

**New Hartford Water Pollution Control Authority  
TOWN OF NEW HARTFORD, CONNECTICUT  
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES  
Thursday, July 11, 2019 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.

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

**1. APPROVE MINUTES JUNE 6, 2019 MEETING:**

The June 6, 2019 Minutes should include the following amendments:

- The language in the first paragraph of the third page that reads, "...Mr. Butler indicated that what is being discussed is the Town subsidizing rates in the interim period which will result in a benefit to the users of \$3 per \$1K reduction on sewer rate and \$1.50 per \$1K reduction..." should instead read, "...Mr. Butler indicated that what is being discussed is the Town subsidizing rates in the interim period which will result in a benefit to the users of \$3 per 1000 gallons reduction on sewer rate and \$1.50 per 1000 gallons...";
- The title of the first agenda item that reads, "...WPCA MEMBES..." should instead read, "...WPCA MEMBERS..."; and
- The second paragraph of the first page that notes the various entities, including the Department of Energy and Environmental Protection that Mr. Butler met with, should have indicated as having taken place in 2012 and 2016 prior to the formation of the Asset Evaluation Team.

**MOTION:** Mr. Toro, Ms. Pobuda second, to approve the June 6, 2019 Minutes as amended; unanimously approved.

**2. MONTHLY FINANCIAL REVIEW:**

**A. Debt Service Restructuring.**

Mr. Butler noted that all quarterly payments are currently reflected as \$16,536.77. He explained that this is because the Board of Selectmen received a recommendation from the Town's auditors that changed it to reflect Suspension of Discounted Payments through Fiscal Year ending 2020. It had previously appeared as a receivable, according to Mr. Butler.

Mr. Butler noted the previous fiscal year's operating account, ending with a net positive position of \$10,154.90. He indicated that it should be noted that this was without the combined debt service payments. When factoring those in, there is actually a net loss of \$154,926.03, according to Mr. Butler.

It was noted that there had only been \$9K made towards debt service this past fiscal year.

**3. OPERATIONS REPORTS - SEWER & WATER - AWC/TWC:**

The Board reviewed the operations report on the wastewater treatment from Aquarian and the clean water from the Torrington Water Company.

**A. Flow Testing Hydrants.**

Mr. Butler reported that he had met previously with New Hartford Fire Department Chief Mark Worsman regarding the Fire Department performing flow testing. He noted that TWC was also consulted. Mr. Butler indicated that Chief Worsman had identified ten sites that are considered primary hydrants. TWC had shared their concern, given the age of the system, what the testing might do to the system. TWC agreed to conduct flow testing over time, noting that the Fire Department may join them for observation.

Chief Worsman explained that through a grant, the Fire Department had secured equipment to conduct the testing. Mr. Toro questioned whether the flow testing will now be completed by TWC at the locations requested by the Fire Department. Mr. Butler confirmed that TWC would complete them in phases. Mr. Marsh questioned how the Fire Department handles it if the flows are not what is needed. Chief Worsman explained that they change their operations and tactical approach. Ms. Pobuda questioned whether the Fire Department will be advised when flow testing is scheduled. Mr. Butler confirmed.

**B. Source Well Testing (Basis- Private Wells Not Meeting Sanitary Setbacks).**

Mr. Butler reported that both the Church Street well and the Black Bridge Well will be tested as neither meets the sanitary requirement for distances.

**4. DISCUSSION – POSSIBLE FOG REGULATION REVISIONS:**

Mr. Butler distributed the current FOG Regulation, noting that it was recently tested with a local food establishment who was found to be in violation. He also distributed suggestions for changes to the regulation. Mr. Butler requested that the Regulations Subcommittee review his proposed changes and return with their suggestions to next month's regular meeting.

Mr. Toro urged the Board to tighten up the regulation as soon as possible. Mr. Butler agreed to look into whether service can be denied to customers who are known sources of a problem to the WPCA's service facilities.

**5. OTHER BUSINESS TO COME BEFORE THE WPCA:**

**A. AET Update – PURA, OCC.**

Mr. Butler reminded the Board about the informal discussion that he was going to seek with PURA. He also reminded them that in 2012, the building oversight committee had concerns with the investment and had begun conversations with the USDA about what might happen if the assets were sold. Mr. Butler noted that the same was again done in 2016 with conversations occurring with the Attorney General's Office, PURA, the Department of Energy and Environmental Protection, and the Department of Public Health. He noted that he recently sought guidance and direction from PURA to make a determination of what they would be looking for in the process of the sale of the assets.

As a result of a request for an informal conversation, or a technical meeting, Mr. Butler received a request to write up exactly what information was being sought. He noted that he submitted a couple of paragraphs to PURA in this regard. Mr. Butler reported that the individual who he had made inquiry to had in turn provided the request to an attorney and as a result, a hearing was scheduled and occurred on June 11, 2019. Mr. Butler explained that he has since received a written transcript from this "undocumented hearing". He noted that he would forward via email a copy of the transcript.

Mr. Butler reported that representatives from the Department of Public Health, DEEP, and the Office of Consumer Counsel (OCC) had attended the hearing. Mr. Butler explained that OCC

represents all the general public in all PURA regulated authorities. He noted that two attorneys from Aquarian attended, representatives from Eversource, the parent company of Aquarian and their attorneys, First Selectman Dan Jerram and Town Counsel Roraback had also attended.

Mr. Butler updated the Board on the hearing. He noted that dates are also being exchanged with the Department of Public Health to review the possible sale of the assets with them.

Mr. Toro questioned the progress with the USDA on the grant forgiveness. Mr. Butler relayed his disappointment with the Town over the delays incurred with being able to put forward a formalized escrow agreement containing the terms that had been discussed with the USDA.

**MOTION:** Mr. Toro, Mr. LeClaire second, to adjourn at 8:21PM; unanimously approved.

**Respectfully submitted,**

**Pamela A. Colombie**  
**Recording Clerk**