

**TOWN OF EAST WINDSOR  
WATER POLLUTION CONTROL AUTHORITY**

**Minutes of Special Meeting of November 29, 2022**

**Members Present:** Paul Anderson, Jim Richards and Steve Smith

**Others Present:** WPCA Superintendent E. Arthur Enderle III, Deputy 1<sup>st</sup> Selectman Marie DeSousa and Recording Secretary Laura Michael

**Present Remotely:** WPCA Attorney Michael Lanza

The on-site meeting was restricted to vaccinated commissioners and staff. The public may participate via the remote video conferencing platform Zoom.

**Time and Place**

Paul Anderson, Chairman, called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. at the WPCA Admin Building, 192 South Water St, East Windsor, CT

**I. Pledge of Allegiance**

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

**II. Acceptance of Minutes of October 25, 2022**

**Motion:** To accept the minutes of October 25, 2022, as submitted.  
Smith/Richards  
Passed unanimously

**III. Communications**

Mr. Anderson had two items of communication. The 1<sup>st</sup> was a public notice published in the JI on October 25, 2022. This was an invitation to bid for SCADA System and Cybersecurity Upgrades for the Stafford WPCA. The 2<sup>nd</sup> was a news article published in the JI on November 1, 2022, Glastonbury sewer plant worker suspended over sludge spill. The employee opened two valves that had been locked out for repair discharging 5,000 gallons of thickened sludge into the building's basement.

**IV. Visitors**

There were no scheduled visitors.

**V. Public Participation**

No one from the public was present on Zoom.

**VI. Receipt of Applications**

There were no new applications.

**VII. Approval of Applications**

There were no applications to be approved.

**VIII. Legal**

Attorney Lanza reported that he did not believe that Pippin Industries was in business anymore. The mail that he sent had been returned. Mr. Anderson explained that Pippin Industries and

Pippin and Sons were both in business and operating at the Woolam Rd address. Attorney Lanza will proceed with collection efforts.

#### Sewer Ordinance Revision

This was not discussed.

### **IX. Unfinished Business**

#### IT Status

Mr. Enderle reported that there was a lot going on. They are in the process of migrating to VTSCADA. They are building new screens and making enhancements. They recently bought a laptop to be able to change screens on their own in the future. They are able to monitor 10 pump stations remotely and are able to control 2 pump stations remotely. They plan to add 4 more pump stations to be able to control remotely.

#### Paving Contracts

Mr. Anderson asked about the manholes on South Water St. Mr. Enderle replied that two had been uncovered but the one in the middle of the road hasn't been uncovered. Mr. Richards explained he had driven through Vernon and Manchester on newly paved roads where the manholes were like potholes. He pointed out that although there have been problems with paving within town, it is getting done the right way. He gives credit to all involved.

#### Benefit Assessment Policy

This was not discussed.

### **X. New Business**

#### Bill Sheet Review

Mr. Anderson reported that we are 42% through the budget year and 32% of the budget has been expended. Mr. Richards asked about the electric rate. Mr. Enderle replied that we are locked in at 6.35/kwh for another two years.

#### Superintendent's Report

Mr. Enderle explained that it has been a very busy month. One new pump has been installed at both the Mill and Scantic pump stations. They will replace the 2<sup>nd</sup> pumps beginning next week. They've been able to do a lot of the work in-house. Julio is a great mechanic and Ken is a great welder/fabricator. Our staff did the dismantling on the 1<sup>st</sup> day and NEPV was onsite for the 2<sup>nd</sup> day. Everything went phenomenally. We are seeing savings by having our guys doing the work. The plant is running well. There has been a lot of maintenance. The vactor was brought back to DPW for the winter. Monday night there was a sewer backup. The operators had to get the vactor and fill it with water. It had to be drained and winterized again. Mr. Enderle explained there had been a backup on Maple St last month. The homeowner couldn't thank the staff enough for their quick response. There was another situation on Farms Rd. The operators assisted a homeowner that had a plumber onsite. The homeowner was thankful for the assistance. Mr. Richards said this is good public relations. He asked if they are getting more information to the public regarding what not to flush. Mr. Enderle explained they are working on getting to the schools. The children will take home the information to share with mom and dad. Mr. Richards thinks they should take what they're doing at the schools and share it with the community.

Mr. Enderle explained that he and Mr. Anderson attended a meeting with DOT on the Berlin Turnpike. DOT is replacing the Scantic Rd bridge and wants the WPCA to kick in \$100,000. Mr. Anderson explained they are in process with their engineer to see if they can leave the sewer as

it exists. They don't need to move our pipe; it's fine the way it is. Mr. Richards doesn't want to find out they are getting \$100,000 of the rate payer's money.

#### Transfers

Mr. Enderle provided an explanation of the WPCA's healthy financial position. Mr. Enderle explained the different funds, their balances and adopted balance limits. There was a discussion regarding inflation and electric costs. Mr. Enderle explained that the FCC fund can be used for capitol projects and infrastructure. Purchases over \$7,000 can be shifted out of the budget and into CIP. At the beginning of Covid, the rate was held steady for two years. Last year there was a \$12 increase in the rate. How much money should they have in the bank. They have no debt service. Mr. Richards stated that doing things as we have puts us in a different position than other towns. Mr. Richards would like to have time to go over the handout and dive into this in January. With supply chain issues, Mr. Enderle would like to encumber the money to buy equipment and save 10-12%. Mr. Smith asked if there would be an increase in the price in January. Mr. Enderle explained the price for the pumps was good for 30 days. The 30 days are up tomorrow. Mr. Anderson pointed out that the bills are paid out of the fund balance. The equipment could be purchased and the transfers made in January. Mr. Enderle explained that never in 12 years has he overspent the budget. He doesn't want to spend without approval. Mr. Anderson stated that if we need it, but it now and then make the transfer in January. Mr. Richards felt they're trying to lock in a price and then move the money. Mr. Smith told Mr. Enderle to do what he needs to do. Mr. Enderle will put a compilation together for January.

#### XI. Adjournment

**Motion:** To adjourn the meeting at 8:00 p.m.  
Smith/Richards  
Passed unanimously

Respectfully submitted,



Laura Michael  
Recording Secretary