



# Water Pollution Control Authority

## PUBLIC HEARING & REGULAR MEETING SEPTEMBER 18, 2024 MINUTES

### PUBLIC HEARING

**Members Present:** Dan Parisi (Chairman), Paul Gilbert, Shawn Koehler

**Members Absent:** Aaron Foster, Tom Walker

**Others Present:** Tom Modzelewski (WPCA Admin), Marshall Gaston (Fuss & O'Neill), Kevin Flood (Fuss & O'Neil), Phil Kidney (WPCA Crew Chief), Rob Berthiaume (WPCA Maintainer I), Jack Rich II (142 Ellington Ave), Michael Murphy (140 Ellington Ave.), Jack Rich (146 Ellington Ave.), Keila Rivera & Rommel Fabien (46 North Park St.), Shane Luginbuhl (119 Snipsic Lake Rd.), Rob Grasis (Vernon WPCF)

#### 1. Call to Order

Chairman, Dan Parisi called the Public Hearing to order at 6:30 p.m. and read the attached legal notice and hearing guidelines into record.

#### 2. Public Hearing

Jack Rich II, 140 Ellington Ave. made the comment that he had to repair his septic system years back after hurricane Katrina, and he has no reason to utilize the sewer system, as his septic should remain operational for years to come. He does not feel he should have to pay the assessment. Jack also had concerns regarding lack of communication on this project.

Tom M. (WPCA Admin) addressed Mr. Rich's concern, informing that the benefit assessment is not due until the time of connection to the sewer or in the case of transfer of ownership in which the bank may require the connection. Tom M. to draft a memo stating this information and send it to Mr. Rich for record.

Michael Murphy, 142 Ellington Ave. made comment that he attended a WPCA Board meeting approximately 2 years ago with concerns about his failing septic system and wanting options to tie into the public sewer system. He is thankful it is now available but questioned the location of the lateral for his property as it is on the opposite side of the house as the connection to his current septic system. Michael also requested a memo regarding the assessment information be sent to him as well.

Tom M. (WPCA Admin) stated he would get the memo regarding the benefit assessment drafted and sent out. Tom M. asked Marshall (F&O) to address the comments regarding the lateral placement. Marshall needs to review the plans again and stated he would have an on-site visit with Michael Murphy to review.

Jack Rich, 146 Ellington Ave., was in attendance to bring to the Boards attention that he felt there was a lack of communication regarding this sewer expansion project. He also stated he witnessed some safety concerns while the contractor was on-site, such as where they were storing equipment.

Tom M. (WPCA Admin) thanked Mr. Rich for bringing this to his attention.

**3. Close the Public Hearing**

**MOVED (KOEHLER) SECONDED (GILBERT) AND PASSED UNANIMOUSLY TO CLOSE THE PROPOSED SEWER BENEFIT ASSESSMENT PUBLIC HEARING AT 6:42 PM.**

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

NOTICE is hereby given, pursuant to Connecticut General Statute 7:250, that the Ellington Water Pollution Control Authority will hold a Public Hearing on September 18, at 6:30 p.m., at the Ellington Public Works Department, 21 Main St., Ellington, Connecticut, for the purpose of hearing comments by listed property owners concerning the sewer Benefit Assessment changes to be assessed. At the hearing the owner of each property against which charges are to be levied shall have the opportunity to be heard.

Present and subsequent owners should take notice that an assessment of benefits will be made as to each listed property.

Assessment will be in accordance with the Ellington WPCA Regulations. These regulations may be found on the Towns Website or by stopping by the Ellington Public Works Department at 21 Main Street.

140 Ellington Ave.	Michael J. Murphy	047 039 0000	\$8,500.00
142 Ellington Ave.	Jack A. Rich II & Tracy Rich	047 038 0000	\$6,625.00

Tom Modzelewski, WPCA Administrator  
Water Pollution Control Authority



# Water Pollution Control Authority

## PUBLIC HEARING & REGULAR MEETING September 18, 2024 MINUTES

### REGULAR MEETING

**Members Present:** Dan Parisi (Chairman), Paul Gilbert, Shawn Koehler

**Members Absent:** Aaron Foster, Tom Walker

**Others Present:** Tom Modzelewski (WPCA Admin), Marshall Gaston (Fuss & O'Neill), Kevin Flood (Fuss & O'Neil), Phil Kidney (WPCA Crew Chief), Rob Berthiaume (WPCA Maintainer I), Jack Rich II (142 Ellington Ave), Michael Murphy (140 Ellington Ave.), Jack Rich (146 Ellington Ave.), Keila Rivera & Rommel Fabien (46 North Park St.), Shane Luginbuhl (119 Snipsic Lake Rd.)

