted.

Action: Motion to approve the April 23rd minutes, as amended
Moved by: Steve Sylven
Seconded by: Michelle Komar
Motion passes (unanimous)

Discussion in Regards to Enabling Legislation

Continued discussion on the draft amendments to the enabling legislation included numerous minor typographical edits as well as a lengthy discussion about adding a definition of “underdeveloped”. Next steps were reviewed. Ms. Burke was to update the proposed amendments to the WSA Enabling Legislation with the changes discussed at the meeting and make a summary of the proposed amendments for the City Council meeting. The Chair said that he would substitute this version of the proposed amendments to the WSA Enabling Legislation to replace that which went to the City Council for the April meeting. The Chair said that the City Council would vote on the proposed amendments at the May 12 meeting and he asked all Commission members to be present at 7:15 - 7:30 PM.

The next Commission meeting was scheduled for May 8th at 8 AM at the offices of the Warwick Sewer Authority.

Councilman Ladouceur adjourned the meeting at approximately 12 PM.