



OFFICE OF THE  
WATER POLLUTION  
CONTROL AUTHORITY

# TOWN OF VERNON WATER POLLUTION CONTROL AUTHORITY

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APPROVED

## MINUTES WATER POLLUTION CONTROL AUTHORITY CONFERENCE CALL MEETING

February 25, 2021

7:30 p.m.

### 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; Mike Becker, Tighe & Bond; Tim Webb, Ellington WPCA; Fred Maloon, representative for 29 Pearl Drive

### CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Tedford at 7:31 p.m.

### PUBLIC COMMENT

The Chairman made a motion to move Agenda Item #6 to Agenda Item #3. The motion was seconded by Mr. Weaver and passed unanimously (5-0-0).

Fred Maloon, real estate agent/representative for 29 Pearl Drive: said that the septic system needs to be replaced and he would like authorization to do so or have money escrowed if sewers will become available. There is a buyer for the property, however, it may be foreclosed on if it is not sold before the end of March. Mr. Grasis explained that it would be considered a non-compliant repair and the North Central District Health Department has approved plans for the replacement of the septic system.

### DISCUSSION OF ACCOUNT #6902

Mr. Grasis said that sewers on Pearl Drive will not be installed anytime soon and it is his suggestion to allow the non-compliant repair of the septic system at 29 Pearl Drive. Discussion took place. Mr. Weaver, seconded by Mr. Gibson made a motion to grant a waiver for 29 Pearl Drive to repair their septic system according to the Department of Health regulations. The motion passed unanimously (5-0-0).

### MINUTES OF THE WPCA VIRTUAL CONFERENCE CALL MEETING HELD ON JANUARY 28, 2021

Mr. Tedford, seconded by Mr. Kearney made a motion that the Water Pollution Control Authority accepts the minutes of the January 28, 2021 Virtual Conference Call Meeting as presented/amended. The motion passed (4-0-1) with Mr. Gibson abstaining.

### UPDATE ON TREATMENT FACILITY UPGRADE

Mr. Becker updated the Authority and reviewed the progress of work done during the past month. Work included the installation of secondary clarifier #4 and filter building renovations. Also, work continued on the chlorine contact tank, solids building, main switch gear, south substation and various installations of drainage, electrical and piping items. Mr. Becker reported that approximately 60 workers are onsite and they plan to work on the secondary clarifiers, RAS building, filter building, UV channels, and both the primary

sludge, and solids buildings next month. Also: the schedule is 47% complete as of last week; Methuen has forecast a final completion date of February 10, 2023; change orders amount to approximately 2% of the original contract amount; and payment applications for the period ending February 15<sup>th</sup> shows Methuen being approximately 40% complete. Mr. Grasis added that the phosphorous milestone date of April 1<sup>st</sup> is on schedule, and the UV channels should be completed before the milestone date of May 1<sup>st</sup>. He answered questions from the Authority.

#### DISCUSSION OF PEARL DRIVE/MAPLE AVENUE ASSESSMENTS

Mr. Grasis referenced a worksheet regarding estimated sewer assessments for Pearl Drive, a draft letter to property owners and a draft survey. He answered questions from the Authority and discussion took place. It was the consensus of the Authority to have Mr. Grasis send out the survey and to notify the Mayor's office. The Authority asked Mr. Grasis to investigate any available grants to offset the cost of the assessments.

#### PLANT SUMMARY

Mr. Boske reported that the plant is running well and the effluent water quality is excellent. He said that there is little variance in the numbers compared to last year at this time. Mr. Weaver commended Mr. Boske and the treatment facility staff. Regarding current activities, Mr. Grasis reported that concerns for the timing of the purchase of the HACH software have been addressed; Lab Analyst Jeff Carlson will retire March 1<sup>st</sup>; the two foreman positions are still open as well as an Operator position; Robert Arthur passed his one year of perfect attendance; collection personnel are cleaning the check valves at the Dart Hill and Talcottville pump stations; and the batteries were replaced in the smart covers at the Eckert's Pond easement. Mr. Grasis updated the Authority regarding equipment at the treatment facility.

#### BUSINESS OFFICE REPORT

Ms. Leduke reported that work continues on the audit in preparation for the new billing cycle. She said that about 130 new accounts were added and approximately 40 adjustments were made.

#### DISCUSSION OF ACCOUNT #4951

Ms. Leduke provided background information on this item and answered questions from the Authority. Discussion took place. Mr. Boynton, seconded by Mr. Weaver made a motion to suspend Account #4951 and to have the office send a notice to the landowner that it has been suspended, and they didn't follow procedure but they will need to follow procedure in the event they ever build on the property again. The motion passed unanimously (5-0-0).

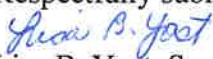
#### ANY ADDITIONAL MATTERS

Mr. Weaver asked about information regarding Ellington pump station data relative to sewer use billing. Mr. Grasis suggested that the data be evaluated after the April 1<sup>st</sup> billing cycle. Mr. Weaver, seconded by Mr. Kearney made a motion to hold a special meeting concerning budgets on March 3<sup>rd</sup> at 6:00 p.m. via Zoom. The motion passed unanimously (5-0-0).

#### ADJOURN

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

Respectfully submitted,

  
Lisa B. Yost, Secretary, Water Pollution Control