

Town of Middlefield, Connecticut



Water Pollution Control Authority (WPCA) Regular Meeting December 3, 2025 Minutes

Call to Order by Greg Makuch, WPCA Chairman at 6:00 p.m.

Members present: Greg Makuch, Ken Hogan, Robert Monthei and Peter Sibley, WPCA Treasurer. Members absent: Nate Kirschner and Patricia Flynn. Also absent: Rob Poturnicki, Ex-Officio (non voting) / WPCA stipend employee.

Motion by Bob Monthei to approve the agenda, second by Peter Sibley. Motion carried.

Motion by Peter Sibley to approve the minutes of the Regular Meeting of September 3, 2025, second by Bob Monthei. Motion carried.

Public Comments: None.

Old Business:

- 24 Massasoit Road: the sewer lateral was disconnected on April 2, 2025. The structure (cottage) has been demolished. A site plan has been submitted to the Town for the construction of a new house.
- 32 Merrimack Road: The sewer assessment (\$15,223.38), the connection fee (\$750.00) and the sewer permit fee (\$25.00) have been paid. Connected to the sewer on September 11, 2025. The house is still under construction - the certificate of occupancy has not been issued at this time.
- 43 Lake Shore Drive: the sewer lateral was disconnected on March 14, 2025. The structure (house) is demolished. Started the construction of a new house.
- Update: STEAP Grant for wastewater infrastructure improvements.
Brookside Drive Pump Station. An insurance issue regarding subrogation between the Town and Tucker Mechanical Inc has been resolved. The Town has issued a "Notice to Proceed" to Tucker Mechanical Inc.

Mattabeseck Road Pump Station. The pump output is less than expected (less than self cleaning velocity). This could be due to worn impellers or a restriction (air and/or sediment) in the 8-inch transmission main to Meriden. Proposing to run both pumps simultaneously to flush out any sediment and then to have the air/vac valves serviced. This should rule out any restrictions causing the lower pump output. Brian Curtis of Jacobson & Associates, the WPCA's consulting engineer, is requesting a meeting with Blake Equipment to put together a control panel spare parts list to be included with the bid documents.

- Brookside Drive Sewer District. Continued discussions to implement a surcharge on sewer use to cover the operating and maintenance costs of the pump station. Requested and received Zygo's water and sewer use billing information for the period October 2024 to October 2025 from the City of Middletown. The WPCA is considering a surcharge between 20% and 25% of Zygo's sewer use. Currently, Zygo is the only business within the Brookside Drive Industrial Park. This proposed surcharge would apply to all future businesses connected to the public sewer. The Town's current/past operating and maintenance costs were not available for this meeting, therefore a decision was not made. Discussion to continue at the next WPCA meeting.
- Peter Sibley presented a Fiscal Year 2026, Year to Date, Income and Expense Update.

New Business:

- **Motion by Ken Hogan to set the 2026 WPCA meetings for the following dates: March 4, June 3, September 2 and December 2. The meeting start time is 6:00 pm. The location is the Community Center. Second by Greg Makuch. Motion carried.**
- Member vacancies for 2026. Bob Monthei is requesting to be reappointed to another 3-year term (2026-2028). Bob Monthei resides within the Beseck Lake Sewer District. There is one vacancy for the Greater Route 66 / Harvest Wood Sewer District.
- **Motion by Greg Makuch to elect Peter Sibley to the position of WPCA chairman effective January 1, 2026. Second by Ken Hogan. Motion carried.**
- **Motion by Greg Makuch to adjust the Equivalent Dwelling Units (EDUs) for the property located at 24-B Rosemary Lane from the current 1.75 EDUs to 1.0 EDU, effective October 1, 2025. This motion is based on the Assessor's inspection (Revaluation of Real Property) of October 9, 2025. This inspection classifies the property as a single family. Second by Pete Sibley. Motion carried.**
- 189 Baileyville Road - rear structure. Plans have been submitted to the Town to rehab the existing structure. The sewer connection is in question.
- Started a discussion to raise the sewer permit fee and the sewer connection fee. Currently the fees are \$25.00 for a permit and \$750.00 for a connection. Based on the best available information, these fees have not increased in at least 35 years. They may be the original fees. This discussion coincides with a previous discussion as to who should be responsible for the expense of the consulting engineer to review the plans and inspect new sewer connections. The policy for many years has been that the WPCA pays the expense of the consulting engineer. By raising the sewer permit and sewer connection fees, this would help to offset the WPCA's expense of reviews and

inspections. The current fee structure only addresses new sewer connections. A separate fee structure or policy is needed to address the expense of an inspection for the disconnect of a sewer line from an existing building slated for demolition and for the expense of an inspection to reconnect the sewer. Other possibilities to consider are sewer main extensions and the relocation of existing sewer lines/pumps. Discussion to continue at the next WPCA meeting.

- An inquiry was made as to the fees/assessment to connect to the public sewer for the 24 Sunrise Ridge Road. This property is currently on a septic system. This property is one of the 72 lots approved to discharge to the Middletown sewer system through an intermunicipal agreement between Middlefield and Middletown dated 1982 and amended in 1986. The sewer permit fee (\$25.00) and the sewer connection fee (\$750.00) are payable to Middlefield, however the sewer assessment (\$3,500.00) is payable to Middletown.
- Chairman's report of a meeting with Jeff Dimmock of the CT Rural Water & Wastewater Association. Peter Sibley was also in attendance. Jeff Dimmock stated that in 2026, the WPCA may have to register its sewer collection systems with CT DEEP. The CT Rural Water & Wastewater Association can assist the WPCA with this registration. The chairman inquired as to the names of other grinder pump repair contractors, particularly the contractor that the Lake Pocotopaug (East Hampton, CT) WPCA uses. Jeff Dimmock contacted the Lake Pocotopaug WPCA, their reply: on a 3-year program to replace all the grinder pumps and then turn the responsibility of the pumps over to the homeowners. This policy would not be possible for the Beseck Lake Sewer District because of multiple properties connected to one grinder pump station. The name of another pump repair contractor that services Connecticut is F.R. Mahony & Associates of Massachusetts.

Adjournment

- **Motion by Greg Makuch to adjourn the meeting of December 3, 2025. Second by Bob Monthei. Motion carried. Meeting adjourned at 7:36 pm.**

Prepared by
Gregory P. Makuch
WPCA Chairman