

TOWN OF VERNON WATER POLLUTION CONTROL AUTHORITY



OFFICE OF THE
WATER POLLUTION
CONTROL
AUTHORITY

5 PARK PLACE, VERNON, CT 06066
Tel: (860) 870-3699
Fax: (860) 870-3584

RECEIVED
VERNON TOWN CLERK
23 AUG -3 AM 11:52
APPROVED

MINUTES WATER POLLUTION CONTROL AUTHORITY WASTEWATER TREATMENT FACILITY 100 WINDSORVILLE ROAD

June 22, 2023

7:30 p.m.

Attendees: Ken Boynton, Carmen Melaragno, Ray Weaver and Joseph Greco. Also present: Robert I. Grasis, Director Water Pollution Control; Steve Boske, Assistant Director Water Pollution Control; Heathersyn Breton, Financial Analyst Water Pollution Control; Tom Modzelewski, Ellington WPCA

CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order at 7:30 p.m.

PUBLIC COMMENT

None.

MINUTES OF THE WPCA PUBLIC HEARING AND REGULAR MEETING HELD ON MAY 25, 2023

Mr. Boynton seconded by Mr. Greco made a motion that the Water Pollution Control Authority accepts the minutes of the May 25, 2023 Public Hearing as presented. The motion passed (3-0-1) with Mr. Melaragno abstaining. Mr. Boynton seconded by Mr. Greco made a motion that the Water Pollution Control Authority accepts the minutes of the May 25, 2023 Regular Meeting as presented. The motion passed (3-0-1) with Mr. Melaragno abstaining.

UPDATE ON TREATMENT FACILITY UPGRADE

Mr. Grasis updated the Authority and answered questions about the progress of the upgrade. Tasks included work on the aeration tanks, clarifiers, and the gates for the primary tanks. Also: the seal water system has been installed; piping to the chemical building for fire service is complete; IMLR piping install continues on the north side of the aeration tanks; RAS scrubber channel concrete repairs are nearly finished; the primary influent by-pass is in operation; grit system work continues; and a 20-inch abandoned force main that comes from the solids handling building is in the process of being filled. Mr. Grasis said that Methuen is aligning its schedule with Krueger for the substantial completion date of October 2023. Discussion took place relative to paving at the facility.

DISCUSSION OF CAPITAL PROJECTS

Mr. Grasis reported that Exit 67 is in the final design stages; funding for the project needs to be determined. Regarding Exit 66, work began this past Monday. As far as Capital Projects, he said that sewer spot repairs are to begin next week and the sewer lining will start soon.

PLANT SUMMARY

Mr. Boske presented a plant operations summary for the month of May and answered questions. He said the plant ran well however the monthly phosphorous limit was not met. The issue has since been remediated and was due in part to the disc filters. Regarding current activities, Mr. Grasis said that he will provide

information regarding the Grove Street sewer repair at the next meeting; a Collection Technician and an Operator-In-Training have both moved back to Public Works; the mechanic's position was filled internally; Operator-in-Training Andrew Green passed his Class I exam; and Dj Lupacchino has achieved 13 years of perfect attendance. Mr. Grasis updated the Authority regarding bids for Custodial Services, Security Services and Sludge Disposal. Discussion took place relative to security at the facility. He said that the pumps for the Talcottville station are expected to arrive next month.

BUSINESS OFFICE REPORT

Mrs. Breton explained that a funds transfer from the sewer user account to the Capital Projects fund for the Exit 66 & 67 sewer project needs approval from the Authority. Mr. Melaragno, seconded by Mr. Greco, made a motion to transfer \$271,300 from the sewer user fund to the Exit 66/67 Capital Projects fund. The motion passed unanimously (4-0-0). She reported that after sending out the delinquent notices an additional \$155,000 (5%) has been collected. The tax sale is moving forward and more information will be available next month she said. She updated the Authority regarding the reallocation of funds for the fiscal year. Mr. Weaver said that going forward he would like to see more funds for training. Mrs. Breton is working on revamping the policies and procedures for the WPCA such as for purchasing, reallocation of funds, and liens and will be brought to the Authority next month for review and input. Discussion took place.

DISCUSSION/ACTION ON ACCOUNT #6703 - 401 TALCOTTVILLE ROAD

Mrs. Breton updated the Authority on the \$63,000 that will be back-billed as the result of the audit. Discussion took place regarding the overall audit.

DISCUSSION/ACTION ON 10 SNIPSIC STREET

Mr. Grasis reviewed plans for a storage and aeration building. Discussion took place. It was the consensus of the Authority to charge a connection fee based on square footage and to require an oil/water separator. Mr. Grasis said that he will obtain more information from the contractor and building department.

DISCUSSION/ACTION ON WEIR WASHING

Mr. Weaver expressed concern about the pricing without a bid process. Mr. Boske said that the brush company cannot assist because of the facility's trough system. Discussion took place. Mr. Boske and Mr. Grasis said that they will investigate whether or not there are other companies that provide a weir washing system.

DISCUSSION REGARDING CRUMBLING FOUNDATIONS AND RELATED WPCA FEES

Mr. Boynton seconded by Mr. Melaragno 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, 2024, 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 (4-0-0) unanimously.

ANY ADDITIONAL MATTERS

Mr. Modzelewski said that the Ellington Meter Deduct program is still in progress and the program is moving forward; internal work needs to be done.

ADJOURN

Mr. Boynton, seconded by Mr. Melaragno made a motion to adjourn. The motion passed unanimously (4-0-0) and the meeting was adjourned at 8:50 p.m.

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