TOWN OF VERNON
WATER POLLUTION CONTROL AUTHORITY

OFFICE OF THE
WATER POLLUTION
CONTROL AUTHORITY

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DRAFT

Regular Meeting Minutes
WATER POLLUTION CONTROL AUTHORITY
June 26, 2014

Attendees: Chairman E. Ray Weaver, John Anderson, Elizabeth Landry, Andrew Tedford and Ralph Zahner. Also present David R. Ignatowicz, Director; Robert Grasis, WPCA Assistant Director; George Rostkowski, Business Manager and Tim Webb, Ellington WPCA Administrator

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CALL TO ORDER
The meeting was called to order at 7:30 p.m. by Chairman Weaver. He welcomed new members Andrew Tedford and Ralph Zahner to the Authority.

PUBLIC COMMENT
None.

MINUTES OF THE WPCA REGULAR MEETING HELD ON April 24, 2014
Mr. Anderson, seconded by Mrs. Landry, made a motion that the Water Pollution Control Authority accept the minutes of the March 27, 2014 WPCA Regular Meeting as presented. The motion passed unanimously (3-0-2) with Messrs. Tedford and Zahner abstaining.

FOG PROGRAM UPDATE
Mr. Ignatowicz spoke to a report provided by FOG Coordinator Gary Leavitt that detailed the results of requiring all food establishments in town to comply with fat, oil and grease regulations as mandated by the DEEP. Mr. Ignatowicz said that he was pleased with Mr. Leavitt's progress. Mr. Anderson asked about a schedule of fines for violations and non-compliance. Mr. Ignatowicz said that Mr. Leavitt will attend a future meeting and provide suggestions for adopting a fee structure for non-compliance.

WASTEWATER TREATMENT PLANT REPORT
Mr. Grasis reported on the operations of the treatment plant during the month of May and explained the monthly summary in detail for the new members. Mr. Grasis said that the treatment plant is running efficiently. A discussion took place regarding the gallons of flow relative to the amount of chlorine used. Mr. Grasis also reported that septage has significantly decreased because Skip's is using MDC in Hartford to dispose of their septic waste. Mr. Ignatowicz provided a septic waste analysis for all haulers that utilize the treatment plant and information on Wastewater Services and its incorporation of Skip's Septic. Mr. Ignatowicz said that he and Mr. Grasis met with the owner of Skip's to discuss a reduced rate for septage disposal. Mr. Ignatowicz reported that the owner has plans to build a septage receiving facility, possibly located in Tolland. Chairman Weaver and Mr. Ignatowicz both expressed concern about potential damage to the collection system partly because septage from that facility has to flow through the center of town. Mr. Grasis reported on the status of the replacement of the condensing boilers in the pretreatment building, the refurbishing of two dump trucks for $17,000, the SCADA System upgrade by Arcadis, and the flow monitoring

project on Center Road, Main Street and Hyde Avenue. He also said that the West Street Siphon project has not been started due to scheduling issues and lack of manpower by NEPCCO. Mr. Grasis noted that Plant Operator D.J. Lupaccino received a certificate for perfect attendance for four consecutive years.

Mr. Ignatowicz presented a draft Request for Qualifications (RFQ) for Professional Engineering Services to conduct a facilities evaluation of the Town of Vernon's Water Pollution Control Facility. He also provided a draft schedule for the removal of phosphorus and explained the RFQ process. Mr. Ignatowicz reported that the Town would not be eligible for additional funding under the Public Act 14-13 because the proposed Vernon permit limit for phosphorus would be 0.22 mg/l as indicated by a letter he received today from DEEP Deputy Commissioner of Environmental Quality Macky McCleary. Mr. Ignatowicz said that it was his understanding that the proposed level under the draft permit would be 0.14 mg/l and is not sure why the number changed. He recommended to the Authority to move forward with the RFQ whether or not the town gets the additional funding because the project needs to be done eventually. Mr. Ignatowicz answered questions from the Authority about the proposed RFQ. Mr. Anderson, seconded by Mr. Zahner, made a motion that the Water Pollution Control Authority recommends to the Mayor and Vernon Town Council to take appropriate action as necessary, to seek qualifications from consulting engineering firms with the goal of selecting the best qualified firm to conduct a facilities plan and make recommendations for improvements to the Vernon Wastewater Treatment Plant. The motion passed unanimously (5-0-0).

ADMINISTRATIVE REPORT

Mr. Ignatowicz explained the purpose of the Sewer Connection Account to the new members. Mr. Rostkowski reported that the balance of the Sewer Connection Account is approximately $1.7 million. Of that total, $637,727 from Tolland and $279,569 from Vernon, is restricted to the Rockville trunk sewer which totals about $1.1 million he said. Mr. Rostkowski reported that the last major expenditure from the account was $29,689 to Blake Equipment for the purchase of two replacement pumps at the Phoenix Street pump station. Mr. Rostkowski presented information including the History of the Waste Treatment Budget; History reports of Sewer Use, Well Rates, Minimum Sewer Use Rates and Septage Charges. With respect to Actual & Projected Sewer Use Rates, Mr. Rostkowski reported that he anticipated septage revenue to be about $300,000 which would include the impact of possible lost septage revenue from Skip's. The projected operating loss for FY 14-15, which includes the potential loss of septage (from Skip's), would be about $105,000 he said. That figure was calculated using the current rate schedule Mr. Rostkowski explained, and the actual loss of septage revenue would be about $200,000-$250,000. A discussion took place regarding the cost of hauling septage to MDC, septage rates, and the impact of an out of town septage receiving facility. It was the consensus of the Authority to have Mr. Ignatowicz speak with the owner of Skip's regarding septage disposal rates.

ANY ADDITIONAL MATTERS

The Authority discussed a date to hold a public hearing to adopt a schedule of sewer user charges to be followed by a special meeting. Mr. Anderson, seconded by Mrs. Landry made a motion to set a public hearing for Thursday, August 14th at 7:15 p.m. at the Wastewater Treatment Plant for the purpose of setting rates for the 2014-2015 Fiscal Year with rates to include $5.86 per 1000 gallons, a $27 minimum charge and $75.00/1000 gallons for septage. The motion passed unanimously (5-0-0).

ADJOURN

Mr. Anderson, seconded by Mrs. Landry made a motion to adjourn. The motion passed unanimously and the meeting was adjourned at 8:58 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Lisa B. Yost

Lisa B. Yost, Secretary