

**New Hartford Water Pollution Control Authority
TOWN OF NEW HARTFORD, CONNECTICUT
SPECIAL MEETING MINUTES
Thursday, June 16, 2016 at 7:00PM
New Hartford Town Hall
530 Main Street, New Hartford, Connecticut**

PRESENT: Chairman Denton Butler, Mary Beth Greenwood, Michael LeClaire, Polly Pobuda, Jim Surber and Joe Toro.

ABSENT: Wes Marsh.

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

1. FINAL REVIEW – LINE EXTENSION ANALYSIS – RECOMMENDATION OF WPCA:

The Board conducted a final review of the line extension analysis as drafted by CDM Smith. Mr. Butler highlighted changes that were made from the last draft. Different scenarios were included for different variables used for terms of loans and different variables used for betterment assessments.

Mr. Butler read aloud a draft of a proposed recommendation of the WPCA endorsing the sewer line extension and repair evaluation report prepared by CDM Smith. Board members were then canvassed as to thoughts and/or suggestions for the drafted endorsement. Mr. LaClaire opined that the cost for construction will likely be effected depending on whether it is brought down Route 44. Mr. Toro questioned the assumptions being used regarding the sources of funding. Mr. Butler noted that for now a range of assessment fees is being utilized during the continued planning phase but that hard numbers will be used prior to a project going to referendum. Ms. Pobuda noted that the last portion of the endorsement mentions how the sewer extension project promotes commercial and industrial expansion. She disagreed with this assertion. Mr. Butler explained that the reliability of the system is the assurance that is needed in that regard. Mr. Surber questioned whether the outstanding abutters were those residences along the Jones Mountain trunk line. Mr. Butler indicated that the reference to outstanding abutters was actually to any abutter to the system. Ms. Greenwood shared a question on betterment assessments. Mr. Butler explained that the benefit assessments can be done on the basis of construction costs associated with providing service to any given area. He provided for an example that the costs for providing service to Cottage Street are different than they would be for Pine Meadow which may result in a differential benefit assessment. Mr. Butler noted that the thirty-eight (38) abutters who previously did not connect to the existing system and have not made a payment towards construction costs and debt service associated with the sewer treatment plant will be given a yet to be determined separate and discreet betterment assessment. Responding to an inquiry from Mr. Toro regarding whether there may possibly be three different levels of betterment assessment, Mr. Butler confirmed that possibility exists and noted that there is legal precedence for doing so.

Mr. Butler requested that any suggested changes to wording be forwarded to him and that they will be incorporated into the next draft.

2. APPROVAL – JUNE 2, 2016 REGULAR MEETING MINUTES:

MOTION: Mr. LeClaire, Mr. Toro second, **to approve the June 2, 2016 Minutes; unanimously approved.**

3. UPDATES – SYSTEM FLUSHING – ICE PIGGING UPDATE:

Mr. Butler reported that from Monday, June 13, 2016 through this date, the town has undertaken bi-directional flushing. He noted that there was significant sediment and a few calls from people who experienced discoloration in the water. He noted that the ice pigging experiment has been scheduled for July 20, 2016.

4. STANDING COMMITTEE REPORT UPDATES:

Mr. Surber reported that he and Ms. Greenwood had a brief discussion about SplashLink that they would like to continue so as to determine whether they would like to make a formal recommendation for funding.

Mr. Butler reported that a motorist backed into the bollards and then the fire hydrant at 8 Bridge Street. He explained that this individual broke the barrel on the hydrant, resulting in an \$8K expense. Mr. Toro questioned whether the Town had insurance for this type of loss. Mr. Butler reported that the Town's insurance has a \$5K deductible.

Additionally, Mr. Butler reported that he has not heard anything more from the Fire District regarding flow testing. He noted that he would email them to see if they have any updates. Mr. Butler also noted that he is anticipating making a presentation of the engineering report to the Board of Selectmen at their June 28, 2016 regular meeting. He noted that he has received a request from the Economic Development Commission seeking more information on the activities of the WPCA and that he would likely be attending their July, 2016 meeting to provide that.

Mr. Butler reported that the Asset Evaluation Committee will be comprised of himself, Mr. Toro, Mr. Tom Hart, Ms. Kim Estep, and the First Selectman.

MOTION: Ms. Greenwood, Mr. Toro second, **to enter into Executive Session for the purposes of reviewing the Requests for Proposal for sewer operations; unanimously approved.**

5. EXECUTIVE SESSION – REVIEW OF RFPs – SEWER OPERATIONS:

The Board entered into Executive Session at 7:38PM.

The Board came out of Executive Session at 8:34PM.

MOTION: Mr. LeClaire, Mr. Toro second, **to adjourn at 8:39PM; unanimously approved.**

Respectfully submitted,

**Pamela A. Colombie
Recording Clerk**