TOWN OF VERNON
WATER POLLUTION CONTROL AUTHORITY

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WATER POLLUTION
CONTROL AUTHORITY

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REGULAR MEETING MINUTES
WATER POLLUTION CONTROL AUTHORITY
JUNE 27, 2013

Attendees: *Chairman E. Ray Weaver, John Anderson and Gary Leavitt. Also present: David R. Ignatowicz, Director, Water Pollution Control; George Rostkowski, Business Manager*

CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order at 7:41 p.m. There were no comments from the public.

MINUTES OF THE WPCA REGULAR MEETING HELD ON APRIL 25, 2013

Mr. Leavitt, seconded by Mr. Anderson made a motion that the Water Pollution Control Authority accept the minutes of the April 25, 2013 WPCA Regular Meeting as presented. The motion passed (2-0-1) with Mr. Anderson abstaining.

WASTEWATER TREATMENT PLANT REPORT

Mr. Ignatowicz reported that overall, the plant is running well and the coating has been applied to all four chemical storage tanks. He said that flow and transported wastewater totals are higher than last year at this time. Mr. Ignatowicz reported that the Permanent Municipal Building Committee conducted an inspection of the plant last month and the committee said that the facility is in excellent shape. H.I. Stone & Son, Inc. was awarded the new sludge contract beginning July 1st and will be transporting the sludge to The Mattabassett District in Cromwell, CT Mr. Ignatowicz said. In regard to staffing, he noted the Assistant Director position has yet to be filled and that by August, three operator positions will be vacant.

REQUEST FOR BID WAIVER TO PURCHASE POWDERED ACTIVATED CARBON FOR FY 2013-14

Mr. Ignatowicz explained that Cabot Norit Americas, Inc. can provide powdered activated carbon at $1.24/lb which includes delivery for the next fiscal year. Although the current price is $1.19/lb, Mr. Ignatowicz said that he budgeted $1.25/lb for the carbon. Mr. Anderson noted that attempts have been made in the past to obtain better quality carbon at a reduced cost and that the Authority does not just rubber stamp this item from year to year. Mr. Ignatowicz explained that the treatment facility needs such carbon which is specific to the processes at the facility. Mr. Anderson, seconded by Mr. Leavitt, made a motion that the Water Pollution Control Authority waives the bidding for the purchase of activated carbon and approves the purchase of powdered activated carbon for use at the wastewater treatment plant from Cabot Norit Americas, Inc., 3200 University Avenue, Marshall, TX 75671 for FY 2013-14 at a cost of $1.24 per pound, delivered. The motion passed unanimously (3-0-0).

ADMINISTRATIVE REPORT

Mr. Rostkowski reported that the sewer use bills for six of the seven properties set for a tax sale have been paid. The seventh property was sold for $23,000 at a tax sale which took place on June 11th. The total collected for sewer use bills from all seven properties is approximately $32,000. There were no additional matters.

REVIEW AND DISCUSSION OF PROPOSED SEWER USER CHARGES FOR THE LAST THREE MONTHS OF THE FISCAL YEAR ENDING JUNE 30, 2013 AND THE FIRST NINE MONTHS OF THE FISCAL YEAR ENDING JUNE 30, 2014

Mr. Rostkowski presented information including the History of the Waste Treatment Budget; History of Septage Charges and Connection Fees; History of Sewer Use and Well Rates; Sewer Rate Comparisons and Changes; Sewer User Fund; Billable Flows over the past six fiscal years; Actual & Projected Sewer Use Rates and the Impact of a Sewer Use Rate Increase. Mr. Ignatowicz and Mr. Rostkowski explained that unrestricted net assets increased for FY 2011-2012 due to increased revenue collection and less electricity costs for the treatment facility associated with the installation of the fine bubble diffusers. Mr. Rostkowski said that the 2.8% decrease in flow this year is due in part to the closing of Amerbelle. Mr. Ignatowicz explained that the decrease in flow is also due to the fact that the Connecticut Water Company no longer discharges its backwash water into the sewers since it dug four lagoons behind its facility on Snipsic Street. A discussion took place relative to the competitiveness of Vernon's septage charge compared to surrounding towns, investment income and sewer user rates. Mr. Leavitt, seconded by Mr. Anderson made a motion that the Water Pollution Control Authority schedule a public hearing on July 25, 2013 at the Water Pollution Control Facility located at 100 Windsorville Road at 7:00 P.M. for the purpose of establishing sewer user rates for the last three months of the fiscal year ending June 30, 2013 and for the first nine months of the fiscal year ending June 30, 2014. Mr. Anderson made a friendly amendment that the motion include the sewer user rate of $5.86/1000 gallons, with a minimum rate of $27.00, a well rate of $76.00 and a septage rate of $75.00/1000 gallons. The motion, with the friendly amendment passed unanimously (3-0-0).