#### 1. Call to Order

Chairman, Dan Parisi called the meeting to order at 6:43 pm

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

None

#### 3. Approval of July 17, 2024, Meeting Minutes

**MOVED (GILBERT) SECONDED (KOEHLER) AND PASSED UNANIMOUSLY TO APPROVE THE JULY 17, 2024, MEETING MINUTES AS WRITTEN.**

#### 4. Old Business

##### 1. **Ellington Raquet, Lower Butcher Road**

No update.

##### 2. **8 Gasek Farms Rd.**

Tom M. (WPCA Admin) reminded the Board Members that an additional connection was approved at the 7/17/2024 meeting. The Board has asked for a revised connection plan to be submitted. The revised plan had since been submitted and Tom M. has approved. This item is complete and will be removed from the agenda.

##### 3. **Pinnacle Rd. Parcel 075 004 0000 Bedroom Connection Plans**

Tom M. (WPCA Admin) presented the revised connection plans to the Board. Shawn (Member) asked for the details to be revised to include a fernco in addition to the donut.

**MOVED (GILBERT) SECONDED (KOEHLER) TO APPROVE THE SEWER CONNECTION PLANS CONTINGENT ON THE REVISIONS AS DEPICTED IN THE COMMENTS PROVIDED BY TOM MODZELEWSKI, WPCA ADMINISTRATOR.**

**5. New Business**

**1. Set benefit assessments for 140 & 142 Ellington Ave.**

**MOVED (KOEHLER) SCONDED (GILBERT) TO SET THE SEWER BENEFIT ASSESSMENT CHARGES FOR 140 & 142 ELLINGTON AVE AS LISTED ON THE ATTACHED NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING DATED SEPTEMBER 18, 2024.**

**2. 46 North Park St. Additional Bedroom**

Property owners Keila Rivera & Rommel Fabien were in attendance to request an additional bedroom for this property. The property is being renovated and is currently allocated for 3 bedrooms. A proposed connection plan was presented.

**MOVED (KOEHLER) SECONDED (GILBERT) AND PASSED UNANIMOUSLY TO APPROVE THE ADDITION OF A FOURTH BEDROOM TO THE PROPERTY LOCATED AT 46 NORT PARK ST. 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. MAKING THE TOTAL BENEFIT ASSESSMENT DUE AT TIME OF PERMITTING \$8,877.50.**

**3. 119 Snipsic lake Rd. Additional Bedroom**

Property owner, Shane Luginbuhl, was in attendance to request an additional bedroom. The property is currently allocated for 3 bedrooms, and he would like to add another. This property is currently tied into the public sewer system.

**MOVED (KOEHLER) SECONDED (GILBERT) AND PASSED UNANIMOUSLY TO APPROVE THE ADDITION OF A FOURTH BEDROOM TO THE PROPERTY LOCATED AT 119 SNIPSIC LAKE 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. MAKING THE TOTAL BENEFIT ASSESSMENT DUE AT THE TIME OF PERMITTING \$2,252.50.**

**6. Administrative**

**MOVED (KOEHLER) SECONDED (GILBERT) AND PASSED UNAIMOUSLY TO ADD ITEM: D CHANGE ORDER 2, TO SECTION: 5.1.i, ADMINISTRATIVE, FUSS & O'NEILL PROJECT UPDATES, VERNON PUMP STATION, ON THE AGENDA.**

**1. Fuss & O'Neill Project Updates**

**i. Vernon Pump Station**

- a) Pay Requisition # 10**– Kevin Flood (F&O) reviewed the items completed in this application for payment.

**MOVED (GILBERT) SECONDED (KOEHLER) AND PASSED UNANIMOUSLY TO APPROVE THE PAYMENT FOR THE VERNON PUMP STATION UPGRADE TO THE ASSOCIATED CONSTRUCTION COMPANY FOR APPLICATION #10, INVOICE 104538 FOR WORK COMPLETED THROUGH AUGUST 31, 2024, IN THE AMOUNT OF \$364,761.16**

