



TOWN OF VERNON WATER POLLUTION CONTROL AUTHORITY

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OFFICE OF THE
WATER POLLUTION
CONTROL AUTHORITY

MINUTES WATER POLLUTION CONTROL AUTHORITY CONFERENCE CALL MEETING

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March 25, 2021

Attendees:

Ken Boynton, Gordon Gibson, Kevin Kearney, Andrew Tedford and Ray Weaver. Also present: Robert I. Grasis, Director, Water Pollution Control; Steve Boske, Assistant Director, Water Pollution Control; Heatheryn Leduke, Financial Analyst; Lori Carriero and Mike Becker, Tighe & Bond; Nick Keenan and Mike Sanders, Klienfelder

CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Tedford at 7:32 p.m.

PUBLIC COMMENT

None.

MINUTES OF THE WPCA VIRTUAL CONFERENCE CALL MEETING HELD ON FEBRUARY 25, 2021 AND SPECIAL MEETING HELD ON MARCH 3, 2021

Mr. Tedford, seconded by Mr. Gibson made a motion that the Water Pollution Control Authority accepts the minutes of the February 25, 2021 Virtual Conference Call Meeting as presented. The motion passed unanimously (5-0-0). Mr. Kearney, seconded by Mr. Weaver made a motion that the Water Pollution Control Authority accepts the minutes of the March 3, 2021 Special Virtual Conference Call Meeting as presented. The motion passed unanimously (5-0-0).

UPDATE ON TREATMENT FACILITY UPGRADE

Mr. Becker updated the Authority and reviewed work that was done on the aeration tanks, secondary clarifier #4, filter building, and solids building during the past month. He reported that: the former chlorine contact tanks are now the UV tanks; the majority of the concrete reconfiguration on the north side has been completed; and the administration building roof is approximately 95% complete. Next month the upgrade will include work on: aeration piping and equipment for aeration tank #5; secondary clarifiers #3 and #4; return activated sludge pump replacement; filter building; UV tanks; solids building; and the new generator. Mr. Becker said that Methuen anticipates an April 12th startup date for phosphorus; substantial completion and final completion deadlines are running approximately 60 days behind schedule; and draft payment application #20 brings Methuen to 44.5% complete of the contract value. Discussion took place relative to the phosphorus removal deadline, which will not be met by April 1st. A request to DEEP has been made to extend the deadline Mr. Grasis said.

UPDATE AND DISCUSSION OF THE SANITARY SEWER EVALUATION SURVEY

Mr. Sanders presented a memorandum relative to the Town of Vernon Sewer Collection System Model Improvements and answered questions from the Authority. The memorandum included information on Pump Station Flow Testing and Wet Weather Field Validation. Mr. Sanders commended Collection Foreman Dj Lupacchino and Collection personnel for their assistance. Mr. Gordon asked about the copyright of the memorandum. Mr. Sanders said there are no restrictions regarding this document because it was produced for the Authority. Discussion took place. Mr. Sanders said the analysis showed that not a lot of water infiltrates the sewer system.

UPDATE AND DISCUSSION OF EXITS 66 & 67 SEWER AREA

Mr. Grasis provided an update on this item. Ms. Carriero reviewed maps that were provided to the Authority. Discussion took place regarding sewer assessments. Mr. Tedford asked to have this item on the agenda each month.

PLANT SUMMARY

Mr. Boske said that the plant is running normally. He said that February was a good month regarding suspended solids removal, and nitrogen removal; and less kilowatt hours were used compared to last year at this time. Mr. Grasis reported that training was conducted on the disc filters and the treatment facility is one of 34 that has been selected by DEEP for the statewide PFAs initiative. The Authority agreed with Mr. Grasis' request to have 3,400 gallons of diesel fuel from the old North Generator donated to the Department of Public Works. Discussion took place relative to the amount of fuel to be added to the new generator and how to preserve it. Mr. Grasis said that Financial Analyst, Heatheryn Leduke, has passed her six-month probationary period.

BUSINESS OFFICE REPORT

Ms. Leduke presented information regarding Sewer Use Fund Historical Data, specifically Revenue vs. Expenses, and Unrestricted Net Position vs. Net Investment Capital Assets. She reported that the Town of Ellington was notified that 123 accounts were added and 15 adjustments were made; the April bills are at the printer and should be mailed by March 29th; there was an overall increase in water consumption that could be attributed to the drought and more people being at home during the pandemic; the data verification audit is on hold but will resume after the billing period; and work is progressing with an online payments vendor. Discussion took place relative to the enterprise fund and the three month reserve set aside for emergencies. Mr. Grasis reported that the budget amount for pension liability as provided by Finance for FY 2021-2022, was reduced by \$122,748.

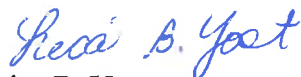
ANY ADDITIONAL MATTERS

Mr. Gibson said that he will be unable to attend next month's meeting. Mr. Weaver encouraged the Authority members to take a tour of the treatment facility.

ADJOURN

Mr. Tedford, seconded by Mr. Gibson, made a motion to adjourn. The motion passed unanimously (5-0-0) and the meeting was adjourned at 8:51 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,



Lisa B. Yost

Secretary, Water Pollution Control