

APPROVED: 7-21-11



TOWN OF VERNON

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OFFICE OF THE
WATER POLLUTION
CONTROL DEPARTMENT

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MINUTES WATER POLLUTION CONTROL AUTHORITY REGULAR MEETING

JUNE 23, 2011 WASTEWATER TREATMENT PLANT 7:30 P.M.

ATTENDEES: Adam Weissberger, Chairman; Gary Leavitt and Everett Weaver, Also
David Ignatowicz, Director and George Rostkowski, Business Manager

1. CALL TO ORDER

Chairman Adam Weissberger called the meeting to order at 7:32 P.M.

2. PUBLIC COMMENT

None

3. MINUTES OF WPCA REGULAR MEETING HELD ON MAY 26, 2011

Everett Weaver moved to accept the minutes of the regular meeting of the Water Pollution Control Authority held on May 26, 2011 with Gary Leavitt seconding the motion. Discussion followed with David Ignatowicz noting that on page 2, under the Wastewater Treatment Plant Report, that the minutes should be corrected to say "Mr. Ignatowicz reported that about 82% of the current budget has been expended, with \$970,289 available and overall, the budget is in good shape." The Chairman called for a vote on the motion to accept the minutes, as amended. The motion carried unanimously.

4. WASTEWATER TREATMENT PLANT REPORT

David Ignatowicz reported that the treatment plant was running well and spoke to the monthly plant summary included in the packet. He also reported that the plant/collection system has been short of staff during the past month due to a couple of people being on extended sick leave, a current vacancy that needs to be filled, and employees beginning to take summer vacations. He reported that the new replacement pick-up truck that was approved earlier this year has been delivered and also that the new lawnmower approved in May 2011 was purchased.

Mr. Ignatowicz also said that the CT DOT has repaved Route 30 from Tunnel Road to the area near Mount Vernon Apartments and that during the second week of July the Water Pollution Control Department will be raising 24 manholes in the road. The estimated cost, including traffic control, is \$21,800 with 50% of that being reimbursable from the state. Vernon's share will be paid from the Sewer Connection Account.

5. UPDATE OF ODOR CONTROL PILOT – NORTH/SOUTH INTERCEPTOR

David Ignatowicz reported that there are now three chemical systems set up to add Bioxide +71® to the sewer lines at the North-South Interceptor. They are located at the Talcottville PS, Tankerhoosen Road PS and the Phoenix Street PS. The department has been working with Siemens, Inc. and StanTec Consulting to monitor 4 selected manholes for hydrogen sulfide levels and to adjust chemical dosages in order to maximize their effectiveness. The variables to be considered include amount of flow, weather conditions, air and water temperatures and the pH of the wastewater. Mr. Ignatowicz also reported that the Town of Ellington plans to install a permanent chemical system, similar to the ones Vernon is using, at their Meadowbrook Road Pump station and he handed out a letter dated June 21, 2011 from Buck & Buck Engineers addressed to the Ellington WPCA with that recommendation.

6. PROPOSAL TO PURCHASE OF POWDERED ACTIVATED CARBON FOR THE WASTEWATER TREATMENT PLANT FOR FISCAL YEAR 2011-12

David Ignatowicz spoke to the proposal dated June 7, 2011 from Siemens Industries, Inc. that was included in the agenda packet. He said that the lignite based, steam activated carbon called Hydro-Darco R, is the carbon recommended by Siemens who patented the PACT process used by Vernon. Years of use and testing confirms that Vernon achieves the best results in their treatment of wastewater with this specific product. Vernon has tried other carbon products in the past with poor results and he said we should not use anything that could put us in a position to violate our discharge permit.

After further discussion, Gary Leavitt moved that the Water Pollution Control Authority approves the purchase of powdered activated carbon from Siemens Industries, Inc. of Rothschild, WI as proposed in their letter dated June 7, 2011 in order to insure that the carbon used by Vernon will be in accordance with Siemens Industries, Inc. testing and quality control parameters. Everett Weaver seconded the motion and the Chairman called for a vote. Carried unanimously.

Upon the recommendation of the Chairman, a motion was made by Gary Leavitt, to re-open Agenda Item #6. Everett Weaver seconded the motion. The motion carried.

After discussion, Everett Weaver moved to modify the original motion as follows: That the Water Pollution Control Authority waives the bidding for the purchase of powdered activated carbon and approves the purchase of powdered activated carbon from Siemens Industries, Inc. of Rothschild, WI as proposed in their letter dated June 7, 2011 in order to insure that the carbon used by Vernon will be in accordance with Siemens Industries, Inc. testing and quality control parameters. Gary Leavitt seconded the motion and the Chairman called for a vote. Carried unanimously.

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7. GARDEN BARN, 212 WEST STREET, REQUEST TO CONNECT TO SANITARY SEWER

David Ignatowicz spoke to a request from Dennis W. Gliha owner of the Garden Barn to connect property located at 212 West Street to the Vernon sanitary sewer system through a sewer installed by Kenneth Boynton on Ogden View Drive. This matter was considered at a meeting of the WPCA on April 28, 2005 when the approval of the Ogden View Estates development was made. Mr. Ignatowicz said that at that time, the Authority stipulated in the Ogden View Developers Permit Agreement that the Gliha property could not connect to the sewer without receiving prior approval from the WPCA, which is why it is now on the agenda.

After initial discussion, Gary Leavitt moved to authorize the connection of 212 West Street for a proposed greenhouse and growing facility to the Vernon sanitary sewer system through a lateral connection provided by Kenneth Boynton as part of the Ogden View Estates development. Everett Weaver seconded the motion. Discussion followed.