- b) Schedule** – Kevin (F&O) provided an update that The Associated Construction Company is a few weeks behind on pouring the concrete pad. Tom M. (WPCA Admin) provided an update on the bypass pumping and that there was an issue causing a sanitary effluent release into the Hockanum river. This was due to a bound pump, failure of the secondary pump, and failure of the notification system. This has since been reported and cleaned up. The contractor and sub-contractor are working with the Town to implement different processes and back-up alarms to ensure the rest of the bypass pumping runs smoothly. Tom M. (WPCA Admin) noted that he has requested that the Associated Construction Company have a back-up sub-contractor ready to go should these issues continue.
- c) 8/12/2024 & 9/9/2024 Progress Meeting** – Kevin (F&O) reminded the Board that he has been out of the office for a while, and he is catching up. There are some outstanding and potential new RFI's and change orders that need to be addressed.
- d) Change Order Request #2** – Tom M. (WPCA Admin) and Rob Grasis (Vernon WPCA) updated the Board, that we have received the approval needed from Vernon to execute change order #2.

**ii. Task 2C Ellington Ave. Sewer extension**

- a) Project updates – Punch List** – Tom M. (WPCA Admin) presented the punch list items left to complete the project. He recommends holding payment until these items are complete.
- b) The invoice for the work complete was reviewed.** Tom M. notified the Board that the scope of the project less final paving is what is represented on the invoice. Tom recommended that the final paving be removed from the scope and the DPW complete the work, as there are plans to pave that area, WPCA will be responsible financially for the project share and DPW anything above and beyond. This will be discussed further when final costs are available.

**MOVED (GILBERT) SECONDED (KOEHLER) AND PASSED UNANIMOUSLY TO PAY BARBER UTILITIES \$152,102.00 FOR INVOICE 14691 FOR THE WORK COMPLETED ON TASK 2C ELLINGTON AVE. SEWER EXTENSION, WITH THE EXCLUSION OF PERMANENT PAVING. PAYMENT TO BE MADE AT THE TIME OF PUNCH LIST COMPLETION.**

**iii. Task 4D Hockanum I&I Phase 4**

No Updates

**iv. VMS Invoice Approval**

Tom (WPCA Admin) presented an invoice for manhole work performed by VMS.

**MOVED (GILBERT) SECONDED (KOEHLER) AND PASSED UNANIMOUSLY TO PAY VMS CONSTRUCTION COMPANY FOR INVOICE 2024-1400-117 IN THE AMOUNT OF \$18,332.00 FOR THE WORK TO EXPOSE, RAISE AND REPAIR 7 MANHOLE FRAMES AND COVERS ON SOUTH RD. AND SUNSET RD.**

**2. Fuss & O'Neill Billing**

**July:**

**MOVED (KOEHLER) SECONDED (GILBERT) AND PASSED UNANIMOUSLY TO APPROVE INVOICE FOR WORK FROM, JUNE 29, 2024, THROUGH JULY 26, 2024, FOR TASK 2C FOR A TOTAL OF \$1,335.50**

**MOVED (GILBERT) SECONDED (KOEHLER)) AND PASSED UNANIMOUSLY TO APPROVE INVOICE FOR WORK FROM, JUNE 29, 2024, THROUGH JULY 26, 2024, FOR TASK 3C FOR A TOTAL OF \$25,420.82**

**MOVED (KOEHLER) SECONDED (GILBERT) AND PASSED UNANIMOUSLY TO APPROVE INVOICE FOR WORK FROM, JUNE 29, 2024, THROUGH JULY 26, 2024, FOR TASK 4D FOR A TOTAL OF \$1,131.75**

**MOVED (KOEHLER) SECONDED (GILBERT) AND PASSED UNAIMOUSLY TO APPROVE INVOICE FOR WORK FROM JUNE 29, 2024, THROUGH JULY 26, 2024, FOR TASK 12 FOR A TOTAL OF \$2,305.00**

**August:**

**MOVED (GILBERT) SECONDED (KOEHLER) AND PASSED UNANIMOUSLY TO APPROVE INVOICE FOR WORK FROM, JULY 27, 2024, THROUGH AUGUST 23, 2024, FOR TASK 3C FOR A TOTAL OF \$28,126.95.**

**1. Other Administrative Topics**

**i. Budget**

The current collections and unofficial year end totals were presented.

**ii. Lateral Ownership Code Amendment**

No Updates.

**iii. User Insurance**

No updates.

**iv. Generator Quotes/Valve Pit Repairs**

Tom M. (WPCA) Admin provided a proposal for the generator replacement at the Ketchbrook pump station. In this fiscal year's budget, there is \$50,000 allocated for this project. There is also \$50,000 allocated towards a new generator at the High School pump station. Tom M. has requested that the Board to allocate \$25,000 from the High School Generator CIP Line to the Ketchbrook Generator CIP line, as he would like to address the High School pump station as a whole, due to needing other upgrades, allowing the completion of the Ketchbrook generator upgrade.

