



# Water Pollution Control Authority

## REGULAR MEETING

March 19, 2025

## MINUTES

**Members Present:** Dan Parisi (Chairman), Shawn Koehler, Paul Gilbert, Tom Walker, Aaron Foster (Zoom)

**Members Absent:** None

**Others Present:** Tom Modzelewski (WPCA Admin), Phil Kidney (WPCA Crew Chief), Marshall Gaston (Fuss & O'Neill), Kevin Flood (Fuss & O'Neill), Rick Hartenstein (Stafford WPCF), Justin Packard (HPC), Bob & Dee Romejko (10 Gem Dr.)

### **1. Call to Order**

Chairman, Dan Parisi called the meeting to order at 6:31 pm

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

None

### **3. Approval of January 15, 2025 Regular Meeting Minutes**

**MOVED (GILBERT) SECONDED (KOEHLER) AND PASSED UNANIMOUSLY TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF JANUARY 15, 2025, REGULAR MEETING.**

### **4. Old Business**

#### **1. Cider Mill – Single Family**

Tom M. (WPCA Admin) and Phil (WPCA Crew Chief) provided an update regarding the exploratory digging conducted a few months ago to locate the lateral. No lateral was found, and no permit has been pulled at this time.

#### **2. Windermere Ave. Sewer Extension-Task 15 proposal**

Marshall (F&O) reviewed what is included in the proposal. A brief discussion was held regarding the need for sanitary sewer in the area. Tom M. (WPCA Admin) pointed out that with CT Water preparing to do work in the same area it would benefit the WPCA to install it while the road is already open and previous to the planned sidewalk project.

**MOVED (GILBERT) SECONDED (KOEHLER) AND PASSED UNANIMOUSLY TO APPROVE TASK AUTHORIZATION REQUEST NO. 15 WINDERMERE AVENUE SEWER EXTENSION IN THE AMOUNT OF \$49,500.00, REALLOCATING FUNDING FROM TASK 4D, TASK 2C AND TASK 12.**

#### **4. Development of parcel 046-003-0002**

Justin Packard (HPC) was in attendance to present updated connection plans addressing Fuss & O'Neill's comments.

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**MOVED (GILBERT) SECONDED (KOEHLER) AND PASSED UNANIMOUSLY TO APPROVE THE SANITARY CONNECTION PLANS FOR THE DEVELOPMENT OF ELLINGTON PARCEL #: 046-003-0002 AS REVISED ON 3-12-2025 AND PRESENTED.**

**5. New Business**

**1. Dee Romejko, 10 Gem Dr. Sewer Billing Credit Request**

Dee & Bob Romejko of 10 Gem Dr. were in attendance to request a credit on their April sewer billing. They informed the board that they had a new pool liner installed in November causing higher water usage. A previous and current CT Water bill and a letter from Juliano's Pool's was presented. The pool is 20,000 gallons.

**MOVED (KOEHLER) SECONDED (WALKER) AND PASSED UNANIMOUSLY TO APPROVE A CREDIT ON THE APRIL BILLING FOR 10 GEM DRIVE FOR 20,000 GALLONS FOR A TOTAL OF \$160.00.**

**2. Additional Bedroom Approval 5 Woodland Trail**

Tom M. (WPCA Admin) provided an update that he approved an additional bedroom for this property and that the additional assessment of \$2,252.50 was charged and collected at the time of permitting.

**3. Seasonal Users Approvals and Denials**

Tom M. (WPCA Admin) presented that there were 18 applicants. Tom M. discussed the measures he used in making his decisions. There we 4 denials, 2 reached out and were further able to prove seasonal use in the form of a notarized affidavit. One was a late submission and was ultimately denied.

**4. 7 Hilltop Dr. Extension Easement**

During a recent mainline pipe grouting and manhole waterproofing project it was discovered that an area of sewer main is on private property. This area has been identified as a source of I&I. To rectify the issue and complete the project the Town's camera truck would need to park on the driveway of 7 Hilltop. No access was allowed. The Board would like Tom to draft a letter to the property owner with options as this project needs to be completed.

**5. Stafford Sewer Main & H<sub>2</sub>S Concerns**

Tom M. (WPCA Admin) shared that he had received correspondence from Rick Hartenstein (Stafford WPCF) regarding iron buildup in pipes and high levels of H<sub>2</sub>S. Rick was present, and conversation was held on how to rectify these issues. Dosing the pump station with Bioxide is an option but can be quite costly. Phil (WPCA Crew Chief) and Rick are going to work together to meter the H<sub>2</sub>S in manholes on both the Ellington and Stafford sides of the system to try and pinpoint a cause.

Ellington sent 2 WPCA crew members to Stafford for 2 days to assist with jetting the pipes that were blocked up with iron.

Tom M. will be sending out letters again this year reminding Residents that it is illegal to discharge water softeners into the sanitary sewer system.

The Town's will continue to work together to find a resolution.

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## **6. Asset Management Proposal**

Tom M. (WPCA Admin) gave a brief description of an Asset Management program he received a proposal for. The program would track current assets and recommend replacement schedules and new projects. Not only would it benefit WPCA but also other Town departments as well. Tom M. will be reaching out to other companies for proposals as well but wanted to inform the Board that this is something he is interested in and finds beneficial. He has provided a power point link for them to review if they would like.