A conceptual drawing of a greenhouse area and workshop was submitted with this request. Everett Weaver expressed concerns that this was not a detailed development plan showing the actual building structures, plumbing details, etc and he was concerned that the use of fertilizers and/or pesticides may have the potential to get into the sewer system through one on the many drains that were depicted on the drawing presented. He expressed that he was uncomfortable voting for approval with the limited information provided. Gary Leavitt questioned the need for a pump to utilize the sewer and asked who is responsible for the pump and maintenance. Mr. Ignatowicz indicated that the property owner would be, and that in these cases, a Developers Permit Agreement is entered into between the WPCA and the property owner to clarify that understanding. Mr. Leavitt said that he would be satisfied with allowing the connection, only after a review and approval of plans and specifications for the greenhouse and growing facility by WPCA administrative staff as well as the execution of a Developers Permit Agreement.

After further discussion, Mr. Leavitt made a friendly amendment to the original motion as follows: That the Water Pollution Control Authority authorizes the connection of 212 West Street for a proposed greenhouse and growing facility, to the Vernon sanitary sewer system through a lateral connection provided by Kenneth Boynton as part of the Ogden View Estate development, pending submission of detailed plans and specifications showing said connection for review and approval and, the execution of a Developers Permit Agreement between the owner Dennis Gliha of the Garden Barn and the Water Pollution Control Authority. Everett Weaver seconded the motion as amended. Chairman Weissberger called for a vote. Leavitt and Weaver voted yes; Weissberger abstained. The motion passed.

8. **EMCOR SERVICES – CONTRACT AGREEMENT FOR FY 2011-2012**

David Ignatowicz spoke to his memorandum dated June 20, 2011 to WPCA Members recommending the renewal of a maintenance agreement with EMCOR Services of Vernon, CT for maintenance of the HVAC equipment at the treatment plant. He said that this was a contract that was bid in 2008 and had a renewal clause for a maximum of three additional years. This will be the third and final renewal and EMCOR is proposing an increase of \$442 over the original contract amount bringing the contract cost to \$15,240 for FY 2011-2012.

After discussion, Everett Weaver moved that the Water Pollution Control Authority approves a one year renewal of Town of Vernon Contract No. 891-6/26/08 for HVAC maintenance services to EMCOR Services/New England Mechanical of Vernon, CT in the amount of \$15,240 for Fiscal Year 2011-2012. This being the fourth and final year of the contract. Gary Leavitt seconded the motion. Carried unanimously.

9. **REVIEW AND DISCUSSION OF PROPOSED SEWER USER CHARGES FOR THE LAST THREE MONTHS OF THE FISCAL YEAR ENDING JUNE 30, 2011 AND FOR THE FIRST NINE MONTHS OF THE FISCAL YEAR ENDING JUNE 30, 2012.**

George Rostkowski presented and reviewed the history of Waste Treatment Plant Operations Budgets and related information in the agenda packet. The presentation covered pie charts showing revenue and expenditures, a line graph depicting billed flow (in gallons) over the last four years, a bar graph showing the actual and recommended rate increases for the past seven years, a history of sewer user rate increases (both in % and in dollars), a history of well rates, minimum rate charges, septage charges, connection charges since 2008, the fiscal year billing cycle, sewer user fund history since 1998, a projection of income and expenditures to FY 2015-16 and, a worksheet showing the impact of a rate increase in % and in dollars. Mr. Rostkowski then answered questions from members of the Authority. Mr. Ignatowicz stated that no increase in the current sewer user rate was being requested.

After discussion, Everett Weaver moved that the Water Pollution Control Authority schedule a Public Hearing on July 21, 2011 at the Water Pollution Control Facility located at 100 Windsorville Road at 7:00 P.M. for the purpose of establishing sewer user rates for the last three months of the fiscal year ending June 30, 2011 and the first nine months of the fiscal year ending June 30, 2012. The motion was seconded by Gary Leavitt. The motion carried unanimously.

Everett Weaver then moved that the Water Pollution Control Authority publish a schedule of rates for the Public Hearing to be held on July 21, 2011 at 7:00 P.M. at the Water Pollution Control Facility located at 100 Windsorville Road, Vernon. Said rates to be advertised at a user charge of \$5.69/1,000 gallons; a minimum sewer use charge of \$26.00; and a charge of \$75.00/1,000 gallons of septic waste discharged at the wastewater treatment facility. Gary Leavitt seconded the motion. Carried unanimously.

10. ANY ADDITIONAL MATTERS

Next Meeting Date – The Authority discussed scheduling a special meeting on July 21, 2011 in lieu of the regularly scheduled meeting of July 28, 2011 in order to insure that a quorum could be had. After discussion, Everett Weaver moved to hold a special meeting of the WPCA on July 21, 2011 at the Water Pollution Control Facility, 100 Windsorville Road, Vernon at 7:30 P.M. or immediately following the Public Hearing, whichever is later. Gary Leavitt seconded the motion. Carried Unanimously.

FOG (Fat, Oil and Grease) Update – David Ignatowicz reported that he had met with several restaurant owners and food preparation establishments (FPEs) concerning their progress with meeting the July 1, 2011 General Permit compliance schedule. Although many have already installed the required units, there are still quite a few that have not and he said the Water Pollution Control Department is continuing to work with the North Central District Health Department and the FPE's to get the proper equipment in as soon as possible. There are over 80 establishments and limited resources but the goal is to get full compliance as soon as possible.

11. ADJOURN

The meeting was adjourned at 9:16 P.M. upon a motion made by Mr. Leavitt and seconded by Mr. Weaver.

Respectfully Submitted,


David R. Ignatowicz
Director, WPCD