

**WPCA Meeting
March 9, 2023
7 PM Virtual Meeting
APPROVED MINUTES**

Type of meeting: Regular

Secretary: Joan Lanzo

Attendees: Will Szestakow, Norm Church, Angelo Chrysoulakis, Bud Phelps, Andrew Stifel , Dick Hrinak, Bill Griffin, Helen Francis

Will Szestakow called the meeting to order at 7:00 pm.

Secretary's Report:

Dick made a motion to approve the minutes from the November 10, 2022 regular meeting. Bud seconded. All were in favor and the motion carried.

Bud made a motion to approve the minutes from the January 24, 2023 special meeting. Andrew seconded. All were in favor and the motion carried.

Treasurer's Report:

Helen review year to date budget results and stated the budget is running close to as anticipated. She also said the unplanned expenses will show a decrease due to the reclassification of sewer pumping to the planned expense line, and the administrative expense will be less than anticipated due to the collection of fees using the new ACH model.

Helen mentioned that she has collected all outstanding user fees due to a concerted effort. She also said that the Bioxide dosing costs were slightly higher than anticipated due to remote dosing costs.

Helen stated that she and Will have discussed hiring an individual to manage the system due the time and work required. She said that the WPCA should consider the long term needs and plan ahead.

Bioxide Report:

Andrew reported that all costs are running as anticipated and there is \$4,467.97 remaining in the budget.

Pump Report:

Angelo reported the average operation is 150 gal/minute and all pumps have been running properly with no incidents.

Rte 156 Updates:

Bill Griffin reported that he has spoken with the State regarding the status of the project which has an anticipated start date of mid-2024. He also said the State needs to move a manhole cover on Rte 156 and the WPCA shut-off valves will be repositioned to the new manhole. Bill reported that the State is covering this cost and there will be no disruption to the POW operation while the work is in progress.

Legal Review:

Norb reported no legal issues.

East Lyme Minutes:

Dick Hrinak stated there have been no reported problems with the Town of East Lyme.

Chairman's Report:

Will said a FL based company (CEC) delivered a control panel to POW since Evoqua is removing their equipment. He said there has been a seamless transition from the Evoqua equipment to CEC.

Will said new pumps from a MA company will arrive shortly and they will be housed in a new shed that was purchased and built specifically for all the new equipment.

He mentioned the new pricing for the Bioxide dosing: \$3.42/gallon and \$349/mo for the monitoring system.

Will said that January tidal storms increased daily flow to approximately 35,000/day from 7,000/day, which is the same flow as during the summer months. He said extra water was getting into the sewer system thus creating the extra flow and could have come from basement sump pumps, or residential gutters. He mentioned that pressure in the system had increased also and believes there is another clog creating an issue. He said the entire system will be cleaned in a multi-phase process, certain sections will be shut down at certain times and pumped. He believes this process will remove the issue.

Will referenced a letter from Mr. Jack Sousa who questioned an invoice for the replacement of a grinder pump panel door and stated that this repair was done and his property was accessed without his permission. Mr. Sousa also asked that in the future he be notified in advance of necessary repairs. Will said that contacts were replaced and not the pump panel door.

Will and Norb discussed the legal rights of POW personnel to access resident's properties in order to make necessary equipment repairs/replacements and that POW has the right to do so. Will cited the costs of having an outside vendor perform this work and members discussed sending letters to residents reminding them of usage rules.

Dick made a motion to adjourn the meeting and Bud seconded. All were in favor and the motion carried.

The meeting adjourned at 8:31 PM.