

WPCA Meeting
August 10, 2023, 2023 6:00 PM
Old Lyme Library
2 Library Lane, Old Lyme, CT
DRAFT MINUTES

Type of meeting: Regular

Secretary: Joan Lanzo

Attendees: Will Szeszakow, Bud Phelps, Angelo Chysoulakis, Dick Hrinak, Andrew Stifel, Helen Francis, Norb Church, Bill Griffin

Will Szeszakow called the meeting to order at 6:00 pm.

Approve Agenda:

Bud made a motion to approve the agenda and Dick seconded. All were in favor and the motion carried.

Citizen Speak:

Mr. Jim Barton, 23 Champion Road, addressed an invoice he received for the replacement of a grinder pump at his residence. He stated that since his family does not use the residence that often, coupled with their adherence to the Do Not Flush guidelines, he does not feel he should have been billed for the replacement cost. He also said he believes the failure was due to the pump working excessively this past winter due to weather conditions and heavy flooding. Mr. Barton disputed the assessment from the repair crew that an item of some kind had wound around the pump causing it to fail. He offered that with the lack of use and the omission of inappropriate items being flushed, the pump failed for some other reason. Will stated the Board would address the issue under New Business during the meeting.

Secretary's Report:

Will stated the 7-13-23 minutes should be amended to reflect that Bill Griffin was present at the meeting and not remote as previously reported.

Angelo made a motion to amend the minutes from the 7-13-23 regular meeting to reflect that Bill Griffin was present in person at the meeting and Bud seconded. All were in favor and the motion carried.

New Business:

Will reviewed the issue brought forward by Mr. Barton and provided pictures of the damaged grinder pump to the Board. Board members discussed if the repair is billable and decided that a physical inspection by the Board members is necessary to determine the issue.

Bill Griffin made a motion to allow questions to be asked of Mr. Barton and Angelo seconded. All were in favor and the motion carried.

Bill asked Mr. Griffin if he had a discussion with the repair persons at the time of the repair and Mr. Barton stated no.

Angelo made a motion that the Board conduct a physical assessment of the grinder pump and table the decision until the September WPCA regular meeting. Bill seconded the motion. All were in favor and the motion carried.

Treasurer's Report:

Helen stated that all is progressing as planned within the budget. She said that 3 outstanding liens remain for collection and that the User Fee invoices have been sent out and payments are being received back.

Bud made a motion to accept the Treasurer's report and Bill seconded. All were in favor and the motion carried.

Bioxide Report:

Andrew reported that bioxide daily usage is 10.4 gallons. He stated that the remaining budget funds for bioxide is \$12,885.00.

Pump Report:

Angelo reported that the average flow remains static at 200 gallons/minute. He stated that a pump-out will likely be required at the end of the season.

Rte 156 Update:

Bill reported that the State sent a document for the depreciation cost calculation and he is reviewing.

East Lyme Update:

Dick reported there are no issues identified from the Town of East Lyme.

Website Update:

Joan reported that work is progressing with the webmaster and the anticipated live date for the new website is September 11, 2023. She said items will be added to the new site to address the 2024 WPCA board vacancies and recruiting efforts.

Chairman's Report:

Will reported that generator batteries needed replacement in two pump stations. He stated the average life span has been 5-6 years and these batteries had served that time frame.

Will also said that at the July 25, 2023, East Lyme WPCA meeting, the town officials affirmed that POW WPCA is managing their system very well. He also said that he attended the July 25, 2023 POW BOG meeting to discuss the 2024 WPCA openings and the need to recruit candidates to serve.

Will stated that on July 22, 2023 the control panel at the Stanhope station was damaged by thunderstorms and Williams Pump was called in to repair. He said that a short circuit was identified as the problem and a fuse was replaced to repair it.

Bill made a motion to adjourn the meeting and Angelo seconded. All were in favor and the motion carried.

The meeting adjourned at 7:02 pm.