

TOWN OF WESTBROOK
866 BOSTON POST ROAD
WATER POLLUTION CONTROL AUTHORITY

Regular Meeting
Wednesday, March 22, 2023
7:00 p.m.
Via Zoom
Meeting Minutes

1. Call to Order

The Regular Meeting of the Westbrook Water Pollution Control Authority (WPCA) was called to order by Chairman Sid Holbrook on Wednesday, March 22, 2023 at 7:08 p.m.

Members Present: Chairman Sid Holbrook, Vice Chairman Ray Fontana, Scott Brainard, Shirley Mickens and Mark Richard

Also Present: Zach Faiella, Director of Health Department; Kathy King, Recording Clerk

Not Present: Athena Uzzo; Lee Archer, Registered Sanitarian; Brian Curtis, P.E.

2. Vote on Meeting Minutes

M. Richard made a motion to approve the January 25, 2022 WPCA Regular Meeting Minutes as submitted. The motion was seconded by S. Brainard and was approved unanimously.

3. Invoices

There were no new invoices.

Z. Faiella said there was an invoice from Jacobson and Associates for the Town Center, and that was submitted to Finance and paid.

4. Correspondence

There was no correspondence.

There was a notice about a Freedom of Information Act workshop, but the workshop has passed. S. Holbrook talked briefly about the Freedom of Information Act. All members are very familiar with it.

5. Discussion on Riggio Building System – Status of CT DEEP Response

Z. Faiella said he has not heard anything from the CT DEEP. He and B. Curtis have reached out to the CT DEEP multiple times. S. Holbrook asked Z. Faiella to email the CT DEEP one more time, and if they do not respond, S. Holbrook will reach out to them himself.

There are people in the Riggio Building, using the new system, but Z. Faiella has no data on water consumption.

6. Discussion on Town Beach System

S. Holbrook asked if the RFQ is still valid. Z. Faiella said another RFQ would be required due to the increased cost of materials. He will talk with Lee Archer about it. Z. Faiella said he and L. Archer talked about the town installing the Town Beach septic system. L. Archer is a licensed installer, and he can install it instead of going out to bid. S. Holbrook said it's a large system. He suggested Z. Faiella talk with First Selectman John Hall to see if he's

interested in that. L. Archer was going to look into CT DEEP grant money to be used for this system. J. Hall was going to talk with Town Planner Peter Gillespie about it.

S. Mickens asked about the pump chamber and the tank. Z. Faiella said he felt that the system may be oversized. The two tanks are 2,000 gallons. They don't need dual alternating pumps. He will speak to B. Curtis about reviewing the design.

S. Holbrook said he would like B. Curtis to attend the next WPCA meeting to give his professional opinion on many of these topics.

7. Discussion on Town Center System

B. Curtis has been hired to do a conceptual design for the Town Center System. The Westbrook Merchants' Association would like to move this forward.

At present, the operating budget will be around \$37,000.00, and the capitol budget will be \$20,000.00 for next year, however, the budget is not finalized.

S. Holbrook polled Commission members to ask them their thoughts about the Town Beach septic system. There are no known malfunction issues with the septic system at the Town Beach. This is more of a pilot system due to the high use of the beach area and the Hog-Wild concessions.

The WPCA agreed that pending the response from CT DEEP for the passive nitrogen system at the Riggio Building, they would like to move forward with the pilot system at the Town Beach as long as it's within the budgeted amount.

8. Health Department Report

The Westbrook Environmental Health Technician position has been posted to the statewide wastewater web site. There are currently a lot of environmental jobs available. The salary is \$25.00 an hour. The job is part-time, so there are no benefits. This would be an ideal opportunity for a recent college graduate. Z. Faiella said work has been steady with inspections and soil testing. They are continuously sending out pump out reminders. Residents are asking about updating their property profiles on Carmody.

9. New Business/Old Business

The budget hasn't been voted on yet.

B. Curtis will give the public a cost estimate for the Town Center wastewater community system. S. Holbrook feels strongly the public needs to be informed about how this will be financed. P. Gillespie plans to invite the WPCA to a meeting soon to discuss the updates regarding the Town Center wastewater community system.

10. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 7:58 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Kathleen King

Kathleen King, Recording Clerk