

**New Hartford Water Pollution Control Authority
TOWN OF NEW HARTFORD, CONNECTICUT
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES
Thursday, November 2, 2017 at 7:00 PM
New Hartford Town Hall
530 Main Street, New Hartford, Connecticut**

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

ABSENT: None.

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

1. CONTINUED DISCUSSION ON THE PROPOSED CHANGE TO ARTICLE III, SECTION 4 OF THE SEWER RULES AND REGULATIONS (SUB-COMMITTEE INPUT – PRELIMINARY ADMINISTRATIVE PROCEDURES):

Copies of a draft *New Hartford Water Pollution Control Authority Orders to Connect to Sanitary Sewer Administrative Process* were distributed and reviewed. Mr. Marsh noted that fellow board members will likely want to mull over the content and bring suggestions for modifications with them to the next review.

2. FINANCIAL REVIEW - CURRENT BUDGET PERFORMANCE/ISSUES/INITIATIVES:

Mr. Butler reported that \$85,569.82 has been received to date in quarterly billing and \$68,587.57 has been paid out in invoices so far this quarter. He reminded the Board that catching up on payments to Torrington Water Company and Aquarion has been top priority this quarter.

Mr. Butler noted that the next payment for debt service to the Town is due in February of 2018.

Mr. Butler relayed the impacts to the waste water treatment plant relative to the recent heavy rains.

3. OPERATIONS REPORT – WATER & SEWER:

A. Well Rehabilitation – Black Bridge Well.

Mr. Butler provided an update on the rehabilitation of the Black Bridge well. He provided pictures of the tree work that needed to be completed prior to the well rehabilitation work, the black gel-like substance in the pump and the pump itself. Mr. Butler shared a video of the work with the well, wherein the effects of the manganese were readily apparent, noting that the last time this well was rehabilitated was 2008. He noted that prior to this recent work, the most the pump at this well could pump was ninety gallons per minute. Mr. Butler reported that SB Church opined that this well's pump is no longer capable of producing 200 gallons per minute and suggested that it be replaced with one capable of pumping 120 gallons per minute.

MOTION: Mr. Toro, Mr. Marsh second, to use the \$40K as appropriated by the Board of Selectmen to the WPCA for the repair of the Black Bridge well with the understanding that if it goes beyond the \$40K, the additional money will come from the WPCA budget; unanimously approved.

B. Pump Replacement – Pine Meadow Well.

Mr. Butler reported that a piece of equipment at Pine Meadow well had failed necessitating the need to turn back on the Black Bridge well. He noted that when they had done this, the most it could pump was forty gallons per minutes for the day it was on. In the interim period, Mr. Butler noted that work at the Pine Meadow well will be delayed.

C. Generator Issue – WWTP.

Mr. Butler reported that the generator at the wastewater treatment plant blew its radiator core, a cost of \$8K to repair, according to Mr. Butler. He noted the mandate from the Department of Energy and Environmental Protection that a 400Kw generator be available as a backup. The cost for a backup generator for the duration of the repair was estimated by Tower Generator as \$17K. A back-up solution was approved by DEEP and provided by Aquarion. The efforts of the staff of Aquarion, with their back-up solution resulting in a net-zero cost to the WPCA, were acknowledged and praised.

4. MINUTES – OCTOBER 5, 2017:

MOTION: Ms. Pobuda, Ms. Greenwood second, to approve the October 5, 2017 Minutes; unanimously approved.

5. “GRANNY POD” LAW – P&Z UPDATE:

Mr. Toro noted he will attend the Planning and Zoning Commission November 8, 2017 regular meeting at which time they will again be discussing the recently adopted state legislation regarding temporary health care structures also known as “granny pods”. Copies of a draft regulation prepared by their legal counsel, Attorney Mark Branse, was distributed to this Board. Mr. Butler reported that he has conferred with CDM Smith regarding the implications from this initiative relative to water and sewer.

6. ALL OTHER BUSINESS TO COME BEFORE THE WPCA:

A. RFP Update.

Mr. Butler distributed copies of the timeline relative to the RFP as put forth by the Asset Evaluation Team. He reported that the following companies have requested the RFP: New England Service Company, Connecticut Water, Torrington Water Company, Aquarion, and Global Water Intelligence.

B. Dunkin Donuts.

Mr. Butler provided an update on the proposed new Dunkin Donuts. He noted that the location of their sewer and water connections has not been finalized and is still being worked out.

C. Possible Finance Options for Connections.

Mr. Toro noted that of the three financial institutions approached, Northwest Community Savings Bank is the only one expressing interest in providing a financing option for new sewer hook-ups. Their terms include a loan up to \$12K over a ten-year period at a fixed interest rate of about 4%.

Mr. Toro reported that he spoke with George Hicks regarding a state revolving fund who had indicated that funds were not available because the work is on private property. Mr. Butler advised that he consult with the First Selectman’s Administrative Assistant Christine Hayward for contact information of a USDA loan that is also available.

D. Potential Development Project.

Mr. Butler provided information regarding a potential development project for 80 to 100 working-class apartments, 50 to 70 senior housing units, and 10 to 20 typical residential units in and near the Industrial Park. With several questions regarding whether the wastewater treatment plant is capable of handling the potential added capacity and questions with the wet well, Mr. Butler reported that he had reached out to CDM Smith. He noted that the developers are intending to bring plans and conceptual drawings to the Planning and Zoning Commission sometime this winter. Mr. Butler explained that one hurdle for them is receiving a zone change for this project.

E. Billing Error.

Ms. Pobuda reported an error that was discovered with respect to the billing on the fire hydrants. New Hartford Fire Chief Mark Worsman noted that he also has questions regarding the usage reflected on the bills received by the fire department. Mr. Butler noted that there is a new meter for the department. He also noted that the one that was removed was checked and it reflected no problems.

Mr. Butler read aloud an email submitted to the owners of the Mobil gas station at 443 Main Street, detailing his understanding of what has occurred with the site so far and what needs to occur relative to their receiving a Certificate of Occupancy.

Mr. Toro reported that the WPCA has locked in electric rates at .09033 for three years.

MOTION: Ms. Pobuda, Mr. Toro second, to adjourn at 9:02PM; unanimously approved.

Respectfully submitted,

Pamela A. Colombie
Recording Clerk