

TO: Board Of Selectmen  
FROM: WPCA  
DATE: December 14, 2015 (Submitted TO BOS)  
SUBJECT: Clean & Wastewater Assets - Recommendation

The WPCA respectfully requests that the BOS take the next steps in the recommendation of the Clean & Wastewater Taskforce to pursue the potential for sale of these assets as recommended in 2012.

The Taskforce convened to examine three options for the continuing provision of clean and waste water services in New Hartford to include the options of: (1) ongoing third party provisioning of services management; (2) reversion to services provided directly by New Hartford via its own staffing & equipment; (3) pursuit of the potential sale of assets. The Taskforce concluded its analysis by unanimously adopting the following position statement: **“The Clean & Wastewater Taskforce recommends that the BOS pursue to its natural conclusion the option of the sale of clean & wastewater assets under conditions favorable to the Town of New Hartford and sewer and water ratepayers.”**

Further, the Authority recommends that the BOS execute a Request For Proposal (RFP) to encourage the widest possible audience of interested parties. Pursuant to recognizing the goal of the quoted motion above, the WPCA supports the consideration of the following key points resident in the RFP:

- (1) The Town maintains a position to accept or reject any or all proposals for any reason.
- (2) Preference will be given to respondents that can demonstrate:
  - (a) familiarity with New Hartford’s or like-kind operating systems;
  - (b) any previous experience in the management of New Hartford’s systems to include back-office billing and customer service support, (or) utilization of similar methods and programs that support said

systems; (c) pre-sale commitments which provide a reduced rate guarantee for water and (or) sewer users; (d) a demonstrable construction plan that reinforces the repair and replacement of existing distribution facilities to insure quality clean water delivery and sewer collection system recovery; (e) illustration of the ability to expand the systems to cover new users; and (f) all other general and specific contract guarantees that are deemed favorable by New Hartford.

The WPCA supports a thorough and complete review of the options concerning sale by a representative sub-committee consisting of members of the BOS, WPCA, Planning & Zoning, BOF and paid industry professionals familiar with providing guidance in the RFP process and examination of any RFP initiatives received by the Town.

The WPCA feels strongly that the review and acceptance process should include multiple public information sessions and ultimately be resolved through a town-wide referendum.

A majority of the members present at the WPCA's December 3<sup>rd</sup> 2015 regularly scheduled meeting voted their approval of this recommendation.

Respectfully Submitted,

Denton Butler, Chairman