TOWN OF VERNON
WATER POLLUTION CONTROL AUTHORITY

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OFFICE OF THE
WATER POLLUTION
CONTROL AUTHORITY

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SPECIAL MEETING MINUTES
WATER POLLUTION CONTROL AUTHORITY
FEBRUARY 5, 2015

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Attendees: E. Ray Weaver, John Anderson, Elizabeth Landry, Andrew Tedford and Ralph Zahner. Also in attendance: Robert Grasis, Interim Director

CALL TO ORDER
The meeting was called to order at 7:30 p.m.

PUBLIC COMMENT
None.

SKIP'S/WASTEWATER SERVICES UPDATE AND DISCUSSION

Mr. Grasis said that he spoke with an official from the DEEP on January 26th who reported that the owner of Skip's/Wastewater Services wants to comply. Mr. Grasis reiterated the Vernon Sewer Authority's position to the DEEP that it does not want that facility to discharge; discharging would damage the collection system; it is a violation of the inter-municipal agreement; and is discharging without a DEEP permit. The DEEP official spoke with the owner of Skip's/Wastewater Services who said that he is willing to stop the discharge if the Vernon WPCA could work out some kind of compromise. Mr. Grasis told the DEEP official that he would speak with the Vernon WPCA and Town Administrator John Ward. Mr. Grasis said that he is trying to set up a meeting with Mr. Ward, Chairman Weaver, himself and Vernon's Town Attorney. Mr. Grasis said that he doesn't think that the DEEP option will work. He explained that the DEEP industrial wastewater division has the tools to stop the discharging but not the jurisdiction; the DEEP municipal wastewater division doesn't have the tools to stop the discharging but it has the jurisdiction. Chairman Weaver explained that the DEEP can enforce the state statutes, the inter-municipal agreement and the Vernon's sewer use rules; he feels that the DEEP doesn't want to have to go through that. Chairman Weaver said that he feels this whole action is detrimental to the collection system. The Authority questioned the statement by Skip's/Wastewater Services owner relative to a compromise. Mr. Grasis said Skip's/Wastewater Services needs a DEEP permit and the Town of Tolland is waiting for them to obtain it. Chairman Weaver suggested that Mr. Grasis send an email to Denise Ruzicka and Dennis Greci of the DEEP, stating that the Vernon WPCA is dissatisfied with the results of what their staff has done in mitigating these circumstances. Mr. Grasis said that he has documented phone calls from the DEEP. Mr. Anderson asked who is the responsible party for enforcing the inter-town agreement; Mr. Zahner expressed extreme concern regarding damage to the collection system. Discussion took place regarding the urgency of the situation, a meeting with the Mayor, Town Administration and legal counsel. Chairman Weaver said that he will contact John Ward tomorrow to express the urgency of the situation as felt by the WPCA.

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REVIEW OF PROPOSED WATER POLLUTION CONTROL AUTHORITY BUDGET #10116157; HOUSING AUTHORITY SEWER SUBSIDY BUDGET #10673282; WASTE TREATMENT OPERATING BUDGET #41345700 AND TOWN CAPITAL IMPROVEMENTS BUDGET REQUEST FOR FISCAL YEAR 2015/2016.

Mr. Grasis gave an overview of the budgets and answered questions from the Authority.
Discussion took place relative to the budget, planned expenditures, utilizing unrestricted reserve funds and setting sewer user rates.

Mr. Anderson, seconded by Mr. Zahner made a motion that the Water Pollution Control Authority recommend to the Mayor and the Vernon Town Council, Water Pollution Control Authority Budget #10116157 for fiscal year 2015/2016 in the amount of $8,228. The motion passed unanimously (5-0-0).

Mrs. Landry, seconded by Mr. Anderson, made a motion that the Water Pollution Control Authority recommend to the Mayor and the Vernon Town Council, Housing Authority Sewer Subsidy Budget #10673282 for fiscal year 2015/2016 in the amount of $50,450. The motion passed unanimously (5-0-0).

After discussion, Mr. Anderson, seconded by Mr. Zahner, moved to reduce Object Code 53110 -Town Attorney by $4,000, from $5,000 to $1,000. Chairman Weaver called for a vote on the motion and it passed unanimously (5-0-0).

After discussion, Mrs. Landry, seconded by Mr. Anderson, moved to reduce Object Code 56142-Electrical Supplies by $15,000, from $35,000 to $20,000. Chairman Weaver called for a vote on the motion and it passed unanimously (5-0-0).

After discussion, Mr. Anderson, seconded by Mr. Zahner, moved to reduce Object Code 56500 – Clothing and Uniform by $2,900, from $9,900 to $7,000. Chairman Weaver called for a vote on the motion and it passed unanimously (5-0-0).

After discussion, Mr. Anderson, seconded by Mrs. Landry, moved to reduce Object Code 56510 - Motor Vehicle Parts by $1,500, from $6,500 to $5,000. Chairman Weaver called for a vote on the motion and it passed unanimously (5-0-0).

After discussion, Mrs. Landry, seconded by Mr. Zahner, moved to reduce Object Code 56172 – Postage by $2,400, from $14,400 to $12,000. Chairman Weaver called for a vote on the motion and it passed unanimously (5-0-0).

Mr. Grasis made a recommendation to reduce Object Code 51083- Employee Merit Pay by $1,680, from $5,180 to $3,500, due to a typographical error in the proposed budget packet. After discussion, it was the consensus of the Authority to accept the recommendation.

Mr. Anderson, seconded by Mr. Tedford, made a motion that the Water Pollution Control Authority recommend to the Mayor and the Vernon Town Council, Wastewater Treatment Plant budget #41345700 for fiscal year 2015/2016 in the amount of $5,887,213 (0.79% increase). The motion passed unanimously (5-0-0).

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Mr. Grasis presented Capital Improvement requests and answered questions from the Authority. Discussion followed. Mrs. Landry, seconded by Mr. Anderson, made a motion that the Water Pollution Control Authority recommend to the Mayor and the Vernon Town Council, 2015-2020 Capital Improvements Requests. The motion passed unanimously (5-0-0).

ADJOURN

Mr. Zahner, seconded by Mrs. Landry made a motion to adjourn. The motion passed unanimously (5-0-0) and the meeting was adjourned at 9:36 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Lisa B. Yost

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Secretary, Water Pollution Control