

THOMASTON WATER POLLUTION CONTROL AUTHORITY
REGULAR MEETING & PUBLIC HEARING
WPCA PLANT 258 OLD WATERBURY RD THOMASTON CT 06787
7:00 PM TUESDAY, Sept. 16, 2025

Present: Ch. Mueller, V. Ch. Fainer, Comms. Piscopo, Chandon, Leduc, Scott Amendola from Unimetal, Plant Mgr. Galpin and Office Admin. Tammie

Ch. Mueller called the meeting to order at 7:00 pm.

On a motion put forth by Comm. Chandon to accept the minutes as amended from August 19, 2025, 2nd by Comm Piscopo. Comm Fainer abstained. Motion passes unanimously.

CONSULTANT REPORT

Nothing new to report.

On a motion put forth by Ch. Mueller to move Unimetal above Status report, 2nd by Comm Chandon. Motion passes unanimously.

UNIMETAL

Scott Amendola reported that they had a potential PH exceedance, he notified WPCA at the time it was happening, by telephone and text. WPCA did not see any effect from this. There have been no changes to the normal exceedances. Clay use started on Sept. 12, 2025 and they have seen visual improvements. The ZLD is still in India, there have been delays, but they are in hopes it should be shipped by end of September with a 6-to-8-week shipping time.

Status Report by Plant Manager Bert Galpin:

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

B. Treatment Plant

Process is running ok. The air scrubber for the UV failed, it had a bad motor. The crew installed an air compressor and hoses for the UV air scrubber for a temporary fix. The crew was working on flights for the #2 primary tank and found a broken lower shaft. We are looking for replacement parts. Waste sludge transfer pump plugged, the crew was able to unplug it. Kovacs Construction has been working on the SBR waste valves, they are almost done. The aerator blowers were switched to DO mode from time mode to test it out. The primary sludge was pumped to the WAS tank to run through thickener to get a thicker final sludge. On call operator was called in to run the sludge thickener to catch up for the week.

Pump Stations

On call operator was called in for a power fail at Woodbridge pump station. The crew worked on cleaning station wet wells with the vac truck and completed them.

Collection System

The crew continues working on mapping for CMOM. The crew jetted Pine Hill Rd for routine maintenance. Smoke testing has been completed as part of our flow study.

Correspondence:

Email from Town Hall to notify us the Commissioners Piscopo and Fainer were up for reappointment this month. Letter requesting carry over of vacation time for Mgr. Galpin.

On a motion put forth by Comm Piscopo to approve the carryover of vacation time for Mgr. Galpin, 2nd by comm Chandon. Motion passes unanimously.

OLD BUSINESS

A. Unimetal

Reported above.

B. Capital Improvements:

Plant upgrade and Flow Study

C. FOG:

2025 FOG letters have gone out; the 1st reminder letter went out last week. We continue to receive the reports back. Asst Mgr. Jim has done a few inspections of grease traps and reported they were all up to date.

D. List of equipment/projects needed

Still waiting on the SBR waste sludge valves. They are due to be in soon.

D. NPDES – Permit Renewal

Nothing new to report

E. Tim Bobroske-Reynolds Bridge Rd

Nothing new to report

F. Jim Osowiecki- West Hillside Ave

Nothing new to report.

G. Main St – Apartments

Nothing new to report

H. 55 Stoughton St – 3 Family

Nothing new to report

I. Benefit Connection Fees

Manager Galpin recommends an increase. We have researched surrounding towns and feel that it is time to consider this. The last increase was in 2006. The increase to the connection fee will be brought to the public hearing on October 21, 2025.

A motion was put forth by Comm Leduc to increase the Benefit Connection Fee to \$4000, 2nd by comm Chandon. Motion passes unanimously.

K. **Moratorium**

Ch. Mueller and Mgr. Galpin attended a Board of Selectman meeting to discuss the cost of the recommendations made for our plant upgrade. After discussing the necessary improvements, the BOS asked when the moratorium could be lifted. Ch. Mueller explained that the moratorium could not be lifted until at least the recommended work to the UV system was completed. Once that is completed, we may be able to lift parts of the moratorium for those that have paid their caveat and are in the sewer service map area.

New Business

Nothing new to report

Budget/User fee

Manager Galpin presented the commission with the new user fee breakdown for 2025/2026. Mgr. Galpin proposed a 10.5% increase, \$10.91 per thousand. On a motion put forth by Comm Leduc to move forward with the 10.5% increase, \$10.91 per thousand for the 2025/2026 user fee, 2nd by Comm Chandon. Motion passes unanimously.

On a motion put forth by V. Ch. Fainer to accept the bills as presented, 2nd by Comm Piscopo. Motion passes unanimously.

On a motion put forth by Comm Chandon to adjourn the meeting of Sept. 16, 2025 2nd by Comm Leduc. Motion passes unanimously.

Ch. Mueller called the time adjourned 8:19pm.

Respectfully submitted,
Tammie S. Ireland
WPCA Administrative Assistant

