

**New Hartford Water Pollution Control Authority
TOWN OF NEW HARTFORD, CONNECTICUT
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES
Thursday, December 3, 2020 at 7:00 PM
Held Remotely Via Zoom**

PRESENT: Chairman Denton Butler, David Douyard, Mary Beth Greenwood, Michael LeClaire, Wes Marsh, Polly Pobuda, and Joe Toro.

ABSENT: None.

Mr. Butler called the meeting to order at 7:00PM.

1. APPROVE MINUTES – NOVEMBER 5, 2020 REGULAR MEETINGS:

The November 5, 2020 regular meeting minutes should include the following changes:
The *Motion to Approve* the October Minutes was seconded by Ms. Greenwood.
The *Motion to Adjourn* the meeting was seconded by Mr. Toro.

The approval of the November 5, 2020 Regular Meeting Minutes was deferred to the January, 2021 regular meeting.

2. FINANCIAL RESULTS – NOVEMBER FY20-21 UPDATE:

Mr. Butler reminded the Board that they should have received by email the financial update from Administrative Office Assistant Jill Healey in advance of the meeting. Ms. Greenwood questioned whether the charges associated with one of the phone lines had been resolved. Mr. Butler confirmed that it had been resolved but not to his satisfaction. He noted that the phone line in question had been tracked as being one leading into a town-owned home on West Hill Road which had been demolished. Mr. Butler explained that an appeal had been filed with Frontier Communications, but it had been denied. He relayed the difficulties of dealing with this utility company. Mr. Butler explained that the Board can expect to see monthly reports where there are, at times, two telephone bills included and others where there will be none. He noted that he has authorized Ms. Healey to pay the phone bills as soon as they come in because of the oddities of their billing cycles.

Mr. Butler noted the revenues for the close of FY20 as \$638,944.41 with the expenses being \$971,618.50, noting that they were 152% of the revenues. He pointed out that the net loss was \$332,674.09. Mr. Butler noted that he had already communicated to First Selectman Dan Jerram that the audit has given credit for debt payments not made. Mr. Butler indicated that he has also questioned why the audit continues to reflect a depreciation allowance, despite the WPCA being a non-taxable entity.

3. DISPOSITION OF AGED RECEIVABLES – COLLECTION PROGRAM UPDATE:

Mr. Butler reported that \$2750.93 has been collected through the contracted collection agency. He noted that the collection agency reports that the debts placed with them will soon be entering Phase II, which is what they characterize as a "last chance letter". He reminded the Board that only those debts which are final bills have been placed with the collection company.

4. OPERATIONS REPORTS SEWER (AWC) & WATER (TWC):

The Board reviewed operations reports from Aquarian Water Company and The Torrington Water Company (TWC) that had been previously emailed. Mr. Butler noted that he had already advised TWC that they had not included the water monitoring reports or the customer notes that

are usually forwarded. He indicated that he would forward the same as soon as he received them.

Mr. Butler reported failures of metering and measuring equipment with an estimated repair of less than \$1K which he noted he had authorized the expenditure for replacement of those items by TWC.

5. OTHER BUSINESS/CORRESPONDENCE TO COME BEFORE THE WPCA:

A. DPH Sanitary Survey.

Mr. Butler reported a tri-annual sanitary review had been completed on Monday, November 30, 2020. He indicated that there were no surprises with this review. Mr. Butler reminded the Board that the WPCA was cited at the time of the last survey for failing to have easements in place for seven septic systems that fall within a 200' radius of WPCA well houses. He anticipated that same citation being received with this review.

B. Asset Evaluation Team – Update (P&Z and BOF).

Mr. Butler updated the Board regarding the resolution that had been put before the Board of Finance relative to the sale of the Town's water assets. He indicated that a better resolution has since been drafted and expected to answer any questions various finance board members had. The Asset Evaluation Team (AET) is scheduled to appear before the Board of Finance again on December 8, 2020, according to Mr. Butler.

C. Water Valve – Status.

Mr. Butler noted that following the last meeting and the concerns with the green sand, there has since been a new concern with the hatches on the filtering and backwash tank. He indicated that an engineer should review and determine whether there is something that directly applies to the filters.

D. Customer Water Quality Complaint.

Mr. Butler noted that a glowing report had been received regarding the quality of water and indicated that he had been advised that the WPCA has no further obligation to do anything further relative to the complaint.

Ms. Greenwood questioned the status of the customer with the very high bill as discussed at the November meeting. Mr. Butler noted that his research indicated that a practice had been adopted and that he relayed to the customer that there was not any consideration that could be provided by the WPCA based on the practice in place.

Ms. Pobuda questioned the lease on the water tanks at MDC. Mr. Butler recalled that there was an additional thirty-five years but would research further. Ms. Pobuda recalled language in the agreement wherein the tanks could not be sublet. Mr. Butler indicated that it would not be a problem.

E. Meeting Calendar – 2021.

The meetings continue to be the first Thursday of each month.

MOTION: Ms. Pobuda, Mr. Toro second, to adopt the proposed 2021 calendar; unanimously approved.

MOTION: Mr. Douyard, Ms. Greenwood second, to adjourn at 7:31PM; unanimously approved.

**Respectfully submitted,
Pamela A. Colombie (Recording Clerk)**