



OFFICE OF THE
WATER POLLUTION
CONTROL AUTHORITY

TOWN OF VERNON WATER POLLUTION CONTROL AUTHORITY

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MINUTES WATER POLLUTION CONTROL AUTHORITY REGULAR MEETING May 24, 2012

Attendees: Chairman E. Ray Weaver, Vice-Chairman Gary Leavitt, John Anderson and Elizabeth Yang. Also present: David R. Ignatowicz, Director, Water Pollution Control; George Rostkowski, Business Manager; Peter Williams, Town of Ellington WPCA; Acramo Alix of 6 Rheel Street and Marc Campbell, Executor, representing 49 Lawrence Street

CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order at 7:35 p.m.

PUBLIC COMMENT

David Ignatowicz asked the Authority to add an agenda item requesting additional appropriation for the Talcottville Pump Station emergency repair. Mr. Anderson made a motion to add the agenda item and it was seconded by Mr. Leavitt. The motion passed unanimously (4-0-0).

Mr. Acramo Alix – 6 Rheel Street: Mr. Acramo said that he has been having trouble with his sewer lateral for the past 1 ½ years and the repair cost would be about \$6000. He explained that the lateral runs under the sidewalk and he has tried to cut roots from the lateral. The water and sewer lines are close together underground he said, and there is a clean-out trap in his front yard. He said the Town of South Windsor has shared responsibility with the homeowner for the “Y” connection and asked why the Town of Vernon does not have the same regulation.

REQUEST TO INSTALL GRINDER PUMP AT 49 LAWRENCE STREET TO EXISTING SEWER

Mr. Anderson, seconded by Mr. Leavitt made a motion to move Item #7 to Item 2b. The motion passed unanimously (4-0-0). Mr. Ignatowicz referenced a map of Lawrence Street showing properties #43 though #54 and noted which houses are not connected to the sewer. Mr. Ignatowicz said that he has spoken to the Health Department and that the septic system at #49 Lawrence Street is marginal and doesn't meet today's code. The septic system would need to be rebuilt or the property would have to be connected to the sanitary sewer. Mr. Campbell explained that he is the executor for the estate of Helen and Emil Sabanosh and that he was told by Richard V. Zulick, Sanitarian, that the septic system shows no evidence of failure or technical failure, but it is in immanent danger of failure; the septic system is fragile. The house has been recently vacated Mr. Campbell said, and is for sale. Mr. Ignatowicz said that the Health Department may be able to conduct a sanitary survey of the houses/lots that are on the upper end of Lawrence Street and are currently without access to sewers. If the majority has a need, then a feasibility study could be done and then presented to the Town he said. Mr. Ignatowicz said that a pump station may have to be added. The neighborhood, per Town Charter, can petition for sewers, Mr. Ignatowicz explained. Mr. Anderson said that Upper Butcher Road properties should be considered in the study and perhaps they could have sewer access as well. A discussion took place regarding how the Town of Ellington manages force main and grinder pump issues. Mr. Leavitt said that since the house is vacant it would be difficult to tell if the septic would fail. There is no short term solution he said, as the situation seems like a buyer/seller issue, and perhaps there can be a monetary solution. Mr. Anderson said that because a survey could take months to complete, it would not help Mr. Campbell's situation now. He said that this situation sounds more like a desire rather than a requirement, and that

the Authority understands the situation but does not know how much further it can go with it right now. Mr. Weaver expressed concern that a precedent would be set if the Authority approved the connection and said that this situation needs further investigation. It was the consensus of the Authority to have Mr. Ignatowicz draft a letter to the Health Department relative to conducting a sanitary survey of the houses/lots located on the upper end of Lawrence Street that are currently without access to the sewers.

MINUTES OF WPCA REGULAR MEETING HELD ON APRIL 26, 2012

Mr. Leavitt, seconded by Miss Yang, moved to accept the minutes of the of the Water Pollution Control Authority Regular Meeting held on April 26, 2012 as presented. The motion passed.

