



OFFICE OF THE  
WATER POLLUTION  
CONTROL AUTHORITY

# TOWN OF VERNON WATER POLLUTION CONTROL AUTHORITY

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

APPROVED

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VERNON TOWN ENGINEER

## REGULAR MEETING MINUTES WATER POLLUTION CONTROL AUTHORITY JUNE 22, 2017

Attendees: Chairman E. Ray Weaver, John Anderson, and Andrew Tedford. Also present, Robert J. Grasis, Director, Water Pollution Control; Steve Boske, Assistant Director, Water Pollution Control; Matt Daskal, Financial Analyst, Water Pollution Control

### CALL TO ORDER

Chairman Weaver called the meeting to order at 7:30 p.m. Mr. Grasis asked to add Agenda Item 7b, Executive Session to discuss Tolland mediation.

### PUBLIC COMMENT

Mr. Doug Stoyer, owner, 9 George Drive: Mr. Stoyer asked the Authority to consider waiving the \$2000 connection fee for the above referenced property as well as the sewer use fees for the last three billing periods. He explained that the original house burned and the original foundation was destroyed. A new house is under construction with a new foundation, he explained. It is his understanding that the connection fee was paid by the original owner, and again when the house was being re-built on a new foundation after a fire occurred in 2014. He does not feel he should pay the connection fee for a third time. Mr. Stoyer also stated that the Town's Building Official, John LaBossiere, inspected the existing lateral and declared that is acceptable for connection to the sanitary sewer.

Mr. Alan Katz, 16-41 Vernon Avenue: Mr. Katz said that the Water Pollution Control Department should send one bill to his condominium association and not bill individual owners. There are multiple units that are being billed from one water meter and he does not think this billing method is fair.

### MINUTES OF THE WPCA REGULAR MEETING HELD ON MAY 25, 2017

Mr. Tedford, seconded by Mr. Anderson, made a motion that the Water Pollution Control Authority accepts the minutes of the Regular Meeting held on May 25, 2017 as presented. The motion passed unanimously (3-0-0).

### UPDATE ON TREATMENT PLANT UPGRADE

Mr. Grasis said that the Public Hearing held on June 22, 2017 went well. Regarding the draft facilities plan, issues with the sewer service area are still being addressed with DEEP; the Clean Water Fund application is in its final stages; the second set of invoices for the facilities plan were mailed to Tolland, South Windsor and Manchester - Ellington has paid in full; and the I/I report is being written.

### PLANT SUMMARY

Mr. Boske said that everything is running well at the plant and the quality of the effluent water is very good; septage has increased since last year by more than 400,000 gallons; last year's phosphorus numbers were very high, and although they have improved this year, the number still needs to decrease. Regarding current activities, Mr. Grasis reported that Collection System Foreman Dj Lupacchino achieved seven years of perfect attendance; a power outage on Saturday June 10<sup>th</sup> affected the #1 screw pump, primary thickener building as

well as equipment at the Phoenix Street pump station. Mr. Grasis also reported that the #2 screw pump has issues with the lower bearings and ring, and explained repair procedures to the Authority. Also, there was a working demonstration of a flusher-vac truck; FOG Coordinator Gary Leavitt reported that there is one non-compliant restaurant relative to FOG regulations; and the connection fee for the Talcottville Mill property is still outstanding.

#### DISCUSSION OF CONNECTION FEE FOR 9 GEORGE DRIVE – ACCOUNT #5854

Mr. Grasis provided background on this item. After discussion, Mr. Anderson, seconded by Mr. Tedford made a motion to waive the minimum use billing for property located at 9 George Drive for the billing periods of January 15, 2017 for \$27.61, April 15, 2017 for \$27.61 and July 15, 2017 for \$27.61. There was no further discussion and the motion passed unanimously (3-0-0). After further discussion, it was the consensus of the Authority to obtain a legal opinion about the waiver of the connection fee as it pertains to Regulation 1: (a) if a new structure is built on an existing foundation and the same lateral is to be used; if a new foundation is built and the existing lateral is used. The Authority asked the WPCD Business Office to research whether or not a second connection fee has been paid since the new foundation was built. Chairman Weaver also said to check with Public Works and the Building Department to see if those departments have a record of payment for a second connection fee.

#### RATES AND POLICY DISCUSSION

Mr. Daskal presented potential discussion topics relative to rates for the next fiscal year. They included clarification of language for multi-use buildings with a single meter; language for affidavits and non-use; a non-sufficient funds policy; new connections – when does billing start?; reconnection of discontinued connections; illegal discharges into the collection system; and, modify Regulation 1 to remove the rate schedule and fees and refer to an annually adopted rate schedule. A discussion took place relative to switching from a quarterly to a bi-annual billing cycle. It was the consensus of the Authority to have Mr. Daskal present details for the proposed changes/ideas at the next meeting.

#### EXECUTIVE SESSION TO DISCUSS TOLLAND MEDIATION

Mr. Anderson, seconded by Mr. Tedford, made a motion that the Vernon Water Pollution Control Authority, pursuant to the authority given in Connecticut General Statutes, Section 1-200 (6) (B) and (D) hereby moves to go in to Executive Session to discuss mediation regarding Town of Vernon Water Pollution Control Authority V Tolland WPCA and invites Rob Grasis, Director, Water Pollution Control; Steve Boske, Assistant Director, Water Pollution Control; and any other persons the Water Pollution Control Authority deems appropriate, to attend the Executive Session. The motion passed unanimously and the Authority entered into Executive Session at 9:07 p.m. The Authority exited Executive Session at 9:18 p.m. by a motion made by Mr. Anderson, seconded by Mr. Tedford (unanimous 3-0-0). No action was taken on the Executive Session item.

#### ADJOURN

Mr. Grasis spoke to informational items relative to correspondence between Anocoil Corporation and the Connecticut DEEP regarding phosphorus limits. Mr. Anderson, seconded by Mr. Tedford, made a motion to adjourn. The motion passed unanimously (3-0-0) and the meeting was adjourned at 9:20 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,



Lisa B. Yost  
Secretary, Water Pollution Control