

TOWN OF WESTBROOK
866 BOSTON POST ROAD
WATER POLLUTION CONTROL AUTHORITY

Regular Meeting
Wednesday February 23, 2022
7:00 p.m.
Via Zoom
Regular 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, February 23, 2022, at 7:03 p.m.

Members Present: Sid Holbrook, Chairman; Ray Fontana, Vice Chairman; Scott Brainard, Tom Maynard, Lee McNamar and Shirley Mickens

Also Present: Lee Archer, Registered Sanitarian; Brian Curtis, P.E.; Zach Faiella, Director of Health; and Kathleen King, Recording Clerk

2. Correspondence

There were bills from Brian Curtis, P.E., and letters from the Town of Westbrook notifying S. Holbrook and S. Brainard that they will be serving on the WPCA for another 3 years.

3. Vote on Meeting Minutes

T. Maynard made a motion to approve the January 26, 2022 WPCA Meeting Minutes as submitted. The motion was seconded by L. McNamar and was approved unanimously.

4. Invoices

L. McNamar made a motion to pay the following invoices from Nathan L. Jacobson and Associates: Invoice # 94241 dated 1/21/22 for Project 1167-0002 392 Seaside Avenue, 1163 Boston Post Road for \$1,068.57; Invoice #93857 dated 11/24/21 for \$3,024.24 for Project 1167-0002 392 Seaside Avenue, 1163 Boston Post Road; Invoice #93858 dated 11/24/21 for \$750.71 for Project 1167-005 Town Green Wastewater Disposal. The motion was seconded by T. Maynard and was approved unanimously.

5. Update on Budget Requests

S. Holbrook reported that he met with the Board of Selectmen regarding the WPCA budget. It was the same budget that had been submitted previously. It was approved by the BOS, and it's now been sent to the Board of Finance for review. ~~Z. Faiella was not available to attend tonight's meeting. S. Holbrook will follow up with him.~~

6. Update on Riggio Building Pilot Project – Report from Brian Curtis, P.E.

B. Curtis said they are scheduled to do another round of sampling next week, to get a cold weather sample. They are planning to do more testing in the spring, in May or June. That will make four sample rounds. The results have not been shared with the CT DEEP yet. B. Curtis said there is a lot of data, and if something was put forward to the CT DEEP, they would have to entertain it.

L. McNamar noted that

the CT DEEP said if a system went into the Ted Lane Field, it had to be a nitrogen reduction system.

S. Holbrook thanked L. McNamar for his leadership and chairmanship, and he thanked him for staying on the WPCA as a member.

7. Report on Usable Area of Town Green

S. Holbrook said he will be meeting with a group at Town Hall next week. There are some town residents who would like to use the Ted Lane Field for septic for the downtown area. There are four (4) septic systems in the Town Green.

The septic system that serves 23 Essex Road has had soil testing. They looked to see what the capacity could be in the large, center open area of the Town Green. Assuming the soils are sandy, and consistent with the other soils tested on the Green, the septic capacity would be approximately 3,000 – 6,000 gallons a day. Some of the property is State owned. S. Holbrook said that State owned property might be able to be conveyed to the Town if need be.

The data from Geomatrix describes the capacity of their products and the amount of capacity per foot. The total amount of septic use would have to be under 7,500 gallons a day or the system would be under the jurisdiction of the CT DEEP.

S. Holbrook explained that they know what the Ted Lane Field will handle. They have an idea of what the Town Green will accommodate. To his knowledge, there no studies being done at Wren Park at this time. Wren Park is very wet. S. Holbrook talked about the WPCA identifying potential sites for a community septic system. There are orders to comply with the CT DEEP. WPCA members said at this time, this may be a little premature. S. Mickens suggested identifying areas of special concern. This is what Old Saybrook has done. Not all members agreed to spend a lot of money on testing for these areas at this time.

The WPCA needs to hire an environmental health technician/sanitarian in training, to mail out the pump out tickets and to record everything in Carmody. Z. Faiella talked with First Selectman John Hall about this. S. Mickens offered to train a new person to do that job. Z. Faiella said they would like to hire someone who could see the projects through. It would be helpful if this person had GIS experience. There is already a job description written for this position.

S. Holbrook would like to have a discussion with the CT DEEP where the systems that have been updated are catalogued. Those properties can be removed from the areas of concern.

B. Curtis said a town wide study is a large undertaking. People can be brought in to assist.

Z. Faiella was contacted about re-establishing Westbrook's shellfish beds. A sanitary survey is required for this. The WPCA may be able to work with the Shellfish Commission on this sanitary survey. There may be State money available to help pay for it.

There was discussion about Old Mail Trail and a tie into resiliency.

8. Reports on Approved Septic Systems in the Town Center

This was discussed above.

9. Agenda for 2022

10. New Business/Old Business

Neither S. Mickens nor L. McNamar are listed on the Town website as members of the WPCA. K. Butterworth said he changed the web site tonight during tonight's meeting and added S. Mickens and L. McNamar back onto the WPCA member list.

S. Holbrook said he would like to have Z. Faiella or L. Archer write an article for The Harbor News on the do's and don'ts of sewage systems including non-point source pollution such as lawn fertilizers and storm drains. Z. Faiella said he has addressed those topics in Westbrook Events Magazine, but he can submit articles to The Harbor News to reach more people.

K. King cannot attend in person meetings due to a scheduling conflict. They will meet hybrid. K. King will stay on as the Recording Clerk.

11. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 8:12 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Kathleen King

Kathleen King, Recording Clerk