



TOWN OF VERNON WATER POLLUTION CONTROL AUTHORITY

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APPROVED

OFFICE OF THE
WATER POLLUTION
CONTROL AUTHORITY

REGULAR MEETING MINUTES WATER POLLUTION CONTROL AUTHORITY CONFERENCE CALL

March 26, 2020

7:30 p.m.

Attendees: Ken Boynton, Gordon Gibson, Carina Hart, and Kevin Kearney. Also present: Robert I. Grasis, Director, Water Pollution Control (joined at 7:46 p.m.); Steve Boske, Assistant Director, Water Pollution Control; Matthew Daskal, Financial Analyst (joined at 7:46 p.m.); Steven Seigal, Vice President, and Michael Becker, Engineer, Tighe & Bond; Kevin Santini, Owner, Santini Homes

CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order at 7:31 p.m.

PUBLIC COMMENT

None.

MINUTES OF THE WPCA SPECIAL MEETING HELD ON FEBRUARY 11, 2020 AND MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING HELD ON FEBRUARY 27, 2020

Mr. Gibson, seconded by Ms. Hart made a motion to adopt the minutes of both meetings as distributed. The motion passed unanimously (4-0-0).

UPDATE ON TREATMENT FACILITY UPGRADE

Mr. Becker updated the Authority and answered questions regarding the facility upgrade. His report included: work was done on new duct-banks and conduits; various heater conduits were roughed in by the electrician; concrete construction of the new filter tank is continuing; various equipment in secondary clarifier #5 and the solids building has been demolished. Regarding the Four Week Look-Ahead, Mr. Becker said that Methuen will continue with the demolition of out-of-service equipment in the solids building; new concrete in the filter building should be completed; work will continue on the new baffle walls in Aeration tank #5 and Aeration tanks #1 & #2 should have the PCB paint removed. Mr. Becker said that Methuen's Summary and Milestone report reflects that all milestone dates will be met; the new clarifier is scheduled to arrive in May; Change Order #1 has been submitted which is approximately 4.6% of the contract price; payments to date equal approximately 9.4% of the contract value for the period ending March 15, 2020. Mr. Seigal spoke to the possible impact of the COVID-19 pandemic. He said that manufacturers have indicated that there could be a delay in the fabrication and shipping of equipment; Tighe & Bond is monitoring the situation and there is no impact to date.

GRAND LOFTS WEST – 209 SOUTH STREET

Mr. Santini presented plans for a five building, 56 unit development and answered questions from the Authority. He said that the units will be rental therefore his company will be responsible for the sewer charges and the sewer will be privately owned. Mr. Boynton said that he spoke to the engineering firm that provided the plans in regards to the size of the lateral; he thinks it is a good plan and is very comfortable with it. Mr.

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Boynton, seconded by Ms. Hart, made a motion to approve the plan as drawn with any adjustments, with Mr. Grasis to address, along with a Developers Agreement. The motion passed unanimously (4-0-0).

DISCUSSION OF TIGHE & BOND'S ENGINEERING AGREEMENT AMENDMENT #7 APPROVAL

Mr. Grasis provided an update on this item. Mr. Seigal spoke to the details of the Amendment, specifically, that a cost allowance of \$85,000 for Police Detail will now be included and \$30,349 can be authorized as a separate appropriation for the Instantaneous Flow Monitoring portion of the agreement. Ms. Hart asked if the schedule has been delayed because of COVID-19. Mr. Seigal said that he is monitoring the situation with the subcontractor and discussion took place. Ms. Hart, seconded by Mr. Gibson, made a motion that the Water Pollution Control Authority accepts Tighe & Bond's Engineering Agreement Amendment #7 as presented for Planning Services for SSES and the Exit 66 and 67 Sewer Feasibility Study in the amount of \$731,224. The motion passed unanimously (4-0-0).

PLANT SUMMARY

Mr. Boske reported that DEEP contacted him relative to starting the chlorination season earlier than May 1st due to the COVID-19 pandemic. He asked the Authority for permission to start the chlorination process at the end of the first week of April. The Authority agreed with Mr. Boske's recommendation. Discussion took place regarding non-flushable wipes and rags. Mr. Boske said that solids were up compared to last year at this time and he will be better able to speak about the effluent quality at the next meeting because of the early chlorination. Mr. Grasis updated the Authority on current activities which included: Nick Campolongo earned his Class 1 Operator's license; staff is working daily amid the COVID-19 pandemic; the camera truck was serviced and is fully operational; and the new vacuum truck is working out well.

BUSINESS OFFICE REPORT

Mr. Daskal reported that sewer bills were mailed last week. Discussion took place regarding hardship cases, the 30 day due date and holding an emergency meeting relative to the COVID-19 pandemic. Mr. Daskal asked the Authority about the possibility of waiving e-check fees which would amount to approximately \$4000 if all bills were paid in that manner. It was the consensus of the Authority to waive the individual 95¢ e-check fee once that payment option becomes available. Mr. Gibson recommended contacting legal counsel regarding the deferral of payments until the medical crisis is over.

SUSPENSE ACCOUNTS

Mr. Grasis provided background information on Septage Accounts #8939 and #9568. He said there has been no response from the vendors and the total amount due for both accounts is approximately \$1,200. Mr. Boynton, seconded by Ms. Hart made a motion that Accounts #8939 and #9568 be removed from the books. The motion passed unanimously (4-0-0).

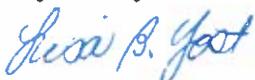
ANY ADDITIONAL MATTERS

None.

ADJOURN

Ms. Hart, seconded by Mr. Gibson made a motion to adjourn. The motion passed unanimously (4-0-0) and the meeting was adjourned at 8:36 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,



Lisa B. Yost, Secretary, Water Pollution Control