



# TOWN OF VERNON WATER POLLUTION CONTROL AUTHORITY

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OFFICE OF THE  
WATER POLLUTION  
CONTROL AUTHORITY

APPROVED

## MINUTES WATER POLLUTION CONTROL AUTHORITY CONFERENCE CALL MEETING

CONFERENCE CALL IN: 253-215-8782    MEETING ID: 513-727-7570    PASSWORD: 0624

June 24, 2021

7:30 p.m.

Attendees:

Ken Boynton, Gordon Gibson, Andrew Tedford and Ray Weaver. Also present: Robert I. Grasis, Director, Water Pollution Control; Steve Boske, Assistant Director, Water Pollution Control; Heathersyn Leduke, Financial Analyst; Mike Becker, Tighe & Bond; Tim Webb, Ellington WPCA and Christopher King, 11 Bolton Road

CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Tedford at 7:34 p.m.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Chairman Tedford asked to move Agenda Item #8 to Agenda Item #4.

MINUTES OF THE WPCA VIRTUAL CONFERENCE CALL MEETING HELD ON MAY 27, 2021

Chairman Tedford, seconded by Mr. Gibson made a motion that the Water Pollution Control Authority accepts the minutes of the May 27, 2021 Virtual Conference Call Regular Meeting as presented. The motion passed unanimously (4-0-0).

11 BOLTON ROAD

Mr. Grasis provided background on this item and answered questions from the Authority. Discussion took place relative to the cost to connect to the sanitary sewer. Mr. Weaver, seconded by Mr. Boynton, made a motion to approve a waiver for 11 Bolton Road to repair the septic, versus connecting to the Town of Vernon sewer system. The motion passed unanimously (4-0-0).

DISCUSSION OF BILL ADJUSTMENTS

Mr. Webb provided historical information regarding deduct meters for irrigation systems relative to the Town of Ellington as well as information regarding sewer use rates from surrounding towns. He said that the Ellington WPCA made a motion at its last meeting, that for the October 2021 bill only, residents with irrigation systems will need to sign up for a 20% bill reduction, with the hope of working with the Connecticut Water Company to install deduct meters. Irrigation systems will have to be verified, Mr. Webb said. He will update the Authority on this matter. Discussion took place relative to deduct meters. Ms. Leduke presented a worksheet that was distributed to members of possible one-time adjustment scenarios and answered questions from the Authority. Discussion took place.

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UPDATE ON TREATMENT FACILITY UPGRADE

Mr. Becker updated the Authority regarding work on the upgrade during the past month and answered questions. Items that were worked on included the aeration tanks, the RAS building, and the north substation. Also, secondary clarifier #3 was successfully started up this week and performance testing was conducted on the UV tanks. The contract project schedule is 58% complete as of this week and the project schedule is approximately 88 days behind the December 11, 2022 deadline he said. Payment Application #23 was submitted and brings the contractor to 55% complete. Mr. Grasis and Mr. Boske updated the Authority relative to the phosphorous system. Discussion took place.

DISCUSSION OF EXITS 66 & 67 SEWER AREA

Mr. Grasis said that there was nothing to report this month.

DISCUSSION REGARDING CRUMBLING FOUNDATIONS AND RELATED WPCA FEES

Chairman Tedford, seconded by Mr. Weaver, made a motion that the Water Pollution Control Authority authorizes the Director of Water Pollution Control, or their designee, for a period of one year, expiring July 1, 2022, to waive sewer connection fees for all properties other than governmental buildings, where foundations require replacement as a result of a crumbling concrete condition evidenced by engineering or other unbiased, non-visual, criteria, and that said waiver does not include any inspection or disconnect fees. The motion passed unanimously (4-0-0).

PLANT SUMMARY

Mr. Boske spoke to a Plant Operation Summary that was distributed to the Authority and specifically noted BOD and suspended solids removal; phosphorous; UV dose and transmittance; and septage. Mr. Weaver said that the removals are very good, especially during the upgrade, and congratulated Mr. Boske. Mr. Grasis updated the Authority regarding current activities that included: septic repair at 15 Bolton Road is complete; he is in the process of obtaining quotes for electrical work at the Talcottville Pump station; two Plant Foreman positions and one Operator II position are still open. Also, DEEP conducted a surprise underground storage tank inspection and the tank passed inspection without any issues. He updated the Authority relative to equipment at the facility as well as maintenance work completed by Collection System personnel. Mr. Grasis congratulated Collection Foreman Dj Lupachino on achieving 11 years of perfect attendance. Discussion took place regarding in-person meetings. It was the consensus of the Authority to have the next meeting at the Wastewater Treatment Facility beginning with a tour of the facility at 6:30 p.m.

BUSINESS OFFICE REPORT

Ms. Leduke reported that 84% of receivables for the April billing have been collected; a second set of delinquent notices will be sent; and online bill pay is moving forward with training scheduled for July 13<sup>th</sup>. Also, a complaint regarding multi-unit billing from one meter was received this week. Mr. Grasis updated the Authority on the billing audit for out-of-town accounts.

ANY ADDITIONAL MATTERS

Mr. Weaver extended greetings from former Authority member Carina Hart.

ADJOURN

The Authority discussed ideas for a memorial tribute to John Anderson. Chairman Tedford, seconded by Mr. Weaver, made a motion to adjourn. The motion passed unanimously (4-0-0) and the meeting was adjourned at 8:52 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

  
Lisa B. Yost, Secretary, Water Pollution Control