### **Administrative**

#### **1. Fuss & O'Neill project updates**

##### **i. Vernon Pump Station**

##### **a) Pay Requisition 16**

Kevin (F&O) reviewed the work that was completed. Paul (Member) inquired if we should be holding more of the payment back due to the large punch list. Kevin believes the payment request is fair.

**MOVED (KOEHLER) SECONDED (FOSTER) AND PASSED UNANIMOUSLY TO APPROVE THE PAYMENT FOR THE VERNON PUMP STATION UPGRADE TO THE ASSOCIATED CONSTRUCTION COMPANY FOR APPLICATION #16, INVOICE 23105-12 FOR WORK COMPLETED THROUGH FEBRUARY 28, 2025 IN THE AMOUNT OF \$22,093.30.**

##### **b) Schedule**

Kevin (F&O) updated the Board that the project is approximately 89% complete. Phil (WPCA Crew Chief) noted that the bypass has been broken down and taken away and the temp. power has been removed. Both Kevin and Phil reviewed many punch list items that need to be completed. Kevin stated that the project should be in good shape by May.

##### **c) 2/11/2025 VPS Progress Meeting**

With both a cancelled Board meeting and Pump Station progress meeting in May a few notes from the February progress meeting were reviewed.

##### **d) Change Orders**

Nothing pending.

##### **e) Channel Monster Removal**

The vendor of the pumps installed has made Tom M. (WPCA Admin) and Phil (WPCA Crew Chief) aware that the need for the channel monster has been reduced significantly, possibly 100%. The new pumps are designed to allow items to pass through without clogging. The channel monster needs to be rebuilt every 5 years to stay operational and costs a significant amount of money to do so. Rick (Stafford WPCF) stated he has had these pumps in a station for 5 years and has never had an issue with a clog. Tom recommends the removal of the channel monster.

##### **ii. Task 4D I&I Phase 4**

Phil (WPCA Crew Chief) provided an update that the mainline pipe grouting and manhole waterproofing project with Savy & Sons has been completed and all went well. The only part not completed was the area of 7 Hilltop discussed

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earlier in the meeting. This caused the project to come in under budget. The invoice has been paid in the amount of \$19,734.90.

**iii. Task 4E I&I Phase 5**

Marshall (F&O) and Phil (WPCA Crew Chief) went over their findings from the overnight study they did on Tuesday evening. They reviewed the map of the areas they checked and pointed out a couple of failing manholes. However, even with the recent rain, the water table isn't high enough to confirm any infiltration and inflow (I&I) issues. Because of this, the project will be put on hold until more rainfall raises the water table to a suitable level.

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

The billing for February was reviewed.

**MOVED (GILBERT) SECONDED (KOEHLER) AND PASSED UNANIMOUSLY TO APPROVE THE INVOICE FOR WORK FROM, JANUARY 25, 2025 THROUGH FEBRUARY 21, 2025, FOR TASK 3C FOR A TOTAL OF \$32,198.50.**

**MOVED (KOEHLER) SECONDED (GILBERT) AND PASSED UNANIMOUSLY TO APPROVE THE INVOICE FOR WORK FROM, JANUARY 25, 2025 THROUGH FEBRUARY 21, 2025, FOR TASK 12 FOR A TOTAL OF \$802.50.**

**MOVED (GILBERT) SECONDED (KOEHLER) AND PASSED UNANIMOUSLY TO APPROVE THE INVOICE FOR WORK FROM, JANUARY 25, 2025 THROUGH FEBRUARY 21, 2025, FOR TASK 4E FOR A TOTAL OF 2,626.25.**

**3. Other Administrative Topics**

**i. Budget**

Tom M. (WPCA Admin) presented the end of month collections. He also noted that the 2025-26 budget is mostly prepared and that he is just awaiting a report to finalize the user fees for the Hockanum and Crystal Lake districts. He disclosed some preliminary rates and that both districts will have an increase. He expects to have a final draft prepared for next month for the Boards review.

**ii. Code Revision**

A red-lined version of the code was presented and briefly discussed. It will be sent out again with the minutes for further review in hopes of being presented at the annual sewer rate public hearing.

**iii. User Insurance**

Tom M. (WPCA Admin.) updated that he was sent a draft for the mailings. It was missing some key information. He is waiting for the vendor's response.

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

Tom M. (WPCA Admin) updated that the old generator from the Vernon Pump Station has been outfitted to be a mobile unit that will run just about every building and pump station in the Town with the exception of the library.

**v. Rigid Camera Locator**

No updates.

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

**i. Pump Station Updates**

Phil (WPCA Crew Chief) updated that he is still waiting to receive the 3 pumps that are on order for the 140 pump station.

**ii. Overtime Report**

Phil updated that he has 3 hours for a call in for the Vernon pump station, and Sam (WPCA Tech) and himself each have 8.5 hours for the I&I study.

**iii. Other**

None

**Misc. Communications**

There has been a potential on-site Board walk-through and review of the Vernon Pump Station project scheduled for **5-13-2025 @ 9:00am**.

**Adjournment**

**MOVED (KOEHLER) SECONDED (GILBERT) AND PASSED UNANIMOUSLY TO ADJOURN THE REGULAR MEETING OF THE WATER POLLUTION CONTROL AUTHORITY AT 8:41 PM.**

Respectfully submitted:



Carolyn Kidney, Administrative Assistant II, DPW