TOWN OF VERNON
WATER POLLUTION CONTROL AUTHORITY

OFFICE OF THE
WATER POLLUTION
CONTROL AUTHORITY

8 PARK PLACE, VERNON, CT 06066
Tel: (860) 870-3699
Fax: (860) 870-3584

DRAFT

Regular Meeting Minutes
Water Pollution Control Authority
May 28, 2015

Attendees: E. Ray Weaver, John Anderson, Elizabeth Landry, Andrew Tedford and Ralph Zahner (arrived at 8:30 p.m.). Also in attendance: Robert Grasis, Director; Steve Boske, Assistant Director; Tim Webb, Town of Ellington WPCA and Joseph Vallone, Loom City Lofts

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CALL TO ORDER
Chairman Weaver called the meeting to order at 7:30 p.m.

PUBLIC COMMENT
None.

MINUTES OF THE WPCA REGULAR MEETING HELD ON APRIL 23, 2015
Mr. Anderson, seconded by Mr. Tedford made a motion that the Water Pollution Control Authority accepts the minutes of the April 23, 2015 WPCA Regular Meeting as presented. The motion passed unanimously (4-0-0).

LOOM CITY LOFTS – 215 EAST MAIN STREET
Mr. Vallone provided background on this item relative to the project's development since his involvement in 2002 and answered questions from the Authority. Mr. Vallone asked for a waiver or a reduction of sewer connection fees because some of the proposed 68 units are affordable housing units. Chairman Weaver thanked Mr. Vallone for attending the meeting, and said that, historically, connection fees have not been waived because those fees go to downstream improvements to the sewer system. Mr. Anderson expressed concern about setting a precedent regarding the waiver of connection fees and Mrs. Landry agreed. Mr. Tedford also agreed, and noted that there are other mills in town that will/could be renovated. After discussion, it was the consensus of the Authority to have Mr. Grasis obtain a legal opinion from the Town Attorney, prior to the next meeting regarding the waiver of connection fees altogether or setting a lower connection fee for affordable housing units. The Authority agreed that the mill looks good and the project is an asset to the town.

SKIP'S/WASTEWATER SERVICES UPDATE
Mr. Grasis said that since the passing of Town Attorney Hal Cummings, the Town has hired Cindy Karlson, an environmental attorney who has been working on this issue. Mr. Grasis reported that on May 5, 2015 a letter was sent to the Town of Tolland regarding unpaid fees and that interest will be accrued if payment was not received by May 15, 2015. A Notice of Violation was issued from the CT DEEP on May 7, 2015 to Skip's/Wastewater Services with a 30 day response deadline, and to date, there has been no formal response Mr. Grasis said. As requested by the Authority, he notified the Town of Tolland of the solids in the system. Mr. Grasis informed the Authority that Vernon's Town Attorney has contacted Tolland's Town Attorney requesting sampling and flow data; and disposition of loads that are received prior to any mediation.

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DRAFT REQUEST FOR QUALIFICATIONS (RFQ) FOR PROFESSIONAL ENGINEERING SERVICES TO CONDUCT A FACILITIES EVALUATION OF THE TOWN OF VERNON'S WATER POLLUTION CONTROL FACILITY

Mr. Grasis presented the changes to the Authority based on discussions with the CT DEEP, other consultants and municipalities. Chairman Weaver suggested that more emphasis be placed on the powdered activated carbon treatment (PACT) process: to consider the importance of it in its present form and would it be cost effective in the future to keep this process. Chairman Weaver also recommended adding the evaluation of existing facilities and unused areas to the draft request. Mr. Grasis said that the evaluation committee will most likely include himself, Mr. Boske, Chairman Weaver, Director of Public Works Robert Kleinhans, Finance Officer Jim Luddecke, possibly the Town Engineer and a member of Administration.

FOG UPDATE

Mr. Grasis reported that Gary Leavitt, FOG Program Coordinator has sent out four Notice of Violation letters and is researching fee structures for those establishments that have not registered its grease trap equipment with the WPCA. Mr. Leavitt has been submitting his comments to the CT DEEP relative to the new draft permit for Fats, Oils and Grease Mr. Grasis said.

WASTEWATER TREATMENT PLANT REPORT

Mr. Grasis said that the plant is running normal and chlorination began in late April. Mr. Grasis also reported that he will inform Mr. Boynton that the deferred assessment associated with 263 South Street is owed; the Finance and I.T. departments have been contacted regarding a web demonstration for a new billing system; and there is one operator position open – two operator positions have been filled since the last meeting. The #1 screw pump has been reinstalled with the new oil bearing motor and a new oiler delivery system unit will be installed tomorrow. The other two screw pumps will be upgraded with the new oiler unit if the system works well on the #1 screw pump. A discussion took place relative to tours of the treatment facility.

ANY ADDITIONAL MATTERS

None.

ADJOURN

Mr. Anderson, seconded by Mrs. Landry made a motion to adjourn. The motion passed unanimously (5-0-0) and the meeting was adjourned at 8:45 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Lisa B. Yost
Secretary, WPC