



Water Pollution Control Authority

PUBLIC HEARING & REGULAR MEETING JUNE 12, 2024 MINUTES

PUBLIC HEARING

Members Present: Dan Parisi (Chairman), Paul Gilbert, Shawn Koehler, Aaron Foster (6:39pm), Tom Walker

Members Absent: None

Others Present: Tom Modzelewski (WPCA Admin), Marshall Gaston (Fuss & O'Neill), Kevin Flood (Fuss & O'Neil) David Stavens (Deputy First Selectman), Phil Kidney (WPCA Crew Chief), Town Residents, 2 Zoom Attendees

1. Call to Order

Chairman, Dan Parisi called the Public Hearing to order at 6:31 p.m. and read the attached legal notice and hearing guidelines into record.

2. Public Hearing

The following residents made comments, and discussion was had explaining the proposed sewer user fees to begin for the October 2024 billing.

In person:

- Shirley Rothe, 30 Hillsdale Dr.
- Margaret Laptik, 5 Crystal Ball Ct.
- Joseph Burns, 228 Windsorville Rd. & 8 East Shore Rd.
- Phyllis Miller, 14 East Shore Rd.
- Alan Richards, 32 Aborn Rd.
- Yolanda Armelin, 20 Aborn Rd.
- James Lacock, 23 Crystal Ridge Dr.
- Fredrerica Weeks, 82 Snipsic Lake Rd. & 5 Lake Ln.
- Donna LeBlanc, 3 Susan Ln.
- Lois Limberger, 84 White Rd.
- Susann McCarthy, 15 Green St.

Via Zoom:

- John Ecker, 131 West Shore Rd.
- Catherine Ekroth, 30 Pinnacle Rd.

3. Close the Public Hearing

MOVED (KOEHLER) SECONDED (GILBERT) AND PASSED UNANIMOUSLY TO CLOSE THE SEWER USER FEE PUBLIC HEARING AT 7:26 PM.

**NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING
ELLINGTON WATER POLLUTION CONTROL AUTHORITY
PROPOSED SEWER USER CHARGE**

NOTICE is hereby given, pursuant to Connecticut General Statute 7:255, that the Ellington Water Pollution Control Authority will hold a Public Hearing on June 12, 2024, at 6:30 p.m., at the Ellington Senior Center, located at 40 Maple Street, Ellington, Connecticut for the purpose of hearing comments by property owners concerning the proposed sewer user charges to be assessed upon owners permitted to connect to the sewer system. At the hearing, the owner of each property against which charges are to be levied shall have the opportunity to be heard. All charges shall be in accordance with the Sewer Use Charge System.

Hockanum Sewer System

Hockanum annual fixed fees (all users)	\$250.00
Hockanum annual variable fees (well users)	\$420.00
Hockanum price per 1000 gallons of water (CT Water Users)	\$8.4092

Crystal Lake Sewer System

Crystal Lake annual fixed fees (all users)	\$264.00
Crystal Lake annual variable fees (full-year users)	\$600.00
Crystal Lake annual variable fees (seasonal users)	\$400.00

Said charges will be effective October 1, 2024.

Tom Modzelewski, Administrator
Water Pollution Control Authority

Suggested Rules for Public Participation

- The public hearing will be limited to 30 minutes unless voted to extend by the Ellington Board of WPCA.
- This is an opportunity for public comment. This is not intended to be a question-and-answer session.
- Address the issue, do not address specific people.
- Refrain from personal attacks.
- Approach microphone state name and address.
- We will allow all room participants to speak first and then allow ZOOM participants to speak.
- Comments will be limited to 3 mins per person.
- If you wish to speak again, you will be recognized after all others have had their first opportunity.
- Be respectful of other speakers.

Thank you for coming out tonight and participating.



Water Pollution Control Authority

PUBLIC HEARING & REGULAR MEETING JUNE 12, 2024 MINUTES

REGULAR MEETING

Members Present: Dan Parisi (Chair), Paul Gilbert, Shawn Koehler, Aaron Foster (6:39pm), Tom Walker

Members Absent: None

Others Present: Tom Modzelewski (WPCA Admin), Marshall Gaston (Fuss & O'Neill), Kevin Flood (Fuss & O'Neil) David Stavens (Deputy First Selectman), Phil Kidney (WPCA Crew Chief), Timothy Moore (11 Abbott Rd.), Susann McCarthy (15 Green Street)

1. Call to Order

Chairman, Dan Parisi called the meeting to order at 7:31 pm

2. Citizen's Forum (non-agenda items)

None

3. Approval of Meeting Minutes

- i. May 15, 2024, Regular Meeting Minutes

MOVED (GILBERT) SECONDED (KOEHLER) AND APPROVED UNANIMOUSLY TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF THE MAY 15, 2024, REGULAR MEETING AS WRITTEN.

- ii. May 21, 2024, Special Meeting Minutes

MOVED (KOEHLER) SECONDED (WALKER) AND APPROVED UNANIMOUSLY TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF THE MAY 21, 2024, SPECIAL MEETING AS WRITTEN.