**MOVED (GILBERT) SECONDED (KOEHLER) AND PASSED UNANIMOUSLY TO APPROPRIATE \$25,000 FROM THE CAPITAL LINE ITEM OF THE 2024-25 BUDGET, HIGH SCHOOL GENERATOR TO THE KETCHBROOK GENERATOR LINE.**

**MOVED (KOEHLER) SECONDED (GILBERT) AND PASSED UNANIMOUSLY TO PURCHASE A NEW GENERATOR FOR KETCHBROOK PUMP STATION FROM KINSLEY NOT TO EXCEED THE AMOUNT OF \$75,000.00.**

**v. 37 Wendell Construction Plans**

No update.

**vi. Property ID 046 003 0002 (RTE 83) Development**

No update. This item will be removed from the agenda.

**vii. Sewer Relief Policy**

Tom M. (WPCA Admin) updated the Board that he would like to monitor for this year. Seeing how many people apply for assistance through Human Services will provide the needed information for next year's budget.

**viii. Vernon WPCA New Billing Procedure**

Tom M. (WPCA Admin) provided information that Vernon is hopeful to move forward with billing based of flow metering of the pump station. The Town is currently billed based off of CT Water meter readings. Ron Grasis (Vernon WPCF), spoke on the reasoning of the change and noted the change is about a year away, and that our intermunicipal agreement would need to be amended to reflect such change.

**ix. Deduct Meters**

Tom M. (WPCA Admin) updated the Board that once Vernon's billing changes from water meter readings to pump station flow, it would allow an implication of a deduct program. The Board does not want to revisit a program at this time.

**x. Rigid Camera Locator**

Tom M. (WPCA Admin) presented a proposal for a Rigid Camera Locator. Shawn (Member) recommended getting pricing for one with a longer cable as the presented is only 100', he would like a 200' cable. Both Shawn and Dan (Member) provided recommendations for other cameras to get pricing on.

**2. Design, Construction & Maintenance Reports**

**i. Pump Station Updates**

Phil (Crew Chief) updated the Board that he will be replacing the pumps at the High School pump station. The pumps are already in inventory for spares. One of the 2 that will be pulled from the station was rebuilt a few years ago and will be kept in inventory as a spare.

Phil also updated that he and the 2 WPCA Maintainers are currently working on manhole right of way inspections.

**ii. Overtime Report**

Phil (WPCA Crew Chief) reported that there were 7 emergency calls for the months of July and August. 2 pump station calls, Vernon and 140, and 5 grinder pump emergencies.

**iii. Other**

**a) Wet Well Wizard**

Tom M. (WPCA Admin) and Phil (WPCA Crew Chief) presented information on a wet well wizard. They believe it would be a great addition to the Vernon Pump Station as it breaks up grease matting and reduces/eliminates H<sub>2</sub>S. Kevin Flood (F&O) will submit an RFP for the purchasing & installation of this item to The Associated Construction Company.

**b) New Truck Request**

Tom M. (WPCA Admin) stated that a new truck is in the 5-year capital outlook for next year. The current crane truck is getting older and has recently been out of commission for repairs. The secondary truck is a retired Fire Department pick-up truck. Shawn (Member) suggested getting trade in estimates for the current crane truck and pick-up truck to use toward the purchase of 2 new crane trucks.

Rob Berthiaume, the new WPCA Technician/Maintainer 1, was present at the meeting and was introduced to the Board Members.

**3. Misc. Communications**

**i. CTWEA Fall Workshop 10/2/2024**

Tom M. (WPCA Admin) notified the Board of the upcoming workshop.



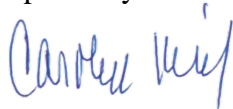
Tom M. (WPCA Admin) notified the Board that he came across minutes from the October 2021 meeting that included a motion to allow the WPCA Administrator to approve additional bedrooms. The Board agreed that the Administrator can approve and provide updates as needed.

Tom M. (WPCA Admin) provided an update that the CDS grant has made it through the second round of review.

**Adjournment**

**MOVED (KOEHLER) SECONDED (GILBERT) AND PASSED UNANIMOUSLY TO  
ADJOURN THE MEETING AT 8:13 PM.**

Respectfully submitted:



Carolyn Kidney, Administrative Assistant II, DPW