

Building Committee Vernon WPC Facility Upgrade  
Via Zoom Teleconference  
Thursday, December 8, 2022

**APPROVED MINUTES**

Regular Members Present: Vice Chairman Robert Grasis, Director of Water Pollution Control; Dave Smith, Town Engineer; Dwight Ryniewicz, Director of Public Works; Jeffrey O'Neill, Finance Officer; and Andrew Tedford, Chairman Water Pollution Control Authority (4:33 p.m.)

Absent Members: Michael Purcaro, Town Administrator

Staff Present: Steve Boske, Assistant Director of Water Pollution Control (4:08 p.m.); Steve Seigal, Tighe & Bond and Lisa Yost, Recording Secretary

The meeting was called to order at 4:00 p.m.

**1. Public Comment**

None.

**2. Construction Meeting December 7, 2022**

Robert Grasis reported that the Substantial Completion and Final Completion of the upgrade was discussed at the meeting. The Substantial Completion milestone date is forecasted to be September 1, 2023 representing an eight calendar day gain from the previous update period. The Final Completion milestone date is forecasted to be March 16, 2024 representing an 89 calendar day loss from the previous update. This change is directly related to the IFAS Performance Testing that has to be done in February 2023. Steve Seigal explained testing relative to the IFAS media. Discussion took place.

**3. Summary of Activities/Upcoming Schedule**

Robert Grasis reviewed a summary of activities that included:

- Fine screen #1 was put into service
- New influent pumps have been put in to service and are running well
- #2 screw pump was removed
- #1 primary sludge pump will be put in to service next week after testing
- Primary #1 equipment is being installed
- RAS Vault #3 work continues
- HVAC work continues in the secondary sludge building and throughout the site
- Carbon silo water line was capped
- Final Clarifier #3 will be put online next week
- Final Clarifier #2 will be ready for demolition next week
- The primary thickened sludge pump was demolished and a new pump was installed
- Aeration blower #2 is in service; blower work continues

A Milestone Report dated November 15, 2022 was distributed to committee members.

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**4. Change Orders**

Robert Grasis provided background information on PCO #118 CE #870167 - Power Company Outage in the amount of \$11,752.80. He referenced a memo that was distributed to committee members from Tighe & Bond dated August 16, 2022 regarding the Main Switchgear Potential Transformer Failure. Dwight Ryniewicz, seconded by Dave Smith made a motion to approve PCO #118. Discussion took place. Jeffrey O'Neill recommended the motion include that the change order be approved with the expectation that Administration will reach out to Eversource for payment. Further discussion took place. Steve Seigal said that it is possible that the switchgear could fail again. The motion was amended by Dwight Ryniewicz and seconded by Dave Smith to approve PCO #118 with the understanding that we approach Administration and seek potential reimbursement from Eversource as our contractors have pointed out this issue was most likely caused by some kind of a feedback or power surge from the utility. Robert Grasis said that a spare primary transformer has been purchased in case the failure occurs again. The motion passed unanimously (4-0-0). A change order summary was distributed to the committee.

Robert Grasis and Steve Seigal updated the committee on the status of the three bar screens. Discussion took place regarding installation options for the bar screen seals and a potential change order in the amount of approximately \$12,000. The committee asked Steve Seigal to find out when Methuen needs a decision whether or not to proceed with the seals. It was the consensus of the committee to bring this potential change order to Administration for approval. Dave Smith, seconded by Robert Grasis made a motion to accept Methuen's offer for \$12,000 for the improvements to the screening system and that we hold off telling them that until we're sure that it's going to go forward. The motion passed unanimously (5-0-0).

**5. Stored Materials**

None.

**6. Approval of Meeting Minutes of November 22, 2022**

Dave Smith, seconded by Dwight Ryniewicz made a motion to approve the meeting minutes as written. The motion passed (4-0-1) with Andrew Tedford abstaining.

**7. Additional Items**

None.

**8. Adjournment**

Dwight Ryniewicz, seconded by Andrew Tedford made a motion to adjourn. The motion passed unanimously (5-0-0) and the meeting was adjourned at 4:49 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,



Lisa Yost, Recording Secretary