

**MINUTES OF THE TOWN OF CHESHIRE WATER POLLUTION CONTROL
AUTHORITY REGULAR MEETING HELD THURSDAY, AUGUST 27, 2026, AT 6:30
P.M., TOWN HALL COUNCIL CHAMBERS, 84 SOUTH MAIN STREET, CHESHIRE,
CT 06410**

Present: John Perrotti, Chair; Melissa Norback, Vice Chair; Carol Doheny, Thomas Scannell, Justin Rosadini, Robert Behrer

Absent: none

Staff/Guests: Marek Kement, Town Engineer; David Milano, WWTP Superintendent; Dennis Dievert, Wright-Pierce

I. CALL TO ORDER

John Perrotti called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m.

II. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited by all present.

III. ROLL CALL & DETERMINATION OF QUORUM

The Minutes Clerk called the roll and a quorum was present.

IV. PUBLIC COMMUNICATIONS / CORRESPONDENCE

- a. Chesprocott – Septic System Failure Report (June 2026 & July 2026)

There were no comments.

V. RECEIPT OF APPLICATIONS

No applications were received for review.

VI. STAFF REPORTS – (ITEMS NOT ON THE AGENDA)

- a. Plant Superintendent's Report

The Plant Superintendent, David Milano, presented his report, which is attached in full.

Discussion occurred regarding the reporting of primary sludge blanket numbers to DEEP and the maximum plant flow rates observed as a result of the recent rain.

b. Town Engineer's Report

Marek Kement shared an article with the WPCA regarding Oxford's sewer rates in advance of the WPCA's review of the Cheshire Sewer Use Charge for the upcoming year, beginning next month. John Perrotti highlighted recurring water main failures in Waterbury and emphasized the importance of proactively addressing potential problems.

c. Consulting Engineer's Report

Dennis Dievert explained that they are currently awaiting approval of the Capital Budget. He reported that DEEP approved the I&I Study and Force Main Evaluation. Approval of the Capacity Evaluation is still outstanding.

Dennis Dievert asked whether any action was needed from him regarding the recently adopted Sanitary Sewer Regulations. Marek Kement confirmed that no further action was needed and that the regulations had been published online.

Melissa Norback asked whether breaking the Sewer Use Charge into two payments for next year was still a possibility. Marek Kement explained that it could be worked out with the Tax Department but would likely present some challenges. Marek Kement asked whether the Collector of Revenue should be invited to the next WPCA meeting. John Perrotti suggested that providing information in the meeting packet for the WPCA's review would be helpful.

VII. NEW BUSINESS

a. Intermunicipal Agreement with Meriden - Mark Fernandes (1359 Diamond Hill Road)

Mark and Leslie Fernandes of 1359 Diamond Hill Road explained their need to connect to the public sewer system after returning home following the July 4th holiday to find that their dry well had collapsed. Although their property is located entirely in Cheshire, the sewer connection is through Meriden, requiring approval from both municipalities. Approval from Meriden has already been obtained.

Marek Kement explained that the approval could not be completed administratively and that, as advised by the Town Attorney, approval from both Town Council and the WPCA was required. Town Council has approved the agreement, pending WPCA approval. There were no further questions or comments from the WPCA.

MOTION by John Perrotti to approve the Intermunicipal Agreement with Meriden for 1359 Diamond Hill Road.

SECONDED by Thomas Scannell. The motion **PASSED** unanimously.

Mark Fernandes further asked the WPCA to consider asking Meriden to not charge the 50% surcharge to Cheshire residents connecting to its sewer system. John Perrotti provided background regarding the potential basis for the surcharge.

