East Haddam Water Pollution Control Authority
Municipal Office Complex

Special Meeting Minutes
March 17, 2025

1. Call to Order

Chairman Lord called the meeting to order at 7:05pm.

2. Attendance

Members Present: Chairman Andrew Lord, Edward Blaschik, Richard Fiala
Members Absent: Bob Casner, John Russell, Richard Pettinelli
Others Present: Jim Ventres, Land Use Administrator

3. Minutes

Motion by Mr. Blaschik to approve February 10, 2025 minutes as presented. Seconded by Mr. Fiala and unanimously approved.

4. Discussion

a. Clean Water Ops Report –

Mr. Abramczyk was not able to join the meeting.

Mr. Blaschik asked for the copy of the bills to be provided within the packets again for ease of reference. There was a question on a bill that was approved prior, and discussion ensued related to that topic.

b. Budget Discussion

Mr. Ventres outlined the land use budget of $50,000 plus $24,000 is still intact – it covers engineering costs, modification of the system to have access points and roof maintenance. There is a public hearing coming up soon. There was a selectman meeting recently to review the budget, and there were no cuts to what Mr. Ventres submitted.

Mr. Blaschik asked when the last chance this year is to increase the sewer rates. Mr. Ventres noted the May meeting would be the last time this year to do it.The EDUs are 184 and increasing rates to $50 would not yield more than $9,000 additional funds. The problem is that raising the rates does not yield the needed funds to cover the large-scale maintenance costs the system has encountered this year. The WPCA needs to figure out how to manage the work given the existing customer base would not yield the funds of the maintenance of the system. There was $100,000 to $125,000 saved to pay for large system maintenance when the system was implemented. The capital costs to cover the repair of the system, as opposed to maintenance, need to be addressed by the Town as a whole as the system is a town-wide asset versus for the benefit to a few customers. There is some room for a rate increase, but it will

not solve the expenditure problems that the WPCA has. Mr. Ventres will discuss with Mr. Abramczyk classifying the various expenses and work that has occurred so that it gives an idea of what are regular expenses versus capital expenditures.

Mr. Lord raised the point that there are vacancies within the WPCA and there is a need for new members to be brought in. Several of the WPCA members have been involved in the board for 30 years. The board members are encouraged to find additional interested people to become part of the board.

5. Adjournment

Motion to adjourn by Mr. Lord at 7:21. Second by Mr. Blaschik and unanimously approved.

Respectfully submitted,
Shannon A. Goyette
Recording Secretary