

# TOWN OF LEBANON WATER POLLUTION CONTROL AUTHORITY

Remote Regular Meeting via Zoom  
Thursday, December 17, 2020 7:00 pm

Members Present: Gregg Lafontaine, Toni Tyler, Harry Anderson

Members Absent: David Hartley

Also Present: Jason Nowosad (Field Agent), Cathe McCall (WPCA Administrator)

## A. Call to order

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Gregg Lafontaine at 7:00 pm.

## B. Public Comment - Limit 2 minutes per speaker

Jeff Arpin and Joyce Clark from Amston Lake Health spoke. They are requesting a status on the unconnected properties. Ms. Clark also asked if there would be further hearings on this item for which the answer was no.

## C. Minutes

### a. Approval of minutes from November 19, 2020 Regular Meeting

**Motion made by Tony Tyler to approve the minutes of the November 19, 2020 regular meeting with a correction of meeting date from October to November. Motion seconded by Harry Anderson. Motion carried with the date correction noted.**

## D. Correspondence – nothing to report

## E. Old Business

### a. Update on mandatory connections – No new permits have been pulled. Cathe to create an updated list for the Board by early January 2021.

### b. Meter

- i. Status – Meter is currently in error. Jason Nowosad reached out to Paul Santoro who he learned is retired. Mr. Santoro indicated that he would contact NAP Engineering who purchased his business. Mr. Nowosad has not been able to connect with NAP. Ms. Tyler asked if we should be looking for a new vendor – especially if we are not receiving a response from NAP. Mr. Nowosad said that it wouldn't be a bad idea. Unfortunately, there are not a lot of vendors that will service this meter. Before changing meters, we would want to work with Hebron to determine choices that are agreeable to both parties.

### c. System Maintenance

- i. Status – Nothing new to report.
- ii. Documentation of system maintenance requirements for private roads from Jay Tuttle – This item to be taken off the agenda for the near future

as Lebanon no longer has a road foreman. In addition, the Jet truck is no longer available. It required many repairs that Lebanon cannot support. Originally WPCA gave the town \$10,000 toward its maintenance. At this time there remains \$7,500 which we have requested back from the town. Mr. Lafontaine is having conversations with Keith Wentworth regarding a contract to take on the flushing task. Tony Tyler indicated that this solution makes a great deal of sense. Harry Anderson agreed. Ms. Tyler asked if this solution would require a rate increase to the sewer users. Mr. Lafontaine said it was too early to know. Jason Nowosad noted that we have a great working relationship with Mr. Wentworth who does excellent work.

- d. Updates on meetings/negotiations with Hebron – Lebanon WPCA attempted to meet with Hebron WPCA during December but due to climbing Covid numbers neither town could come up with a location. They plan to touch bases early 2021. Mr. Lafontaine asked them to put together an estimate for a second level meter system. Hebron will be prepared with this for the next time the boards meet.
- e. Remote Evoqua Bioxide monitoring – No information has been provided yet from Evoqua.
- f. System interruption, emergency or shutdown
  - i. Planning – Gregg Lafontaine is working on the document required by the State.
  - ii. Communication concerning what to expect and what procedures to follow during a power outage – The document has been created. Jason Nowosad will update a few items and we hope to send it to homeowners within the next couple of months. The plan would be to send the document to every homeowner initially, and to new homeowners thereafter. Cathe to send board members a draft of the document and cover letter that has been created.

#### F. Field Agent's Report

- a. R. Mahoney service call(s) – nothing to report
- b. Other service issues / incident reports – Mr. Nowosad indicated that there is one homeowner who is waiting for Lebanon WPCA to pump out his grinder pump chamber.

#### G. Financials

- a. Invoices received – The invoices were included in the meeting materials and the board agreed that all were appropriate charges.
- b. Review of budget reports provided by the town finance office – these reports were reviewed.
- c. Review financials and proposed budget – Mr. Lafontaine indicated that he believes WPCA will operate in the red for fiscal year 20/21. Mr. Nowosad noted this was expected. Mr. Lafontaine is concerned that we cannot operate with our

current budget for very long as we are experiencing increased maintenance costs and repairs. Ms. Tyler agrees that we may need to have rate increases to cover expected costs. Mr. Lafontaine would like to review this further with the board when all members are present. There was further discussion on what reports are most meaningful. It was decided that the 'Operating Budget' is preferred.

#### H. New Business

- a. Review of Emergency Response Plan – nothing currently.
- b. Begin discussions on next year's Customer rates – this discussion began under item c. in Financials. Ms. Tyler noted that we might want to wait to see what resolution we can come to with Hebron WPCA before setting any rate changes. Mr. Lafontaine believes we should possibly increase 5% to 10% this year so as not to require a significant increase going forward. This should be decided within the next couple of months to allow time for the tax office to respond.

**Motion made by Harry Anderson to add the connection of new home on Map 103 lots 143 and 145 as item c. under New Business. Tony Tyler seconded. Motion carried.**

- c. Connection of new home on Map 103 lots 143 and 145 – Mr. Nowosad noted that in the past lots are not allowed to put in a sewer connection unless they can install a septic system on the property. In this case they are able.

**The Board voted unanimously to allow a sewer connection from Map 103 lots 143 and 145.**

#### I. Topics for Next Agenda

#### J. Adjournment

**The meeting was adjourned at 7:55 pm**

Respectfully submitted,  
Catherine McCall  
WPCA Administrator  
Lebanon, CT