

**Minutes
Public Hearing
Bolton Lakes Water Pollution Control Authority**

July 24, 2013

7:00 PM

Vernon Town Hall

Attendees: Chairman Robert Morra, Mike Morris, Noel Gessay, Dan Wright and Alternate John Ward. Also present were Marshall Gaston of Fuss & O'Neill, Inc.; Vernon WPCA Director David Ignatowicz.

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1. CALL TO ORDER

Chairman Morra called the Public Hearing to order at 7:05 p.m. and read the Legal Notice of Public Hearing.

The Bolton Lakes Regional Water Pollution Control Authority will hold a public hearing in the Vernon Town Hall, 14 Park Place, in Vernon Connecticut, on July 24, 2013, at 7:00 p.m. to consider the advisability of construction of Phase V Construction Project portion of a regional sewerage system to serve the portions of Bolton Lakes defined as the "Lakes District" and the "Southwestern District" in the concurrent ordinances entitled "An Ordinance Creating the Bolton Lakes Regional Water Pollution Control Authority" approved by the Town of Bolton and the Town of Vernon on April 1, 2003 and April 5, 2003, respectively. The Phase V Construction Project generally consists of the portion of the regional sewerage system commencing at the end of Phase IV at Cubles Drive and extending through Vernon neighborhoods located along the east and west side of Middle Bolton Lake. The project area generally includes: Grier Road, a portion of Hatch Hill Road, Lakeview Drive, a portion of Wheeler Road, a cross country area between Wheeler Road and Wildwood Road, a portion of Wildwood Road, Wildwood Road South and the related spur lines and appurtenances, as more fully described in the report entitled "Preliminary Design Report for Bolton Lakes Sewer Project, Prepared for the Towns of Vernon and Bolton, Connecticut" dated January, 2008 and prepared by Fuss & O'Neill, Inc. A copy of said report is on file in the offices of the Authority and the offices of the Town Clerks of the Towns of Bolton and Vernon and available for inspection during normal business hours.

2. PUBLIC COMMENT

Mr. Morra asked Marshall Gaston of Fuss & O'Neill to give an overview of the boundaries of Phase V. Mr. Morra then spoke to the project and explained how a low pressure sewer system works and included electrical power, capacity and what the Authority will be responsible for and what the homeowner will be responsible for. He presented estimated time frames for bidding and construction explaining that most of the construction work will be done in 2014. He talked about the benefit assessment fee and the sewer usage fee. He then asked for comments from the public.

Ken Dzurenda, 201 Hatch Hill Road – Wanted to know if the small diameter pipe associated with the low pressure sewer system would have clogging problems.

Marshall Gaston responded no, the sewage goes through a grinder and will not plug up in the line. He also said that the line from the house to the grinder pump will remain the same.

Tom Crockett, 129 Grier Road – Was concerned about alarm systems and loss of electricity. He also asked if there are backflow valves on each lateral and is there a warranty on the pumps. Mr. Gaston explained that each grinder pump installation will have a battery operated alarm system notifying the user that normal power has been lost. He also said that there will be two backflow valves at each installation, one at the pump and one at the curb. There is a two year warranty on the pumps, and noted that maintenance of the pumps will be the responsibility of the BLRWPCA.

Nancy Finch, 34 Lakeview Drive – What is the cost going to be for the homeowner for the sewer system?

Mr. Morra stated that the homeowner has a \$10,000 special benefit assessment that is payable over 20 years at a 2% interest rate; a hook up cost that includes the abandonment of the existing septic system and connecting the house to the grinder pump installation (approximately \$2,500 to \$3,500 depending on lot configuration) and there will also be a quarterly sewer user charge for the treatment of the wastewater.

Tom Mullin, 10 Lakeview Drive – Is there an estimate of costs for sewer user fees?

Mr. Morra said that due to the small number of hook-ups to date that there was no history of sewer user costs and he was reluctant to give out a number without data to substantiate it. There should be some good average data before Phase V ties in.

Steve Jacques for Gerald McLaughlin, 12 Lakeview Drive – How will seasonal homes be billed?

Mr. Morra said that this issue has not been discussed by the BLRWPCA and needs to be addressed. He will ask for names and addresses of those with seasonal homes.

Tom Crockett, 129 Grier Road – Also concerned about seasonal house.

Paul Achilli, 86 Wildwood Road – Asked about the size of a generator that would be needed to operate the pump in case of a power outage.

Marshall Gaston responded that the pump system would require a 6,500 kW generator.

Ellen Donadio, 43 Grier Road – When will Grier Road be completed? She was also concerned about the location of her grinder pump.

Mr. Gaston responded that the Authority was trying to move Grier Road into Phase IV and get it done this fall, however depending on funding approval; only a portion may be incorporated into Phase IV. In that case, the remainder would be completed in 2014.

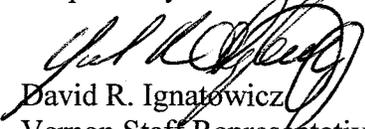
He also stated that the location of the grinder pump can be field verified with Fuss & O'Neill personnel prior to construction so that any conflicts can be worked out ahead of time.

Ken Dzurenda, 201 Hatch Hill Road – Will the sewers increase the value of our homes and will our taxes go up?

BLRWPCA member and Vernon Town Administrator John Ward stated that he had already consulted with the Vernon Assessor's office on this. The answer is no. However, the value of the property would change over time depending on market value of property in that area, in general.

Hearing no other questions Chairman Morra closed the public hearing at 7:50 pm.

Respectfully Submitted,


David R. Ignatowicz
Vernon Staff Representative

Please see minutes of subsequent meetings for the approval of these minutes and any corrections hereto.