

**New Hartford Water Pollution Control Authority
TOWN OF NEW HARTFORD, CONNECTICUT
SPECIAL MEETING MINUTES
Thursday, January 18, 2018 at 7:00 PM
New Hartford Town Hall
530 Main Street, New Hartford, Connecticut**

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

ABSENT: David Douyard.

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

1. APPROVAL DECEMBER 7, 2017 REGULAR MEETING MINUTES:

The December 7, 2017 Regular Meeting Minutes should be amended as follows:

In Agenda Item #2 Current Budget Performance – Monthly Statement, the last sentence of the first paragraph, the portion of text that reads, “...*reviewed the year-to-date, reviewing what might have been expected due to the rate increase...*” should instead read, “...*reviewed the year-to-date, reviewing what might have been expected due to the rate increase but revenues were decreasing instead...*”; and

On the third page, the following language should be added as the last sentence of the first paragraph: “...*This biomass upset is due to insufficient influent at the plant...*”.

MOTION: Mr. Marsh, Mr. LeClaire second, to approve the December 7, 2017 Regular Meeting Minutes as amended; unanimously approved.

2. OPERATIONS REPORTS:

A. Water & Sewer - Discuss Highlights.

Discussion ensued about a low pH reading at the Pine Meadow Well on December 13, 2017.

B. Sewer & Water Telephone Charges.

Mr. Butler reported on findings regarding inquiries made on various charges relative to telephone charges. He noted that he will be drafting a correspondence to the CEO of Frontier questioning what the charges are for.

3. MONTHLY FINANCIAL REVIEW:

The charges for King, King, and Associates was reviewed and discussed. The rate for routine charges for Aquarion Water Company was also questioned and discussed.

Drop in water use and dips in usage were again reviewed. It was noted that consumption is down after reviewing and tracking it for four quarters. Possible reasons for these trends were discussed, including conservation efforts as well as intentional cost savings.

4. UPDATES AND ACTION ITEMS:

A. Election - Chairman, Vice Chairman.

MOTION: Mr. Marsh, Ms. Greenwood second, to nominate the current slate: Denton Butler as Chairman and Joe Toro as Vice Chairman of the Water Pollution Control Authority; unanimously approved.

B. Black Bridge – Video.

Mr. Butler shared with the Board a video of the recent redevelopment work done at Black Bridge well.

C. Pine Meadow Pump Replacement.

Mr. Butler reported that he met with First Selectman Dan Jerram regarding the planned Pine Meadow well pump replacement and whether these plans should be modified in light of the Request for Proposals received by the Asset Evaluation Team. Consensus between himself and Mr. Jerram was to follow the advice of the WPCA's engineers and continue the normal timetable for repairs and replacements. Mr. Butler reported that it was determined that videoing this work was unnecessary and that the cost of this project should not exceed \$22,910.

D. Rules & Regulation - Continuing Review.

Mr. Butler distributed a draft copy regulation relative to lateral connections as reviewed and modified by Mr. LeClaire. It was noted that a copy of this should be made available in the WPCA office of the Assistant Bookkeeper Jill Healey and/or the office of the First Selectman's Administrative Assistant Christine Hayward.

MOTION: Mr. Marsh, Mr. Toro second, to approve the Regulation relative to General Requirements for Sewer Lateral Connection as amended; unanimously approved.

E. FOG – Submittal.

Mr. Marsh reminded the Board that the proposed FOG regulation derives from the DEEP permit. A definition for "best management practices" was added as follows:

Best management practice" or "BMP" means a practice, procedure, structure or facility designed to prevent or minimize environmental damage, or to maintain or enhance environmental quality. BMPs include without limitation, treatment requirements, operating procedures, practices to control spillage or leaks, sludge or waste disposal, or providing for drainage from raw material storage.

MOTION: Mr. LeClaire, Mr. Toro second, to adopt as amended including the *best management practices* definition the Fats, Oils, and Grease Regulation; unanimously approved.

Discussion ensued regarding the enforcement of compliance to this FOG regulation. Educating and encouraging voluntary compliance with this regulation was deemed the likely first approach.

F. Lateral Connections – Submittal.

Lateral Connections was discussed under Rules and Regulations – Continuing Review.

G. Article III, Section #4 – Submittal.

It was noted that the orders to connect should include new construction, remodeling or additions. The administrative permitting process for new connections was discussed relative to the initiation to the application, to the issuance of a permit, and inspections. It was also agreed to change the threshold for the age of septic systems from twenty years to fifteen years.

Discussion ensued about whether to make an exception and allow for exemption on connections to the public sewer where building sewers would exceed three hundred feet in length. The consensus of the commission was to eliminate that type of exception.

MOTION: Mr. Toro, Mr. LeClaire second, to approve Orders to Connect – Administrative Process as amended; unanimously approved.

It was noted that relative to Article III, Section #4, possessive pronoun use of "his" should be changed to "his/her".

MOTION: Mr. LeClaire, Mr. Marsh second, to approve Article III, Section #4 as amended by the Subcommittee; unanimously approved.

Mr. Butler noted a State requirement regarding inspections of all dams. He reported seeking a quote from CDM Smith regarding the dam on Steele Road.

H. Asset Evaluation Update - RFPs Received - Possible Executive Session.

Mr. Butler reported that three responses were received: one from Torrington Water Company in the sum of \$2M to purchase the drinking water assets, one from Connecticut Water in the sum of \$6.5M to purchase both the water and sewer assets, and one from Aquarion in the sum of \$8M to purchase both the water and sewer assets.

He noted that there remain unanswered questions from the Asset Evaluation Team that will be put out to recipients to gain greater clarity on the proposals. The companies will be invited in to aid in the detailed analysis of the proposals.

MOTION: Mr. LeClaire, Mr. Marsh second, to adjourn at 9:03PM; unanimously approved.

Respectfully submitted,

Pamela A. Colombie
Recording Clerk