REVIEW OF FAT, OIL AND GREASE (FOG) REGULATION

Mr. Ignatowicz explained that the Water Pollution Control Authority will become the authorized agent to oversee and carry out the state's regulation regarding fat, oil and grease. Mr. Ignatowicz said that the proposed regulation for the Town has not yet been reviewed by legal counsel and suggested that it should. Mr. Ignatowicz explained that a part-time person will be hired to assist with the field work and \$16,000 has been budgeted for wages. A discussion took place about fee schedules in Ellington. Mr. Weaver and Mr. Anderson said that the Town Attorney should review the proposed regulation. Mr. Ignatowicz suggested holding a separate meeting with the Town Attorney to discuss the proposed regulation.

WASTEWATER TREATMENT PLANT REPORT

Mr. Ignatowicz reported that the plant is running well and chlorination began during the last week of April. Mr. Anderson requested that the monthly summary report include the prior year's data for the month; Mr. Weaver agreed. Mr. Ignatowicz said that the emergency generator is still in disrepair and Kraft Generator is coming back next week to work on it. Mr. Ignatowicz said that \$220,000 has been spent to date on the overall repair and rental costs. He noted that the generator is 40 years old and getting replacement parts for it is difficult because the generator is no longer manufactured.

ADMINISTRATIVE REPORT

Mr. Rostkowski reported that in comparison to FY 2010-11 total revenue decline for FY 2011-12 is about \$319, 968. Regarding the Town of Ellington Credit Adjustment, Mr. Rostkowski reported that approximately \$155,000 has been given to the Town of Ellington over the past five years. He referenced a May 4, 2012 memorandum from himself to Mr. Ignatowicz with supporting documentation for a credit adjustment to sewer user charges in accordance with the terms of the Vernon/Ellington Intermunicipal Sewer Agreement, as modified on July 1, 2003. Mr. Anderson, seconded by Miss Yang, moved that the Water Pollution Control Authority approves a reimbursement of \$40,890.14 to the Town of Ellington for costs incurred during Fiscal Year 2009-2010 in accordance with the Vernon/Ellington Intermunicipal Sewer Agreement, as modified on July 1, 2003. The motion passed unanimously (4-0-0).

REPAIR AND EXTERIOR REFINISHING OF (4) FIBERGLASS CHEMICAL TANKS

Mr. Ignatowicz presented the inspection report from Bee Fiberglass as requested by the Authority. Mr. Anderson suggested calling another vendor and said the repair should not be put off until next year. Miss Yang said that she will give Mr. Ignatowicz the name of another vendor. No action was taken on this item.

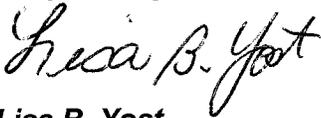
**REQUEST FOR ADDITIONAL APPROPRIATION FOR TALCOTTVILLE PUMP STATION
EMERGENCY REPAIR**

Mr. Ignatowicz informed the Authority that VMS Construction, one of the contractors for the emergency repair of the pump station, exceeded the authorized cost for the repair by \$14,448. The overage was due in part to the purchase of a line tap and stop for \$12,300 that was thought to be included in the original scope of work. Also, Mr. Ignatowicz said that the work took an additional day to complete due to groundwater issues as well as requiring more materials. According to Finance Officer Jim Luddecke, a bid waiver needs to be presented to the Town Council Mr. Ignatowicz said. To avoid this situation in the future, Mr. Ignatowicz said that he will put in a stronger contingency and provide a breakdown of individual items rather than presenting a lump sum. Mr. Leavitt, seconded by Mr. Anderson, motioned that the Water Pollution Control Authority supports the additional appropriation of \$14,448 to be paid to VMS Construction Co., 162 Lake Street, Vernon, CT for the emergency repair of the Talcottville Road Pump Station and recommends that the Vernon Town Council funds said expenditure for the Sewer Connection Account. The motion passed unanimously (4-0-0).

ADJOURN

Mr. Anderson, seconded by Mr. Leavitt, moved to adjourn the meeting at 9:20 p.m. The motion passed unanimously (4-0-0).

Respectfully submitted,



**Lisa B. Yost
Secretary, Water Pollution Control**