4. Old Business

1. Ellington Raquet, Lower Butcher Road

Tom M. (WPCA Admin) provided an update that he was contacted by a contractor working on this project. The approved plans for a gravity system may not work, they may have to go back to the original plan of a pump. Tom M. notified the contractor that he will have to come back to the Board with the new proposed plans for approval.

2. New Business

1. User Fee Hockanum

Aaron Foster (Member) asked for the percent increase for this district. Tom M. (WPCA Admin) responded an increase for well users of 11% and an increase for metered public water users in the amount of 21%

MOVED (GILBERT) SECONDED (KOEHLER) AND PASSED UNANIMOUSLY TO SET THE 2024-2025 FISCAL YEAR HOCKANUM SEWER USER FEES, STARTING ON THE OCTOBER 1ST 2024 BILLING AS: ANNUAL FIXED FEES (ALL USERS) \$250.00, ANNUAL VARIABLE FEES (WELL USERS) \$420.00, PRICE PER 1,000 GALLONS (CT WATER USERS) \$8.4092

2. Crystal Lake User Fees

Aaron Foster (Member) made mention that he would support a senior citizen discount or hardship program. Tom M. (WPCA Admin) stated he would look into what other districts offer and the language of such programs.

MOVED (KOEHLER) SECONDED (GILBERT) AND PASSED [YES: GILBERT, KOEHLER, WALKER NO: FOSTER] TO SET THE 2024-2025 FISCAL YEAR CRYSTAL LAKE SEWER USER FEES, STARTING ON THE OCTOBER 1ST 2024 BILLING AS: ANNUAL FIXED FEES (ALL USERS) \$264.00, ANNUAL VARIABLE FEES (FULL YEAR USERS) \$600.00, ANNUAL VARIABLE FEES (SEASONAL USERS) \$400.00

3. 14 Moser Drive Sewer Bill Credit

MOVED (FOSTER) SECONDED (WALKER) AND PASSED UNANIMOUSLY TO CREDIT \$380.00 TO 14 MOSER DRIVE'S OCTOBER 2024 SEWER BILL DUE TO THE CREDITED 35,500 GALLONS OF WATER THAT DID NOT ENTER THE SEWER SYSTEM PER CONNECTICUS WATER'S PRESENTED LETTER.

4. 11 Abbott Additional Bedroom

Timothy Moore of 11 Abbott Rd. presented to the Board that he would like to add a 5th bedroom to his home. The property is currently allocated for a 4-bedroom home.

MOVED (FOSTER) SECONDED (KOEHLER) AND PASSED UNANIMOUSLY TO APPROVE THE ADDITION OF A FIFTH BEDROOM TO THE PROPERTY LOCATED AT 11 ABBOTT RD. THIS APPROVAL INCLUDES AN ADDITIONAL FLOW ALLOCATION IN THE AMOUNT OF \$377.50, AS WELL AS AN ADDITIONAL BEDROOM ASSESSMENT FEE OF \$1,875.00, FOR A TOTAL OF \$2,252.50

5. 38 Aborn Seasonal Rate Reduction

Tom M. (WPCA Admin) reported that the resident of 38 Aborn Rd. submitted their seasonal user proof late. The proof, due on March 18, was not received until May 17. The Board has requested that a letter be sent to the resident, stating that this is a one-time allowance and that future late submissions will result in no rate deductions for the off-season.

MOVED (KOEHLER) SECONDED (WALKER) AND PASSED UNANIMOUSLY TO ALLOW THE LATE SEASONAL USAGE SUBMISSION FOR 38 ABORN RD.

6. Debbie Durkin on behalf of Classic designs Pinnacle Rd. Parcel 075 004 0000 Bedroom Allocation

Pinnacle Rd. Parcel 075 004 0000 is currently allocated for a 3-bedroom home, perspective buyers would like approval to build a 4-bedroom house. Debbie was unable to attend the meeting, and the sale process is not yet in a place as to where she felt comfortable requesting the additional bedroom allocation. She has asked us to keep this on the agenda for July.

6. Administrative

1. Fuss & O’Neill Project Updates

i. Vernon Pump Station

- **Pay Requisition # 7**– Kevin Flood (F&O) reviewed the items completed in this application for payment.

MOVED (KOEHLER) SECONDED (WALKER) AND PASSED UNANIMOUSLY TO APPROVE THE PAYMENT FOR THE VERNON PUMP STATION UPGRADE TO THE ASSOCIATED CONSTRUCTION COMPANY FOR APPLICATION #7, INVOICE 104478 FOR WORK COMPLETED THROUGH MAY 31, 2024, IN THE AMOUNT OF \$314,539.40

- **Schedule** – Kevin (F&O) provided an update that The Associated Construction Company is ahead of schedule, bypass pumping slated to begin near the end of July.
- **6/11/2024 Progress Meeting** – Kevin (F&O) reviewed the meeting minutes and discussed the change orders to be executed.

ii. Task6 2C Ellington Ave. Sewer extension

Marshall Gaston (F&O) provided an update that all documentation has been received from Barber Utilities. Test pits have been completed. Tom M. (WPCA Admin) mentioned that there is An amendment for this project

