

THOMASTON WATER POLLUTION CONTROL AUTHORITY

REGULAR MEETING & PUBLIC HEARING

WPCA PLANT 258 OLD WATERBURY RD THOMASTON CT 06787

7:00 PM TUESDAY, July 15, 2025

Present: Ch. Mueller, V. Ch. Fainer, Comms. Piscopo, Chandon, Lascko, Leduc, Lori Carriero and Fred Mueller from Tighe & Bond, Scott Amendola and Pat Hayden from Unimetal, Plant Mgr. Galpin and Office Admin. Tammie

Ch. Mueller called the meeting to order at 7:01 pm.

On a motion put forth by Comm. Leduc to accept the minutes as amended from June 17, 2025, 2nd by Comm Fainer. One abstained. Motion passes.

CONSULTANT REPORT

Fred Mueller from Tighe & Bond reported where they currently are with the study and recommendations were made. The commission requested a more refined explanation and time frame to complete these recommendations. Once this information is received, WPCA will review and then report back to the Selectman's Office with the findings. Tighe & Bond also reported that they have reviewed UniMetals request for use of Bentonite Clay. The use of this clay will not impact the Thomaston Wastewater Plant.

Status Report by Plant Manager Bert Galpin:

A. Review of the Status report as follows...

B. Treatment Plant

Process is running ok. Primary tank #2 was tripping and had a problem with the gear box, it was taken offline and started to drain. Operators Brett and Craig were in during the holiday to load tankers and finish draining the primary #2. Operators Craig and Asst. Mgr. Jim were called in for SBR #1 influent valve issue twice. Traver IDC called in to replace the contactor for the SBR #1 influent valve. Operator Matt B was called in for the SBR #1 influent valve issue. Traver IDC was called in to look at the SBR #1 influent valve issue. Aaron Associates was in to do the annual update on the SCADA computers. Traver IDC was in to replace the plant water pump #1 starter contactor and relay, it had burned out.

Pump Stations

Operator Brett was called in for power fail at Electric Ave pump station. Operators Matt P, Matt B, Asst Mg. Jim, and Mgr. Bert were in for a problem at Kennedy Drive pump station, the check valve fell apart. Kovac Construction was in along with Operator Matt P and Mgr. Bert to look at the valves at Kennedy Drive pump station. The check valve and discharge valve on pump #2 need to be replaced, the seat came out of the check valve. We have contacted Carlsen systems for the warranty replacements.

Collection System

The crew continues working on mapping for CMOM. The siphon chamber was blocked, the crew jetted it. The crew was out to jet and clean the Railroad St. R.O.W. to prevent the siphon from blocking up.

Correspondence:

We received an FOI Claim on June 27, 2025, it has been referred to the attorney.

Our Synagro (sludge removal) contract is up for renewal, there is a 10% price increase along with surcharges and it is a 3-year contract with annual increases. Mgr. Bert has reached out for other options, unfortunately, there are not any available. Mgr. Bert will check with Tracy in the Treasurers Office to be sure we can sign a 3-year contract. On a motion put forth by Comm. Leduc to approve and sign the renewal contract with Synagro, if we get Tracy's approval. 2nd by V. Ch. Fainer. Motion passes unanimously.

On a motion put forth by Comm Leduc to amend the agenda and include Vacation carryover to correspondence. 2nd by Comm Chandon. Motion passes unanimously. Mgr. Bert presented the board with a letter from Operator Matt B. to carry over 24 hours of vacation time. On a motion put forth by Comm Piscopo to accept and allow the carry over of 24 hours of vacation time for Operator Matt B. 2nd by Comm Lascko. Motion passes unanimously.

OLD BUSINESS

A. Unimetal

Scott Amendola and Pat Hayden reported they are still moving forward with their goal to lessen flow, but not remove it all, it is just a long process. They are still working on exceedances and they remain consistent. They are also currently working on their permit renewal.

B. Capital Improvements:

Nothing new to report.

C. FOG:

2025 FOG letters have gone out. We have received a few back and have some appointments scheduled for inspections by Asst. Mgr. Jim and Mgr. Bert.

D. List of equipment/projects needed

Still waiting on the SBR waste sludge valves. They are due to be in on or around July 25, 2025.

E. NPDES – Permit Renewal

Nothing new to report

F. Tim Bobroske-Reynolds Bridge Rd

Nothing new to report

G. Jim Osowiecki- West Hillside Ave

Nothing new to report.

H. Main St – Apartments

Nothing new to report

I. 55 Stoughton St – 3 Family

Nothing new to report

J. Benefit Connection Fees

Nothing new to report

New Business

July is the month for our attorney retainer payment. On a motion put forth by V. Ch. Fainer to not renew the retainer, just use the attorney on an "As Needed" basis. 2nd by Comm Leduc. Motion passes unanimously. A letter will be sent to the Attorney.

Annual budget looks good. On a motion put forth by V. Ch. Fainer to accept paid bills as presented, 2nd by Comm Leduc. Motion passes.

On a motion put forth by Comm Chandon to adjourn the meeting of July 15, 2025 2nd by Comm Lascko Motion passes.

Ch. Mueller called the time adjourned 9:20pm.

Respectfully submitted,
Tammie S. Ireland
WPCA Administrative Assistant