



TOWN OF VERNON WATER POLLUTION CONTROL AUTHORITY

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APPROVED

OFFICE OF THE
WATER POLLUTION
CONTROL AUTHORITY

MINUTES
WATER POLLUTION CONTROL AUTHORITY
WASTEWATER TREATMENT FACILITY
100 WINDSORVILLE ROAD

March 24, 2022

7:30 p.m.

Attendees: Gordon Gibson, Andrew Tedford, and Ray Weaver. Also present: Robert Grasis, Director Water Pollution Control; Steve Boske, Assistant Director, Water Pollution Control; Heatheryn Leduke, Financial Analyst; Shaun Gately, Economic Development Coordinator; Mike Becker and Lori Carriero, Tighe & Bond

CALL TO ORDER

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

PUBLIC COMMENT

None.

MINUTES OF THE WPCA REGULAR MEETING HELD ON FEBRUARY 24, 2022

Mr. Weaver, seconded by Mr. Gibson made a motion that the Water Pollution Control Authority accepts the minutes of the February 24, 2022 Regular Meeting as presented. The motion passed unanimously (3-0-0).

Agenda Item #8 was moved to Agenda Item #4.

DISCUSSION OF DESIGN ENGINEERING SERVICES PROPOSAL FOR SANITARY SEWER REHABILITATION PROGRAM

Ms. Carriero reviewed a proposal to provide design and bid phase engineering services related to sewer rehabilitation within the Town of Vernon collection system. She answered questions from the Authority and discussion took place. Mr. Weaver, seconded by Mr. Tedford made a motion that the Water Pollution Control Authority approves the proposal from Tighe & Bond dated March 15, 2022 to provide design and bid phase engineering services related to sewer rehabilitation within the Town of Vernon collection system not to exceed a fee of \$70,500. There was no further discussion and the motion passed unanimously (3-0-0).

UPDATE ON TREATMENT FACILITY UPGRADE

Mr. Becker updated the Authority on the progress of work since the last meeting. Work continued on/in the RAS, filter, solids, blower and secondary sludge buildings as well as the secondary sludge tunnel. He updated the Authority regarding work on the primary clarifiers, aeration tanks #3 and #4 as well as the plant water building. He reported that as of last week the contractual project schedule is 79% complete to the original final completion date of 12/11/22. Methuen anticipates that the substantial completion date will now be 2/27/23 and the final completion date will be 5/22/23. Mr. Becker reviewed planned work for next month and answered questions from the Authority.

DISCUSSION OF EXITS 66 & 67 SEWER AREA

There was no discussion on this item.

EXECUTIVE SESSION TO DISCUSS EXITS 66 & 67 SEWER AREA Mr. Weaver, seconded by Mr. Gibson made a motion that the Vernon Water Pollution Control Authority, pursuant to the authority given in

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Connecticut General Statutes, Section 1-200 (6) (B) hereby moves to go in to Executive Session to discuss Exit 66 & 67 Sewer Area and invites Robert Grasis, Director, Water Pollution Control; Steve Boske, Assistant Director, Water Pollution Control; Heatheryn Leduke, Financial Analyst, Shaun Gately, Economic Development Coordinator and Lisa Yost, Secretary to attend the Executive Session. The motion passed unanimously (3-0-0) and the Authority entered into Executive Session at 7:59 p.m. Mr. Weaver, seconded by Mr. Gibson made a motion to exit Executive Session at 8:15 p.m. The motion passed unanimously (3-0-0).

ACTION ON EXECUTIVE SESSION

Mr. Tedford, seconded by Mr. Gibson made a motion that the Town of Vernon Water Pollution Control Authority accepts the purchase and sale agreement and three easements for sanitary sewers, pump station, access and a 15 foot Temporary Construction Easement from W.W. Enterprises, LLC, 971 Main Street, Manchester, Connecticut which are being shown and designated on a map entitled "Proposed Easements Land of W.W. Enterprises, LLC in favor of the Town of Vernon, Scale: 1"=20', Date: January 6, 2022, Sheet: 1 of 1, Revised January 10, 2022" which map or plan is or will be filed, along with Schedule A, with the Vernon Town Clerk. The motion passed unanimously (3-0-0).

PLANT SUMMARY

Mr. Boske reported that the plant is running normally during construction and reviewed a Plant Operations Summary. Discussion took place relative to phosphorous levels and removal. Regarding Current Activities Mr. Grasis reported that: Tim Webb sent a letter to the Connecticut Water Company regarding deduct meter readings for Ellington and Vernon; the replacement bioxide tank has been installed at the Talcottville Pump Station and the bioxide system should be up and running by the next meeting; one of the two vacant plant foreman positions has been filled internally by Operator II Joe Julian; and Ellington is moving forward to improving its pump station. Discussion took place relative to the condition of the driveway to the Talcottville Pump Station. Also, facility personnel assisted a UCONN student with effluent sampling; DEEP sampled plant processes for PFAS; safety training was conducted this month; and Collection Foreman Dj Lupacchino passed the Class #4 Wastewater Operator Exam. Mr. Grasis updated the Town Council and Risk Management Committee on the treatment facility upgrade.

BUSINESS OFFICE REPORT

Mr. Weaver updated the Authority on Senate Bill #128 and answered questions. Discussion took place. Ms. Leduke reported that bills should be received in the mail next week with the informational pamphlet. She referenced a graph for the 4-1-22 billing which shows a 7% increase over the last billing. She reported that consumption was up 8% reflecting a 4% decrease from April 2021 which is close to the 5% estimate due to the inflated COVID numbers. For Vernon there was a 4% increase for the October 2021 billing and a 5% increase in consumption - down 4% from last April as well. The online bill payment is up and running and is available on the Town's website. A post for the online billing will be made on Facebook. She answered questions from the Authority and provided details for online bill payments and additional options for the future. Ms. Leduke attended the tax sale and reported that it was successful and all of the properties were sold. She answered questions from the Authority.

ANY ADDITIONAL MATTERS

None.

ADJOURN

Mr. Weaver seconded by Mr. Gibson made a motion to adjourn. The motion passed unanimously (3-0-0) and the meeting was adjourned at 9:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted, Lisa B. Yost, Secretary Water Pollution Control