MOVED (KOEHLER) SECONDED (FOSTER) AND PASSED UNANIMOUSLY TO ADD TASK AUTHORIZATION 2C – AMMENDMENT 1 AS ITEM V. UNDER ADMINISTRATIVE ITEM IV. TASK 12 ON THE AGENDA.

iii. Task 4D Hockanum I&I Phase 4

Marshall (F&O) provided that F&O and Phil (WPCA Crew Chief) completed the draw down test on the pump stations. Marshal is waiting on one more piece of data to complete the report.

iv. Task 12 FY 2025 On-call Misc. Engineering Support

MOVED (FOSTER) SECONDED (GILBERT) AND PASSED UNANIMOUSLY TO APPROVE TASK AUTHORIZATION No. 12 FOR ON CALL MISCELLANIOUS ENGINEERING SUPPORT FOR THE 2024-2025 FISCAL YEAR IN THE AMOUNT OF \$11,950.00

v. Task Authorization No. 2C – Amendment 1

Marshall (F&O) reviewed this task amendment and its inclusions.

MOVED (KOEHLER) SECONDED (FOSTER) AND PASSED UNANIMOUSLY TO APPROVE TASK AUTHORIZATION NO. 2C – AMENDMENT IN THE AMOUNT OF \$7,730.00

2. Fuss & O’Neill Billing

Marshall reviewed the work performed in the month of May:

MOVED (GILBERT) SECONDED (KOEHLER) AND PASSED UNANIMOUSLY TO APPROVE INVOICE FOR WORK FROM, APRIL 27, 2024, THROUGH MAY 24, 2024, FOR TASK 2C FOR A TOTAL OF \$724.75

MOVED (FOSTER) SECONDED (GILBERT) AND PASSED UNANIMOUSLY TO APPROVE INVOICE FOR WORK FROM, APRIL 27, 2024, THROUGH MAY 24, 2024, FOR TASK 3C FOR A TOTAL OF \$25,558.00

MOVED (FOSTER) SECONDED (GILBERT) AND PASSED UNANIMOUSLY TO APPROVE INVOICE FOR WORK FROM, APRIL 27, 2024, THROUGH MAY 24, 2024, FOR TASK 4D FOR A TOTAL OF \$3,615.25

MOVED (FOSTER) SECONDED (KOEHLER) AND PASSED UNANIMOUSLY TO APPROVE INVOICE FOR WORK FROM APRIL 27, 2024, THROUGH MAY 24, 2024, FOR TASK 11 FOR A TOTAL OF \$3,309.25

1. Other Administrative Topics

i. Budget

No discussion. User fees were set earlier in the meeting.

ii. Moser Clay Main Project Updates

Phil (WPCA Crew Chief) provided an update that the project is complete. There was a minor delay, as Savy & Sons had discovered a problem with the liner for the last run, this delayed the project approximately 2 weeks, but the last run went smoothly.

iii. Lateral Ownership Code Amendment

No Updates.

iv. User Insurance

No updates.

v. Generator Quotes/Valve Pit Repairs

Tom M. (WPCA) Admin provide an update that Savy & Sons has provided a quote for the valve pit repair, The pricing left out cleaning and coating. Tom M. is awaiting a revised quote with this pricing included. Tom M. also asked the Board to put thought into weather repairing Center Pump Station and Crystal Lake is worth it at this time as there may be an upcoming sewer expansion in the area center pump station serves and Crystal Lake Pump Station is going on 50 years old and will need repairs. Doing the valve pit repairs and cleaning and coating these. These future repairs may lead to ripping out new work.

vi. 37 Wendell Construction Plans

Tom M. (WPCA Admin) Disclosed that he received construction plans for a home to be built on this property. There are some items that need to be addressed and the plans are not ready to be presented just yet.

vii. 135 West (Starbucks) Assessment

Tom M. (WPCA) asked at what point we should assess the future Starbuck's property. At a prior meeting it was discussed that upon application of permit would be a good time, but in many cases Tom M. stated it is much cleaner to assess at the time of CO. This will Saty on the agenda for further discussion.

2. Design, Construction & Maintenance Reports

i. Pump Station Updates

Phil (Crew Chief) stated he had to purchase a new pump for Meadowbrook Pump Station, the failed pump was too old to rebuild.

ii. Overtime Report

Phil (WPCA Crew Chief) reported that he did not have an exact # of hours prepared for the meeting, but he had worked a late night with Savy & Sons on the Moser Clay main project as well as had the Meadowbrook pump call on a Saturday.

iii. Other

Phil reported there was a sewer break at The Depot, however after some investigation the issue was on the property owner's side. They have since hired a contractor and have had the repairs made.

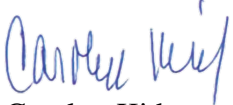
3. **Misc. Communications**

None

Adjournment

**MOVED (KOEHLER) SECONDED (GILBERT) AND PASSED UNANIMOUSLY TO
ADJOURN THE MEETING AT 8:22 PM.**

Respectfully submitted:



Carolyn Kidney, Administrative Assistant II, DPW