REVIEW AND DISCUSSION OF CONNECTION CHARGES

No action was taken on this item.

TOWN OF ELLINGTON CREDIT ADJUSTMENT FOR FY 2011-2012

Mr. Rostkowski referenced a memo from himself with supporting documentation to Mr. Ignatowicz regarding a credit adjustment to sewer user charges in accordance with the terms of the Vernon/Ellington Intermunicipal Agreement as modified on July 1, 2003. Mr. Anderson, seconded by Mr. Leavitt moved that the Water Pollution Control Authority approves a reimbursement of $25,925.05 to the Town of Ellington for costs incurred during Fiscal Year 2011-2012 in accordance with the Vernon/Ellington Intermunicipal Sewer Agreement, as modified on July 1, 2003. The motion passed unanimously (3-0-0).

TOWN OF VERNON CONTRACT #1030-6/20/13 AUTOMATED DISCRETE ANALYZER

Mr. Ignatowicz referenced a memo dated June 20, 2013 from himself to the Authority, that Unity Scientific of Brookfield, CT was the only bidder to submit a bid on the specifications that were advertised for the automated discrete analyzer. Mr. Ignatowicz recommended that the Authority award the bid to Unity Scientific in the amount of $47,500. Mr. Leavitt,

seconded by Mr. Anderson made a motion that the Water Pollution Control Authority approves the purchase of an automated discrete analyzer and recommends that the Town Administrator enter into a contract with Unity Scientific, 117 Old State Road, Brookfield, CT 06804 for an auto-analyzer in the amount of $47,500 as specified and bid, in Town of Vernon Contract No. 1030-6/20/13. The motion passed unanimously (3-0-0).

REVIEW AND DISCUSSION OF FATS, OILS AND GREASE REGULATION

The Authority discussed the draft regulation for fats, oils and grease, specifically a fee schedule, existing NRFOG pretreatment systems, and inspections. Mr. Ignatowicz noted the addition of the definition of "non-renderable FOG" and said that the entire draft proposal needs to be reviewed by legal counsel. Mr. Anderson said that Mrs. Landry should submit her comments as well and have this item on the agenda for the next meeting. Chairman Weaver thanked Mr. Leavitt for his contributions and input to the draft regulation.

DRAFT PROPOSAL TO CONDUCT A FEASIBILITY STUDY FROM SIEMENS BUILDING TECHNOLOGIES TO IDENTIFY POTENTIAL ENERGY AND OPERATIONAL IMPROVEMENTS AT THE WASTEWATER TREATMENT PLANT

It was the consensus of the Authority to have a representative from Siemens Building Technologies attend the next meeting to present its proposal for a study that would provide information relative to energy and operational cost savings at the treatment facility. A discussion took place regarding the language of the draft proposal, the specificity of the study and the Town of Vernon being a public entity.

ADJOURN

Mr. Anderson, seconded by Mr. Leavitt made a motion to adjourn. The motion passed unanimously (3-0-0) and the meeting was adjourned at 9:01 p.m.

INFORMATIONAL

Mr. Ignatowicz informed the Authority that the State of Connecticut will have to submit a plan for state-wide phosphorous reduction by October 1, 2014. He said that Town of Vernon Administration is encouraging the WPCA to hire a consultant regarding a plan for phosphorous reduction. Mr. Weaver suggested that the consulting work include a plan for nitrogen reduction as well.

Respectfully submitted,

Lisa B. Yost
Secretary, Water Pollution Control