Marek Kement confirmed that the Town Manager's signature is required and stated that he would notify the Town Manager's Office. The WPCA also discussed responsibility for the sewer connection, lateral, and inspections.

b. WPCA Bylaws

Marek Kement explained that the existing WPCA bylaws have not been updated since 2003. He provided a draft revision for WPCA member review and requested feedback. The bylaws will be discussed at the next meeting and, once finalized, submitted to the Town Attorney for review.

c. I&I Funding Sources

Marek Kement discussed potential funding sources for I&I projects, including a STEAP grant, USDA funding, and the annual Sewer Use Charge. He noted that USDA funding may be available, but the application process is very in-depth. Marek Kement confirmed that he and Dennis Dievert have a meeting scheduled with a grant writer the following week.

Marek Kement noted that the Capacity Fee is currently deposited into the General Fund and questioned whether it could instead be better allocated to support I&I projects.

John Perrotti announced the resignation of Thomas Scannell. The WPCA members thanked Thomas Scannell for his 14 years of service. John Perrotti asked Marek Kement to email the resignation paperwork to Thomas Scannell. Marek Kement confirmed that he would do so and stated that he would also visit the Town Manager's Office on August 28th regarding the WPCA's two vacancies.

VIII. OLD BUSINESS / PROJECT UPDATES

a. Capital Budget Update

Marek Kement provided an update on the status of WPCA-related projects in the Capital Budget as of August 26th. The only WPCA-related referendum item is the RCP lining and air release valve replacement project, totaling \$2,000,000. Full funding is not expected; however, at least \$300,000 is expected for the air release valve replacement, which is a critical component of the force main. Other requested items under \$500,000 are expected to be funded.

John Perrotti asked if there were any FOG updates. Marek Kement reported that approximately 11 violations were recently issued, with only four violations currently outstanding among the 120 facilities in town.

IX. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

- a. Public Hearing Minutes – June 24, 2026
- b. Regular Meeting Minutes – June 24, 2026

MOTION by John Perrotti to approve the June 24, 2026 Public Hearing Minutes and Regular Meeting Minutes as presented.

SECONDED by Melissa Norback. The motion **PASSED** unanimously.

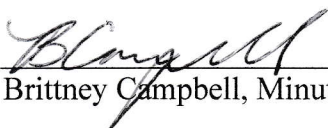
X. ADJOURNMENT

MOTION by Thomas Scannell to adjourn the meeting at 7:11 p.m.

SECONDED by John Perrotti.

The WPCA invited public comment from Becky Mines (1654 Huckins Road). She inquired about the scope of the WPCA's area of responsibility and expressed concern about suspected pollution of Cuff Brook from I-84 drainage. The WPCA directed her to the Inland Wetlands & Watercourses Commission.

Following public comment, the motion to adjourn **PASSED** unanimously.

Attest: 
Brittney Campbell, Minutes Clerk

August 27, 2026

WPCA Meeting

Superintendent Report

Plant flow – 3.1MGD TSS- 3mg/L BOD – 9mg/L

TN- 3.2mg/L TP- 2.7LBS on season with 4.06 cap

Plant maintenance/ O+M

- Denitrification HVAC quote to replace/fix from NEEC was 10,000\$, we installed a 32,000BTU mini split ourselves for 2,000\$ to keep the VFD's and compressors climate controlled for the summer. Greg handled this from top to bottom.
- Trojan UV finally completed 8-12-2026, the amp draw was 140A before working in auto, once we remedied the problems the amp draw was 60A. this should be a huge energy savings considering it runs 24hrs a day from April to October.
- Andritz belt press rehab completed we are finally running primary sludge through it with no problems, we have a 1-year warranty on parts and service.
- Synagro has reopened from the 30-day shut down as of yesterday, we managed it well we did accumulate some more MLSS, but we will try to catch up pressing more the next month.
- Repaired 2 mud well pumps in denite with new seals and bearings pumps are back in service.
- Ordered 110 gallons of oil to start our services to the 11 WPCD generators. Should do 1-2 a week once UV season ends 9/30.
- All ops performing well, no violations in Phosphorus or coliform since we put the systems online its been a great season/summer even with the rainy weather.