

**New Hartford Water Pollution Control Authority  
TOWN OF NEW HARTFORD, CONNECTICUT  
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES  
Thursday, September 5, 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 7:02PM.

**1. APPROVE MINUTES JULY 11, 2019 MEETING:**

**MOTION:** Mr. Marsh, Mr. Toro second, to approve the July 11, 2019 Minutes as amended; unanimously approved.

**2. MONTHLY FINANCIAL REVIEW:**

The Board reviewed reports as previously emailed to them. Mr. Butler pointed out that two quarterly payments have been made on the Town loan, noting that the WPCA is only in arrears by three quarterly payments. He noted that the outstanding balance on the \$130K principal is now \$92,700.

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

The Board reviewed reports previously emailed from Torrington Water Company and Aquarion. Mr. Marsh noted the “*See Attached*” on the last complaint from TWC, observing that there was no attachment. Mr. Butler explained that the attachment would be the job report as submitted by the technician. He noted it is also known as a trouble ticket. Several board members inquired about the complaint of low pressure. Mr. Douyard indicated that he has experienced intermittent pressure. He noted discoloration, too. Mr. Douyard speculated that it may be as the switch is being made between the two wells. He agreed to begin tracking these observations.

**A. Source Well Testing.**

Mr. Butler reported the receipt of a notification from the Department of Public Health to test for E. coli at the Town’s source wells because of the proximity to septic systems. Those tests came back negative, according to Mr. Butler.

**4. AQUARION OPERATIONS AGREEMENT – MONTH TO MONTH EXTENSION:**

Mr. Butler reminded the Board that the WPCA has had an agreement with Aquarion for three years and noted that it had expired on August 31<sup>st</sup>. He noted that it had an escalation of 3% per year. Mr. Butler read aloud a Memorandum of Understanding that he had emailed Aquarion recently regarding the operations agreement.

The email detailed to Mike Crawford the proposal that Mr. Butler would be seeking approval from this Board relative to Aquarion continuing operations of the wastewater treatment plant. It noted advancements and improvements that Aquarion has accomplished since beginning their contract. The memorandum noted the understanding that a month to month extension would continue and that the WPCA would consider a 3% increase in the base line rate.

Mr. Butler had also requested a statement summarizing the realized savings during the last three-year period.

**MOTION:** Mr. Toro, Mr. Douyard second, to agree to move forward with Aquarion on a month to month basis agreeing to continue the terms of our existing contract with the percentage escalation; unanimously approved.

**5. DISCUSSION - FOG REGULATION REVISIONS:**

Mr. Marsh explained that he and Ms. Greenwood worked to make the FOG Regulation clearer in what they were trying to accomplish with respect to the registration. He noted that the language concerning the violations is consistent with the rest of the Regulations.

Discussion ensued over the imposition of fines for violations. The Board also discussed the time frame for compliance.

Mr. Butler noted that he would like to first make inquiry to CDM Smith on the proposed regulation prior to the adoption of the changes.

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

**A. AET Update - DPH Meeting.**

Mr. Butler reminded the Board of the meeting that had been held with the Office of Consumer Council. He updated the Board about a recent meeting with the Lori Mathieu, Water Head of the Department of Public Health and her lieutenant. Mr. Butler noted that there was a checklist that while not provided by the Department of Public Health, he had been able to obtain nonetheless. He noted that having this information should allow the Asset Evaluation Team to be amply prepared to help facilitate approval process.

First Selectman Dan Jerram noted that PURA will be the final authority to grant approval for a sale. He indicated that he understands that it is important for all of the utilities to remain unbiased and noted that it is indeed typically the purchaser who obtains this information.

**B. USDA Status.**

Mr. Butler noted that all the documents that should have been provided to the USDA have been submitted accordingly. He reminded the Board that these were produced in response to questions from a meeting from late April. He noted that they were submitted about a month ago.

Mr. Butler indicated that the AET would likely meet in mid-September.

**C. Dunkin Project.**

Mr. Butler noted that Dunkin had cameraed the system and all appeared well.

Mr. Jerram reported that the transfer of ownership of the Wicket Street canal had occurred. It was noted that this will assist twenty-six families in the Pine Meadow section able to connect to the sewer line from their back yard.

Mr. Butler reported that Administrative Assistant to the First Selectman Christine Hayward had received an email from a water customer at 51 Holcomb Hill Road explaining that he had accidentally left his garden hose energized during a two-week vacation. The hose burst and upon his return, he realized he had used 49000 gallons of water. The customer communicated an expectation of relief for the sewer portion of the bill beyond his normal usage of 1000 gallons.

The claim to substantiate the expectation was that the water never entered the sewer, according to the email that Mr. Butler read aloud. An informal polling of board members resulted in Mr. Butler agreeing to gather more information about the situation and past bills at this residence.

**MOTION:** Ms. Pobuda, Mr. Toro second, to adjourn at 8:03PM; unanimously approved.

**Respectfully submitted,**

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