

BLRWPCA BOARD
WEDNESDAY, APRIL 26, 2023 – 7:00 P.M
PUBLIC HEARING MINUTES

The BLRWPCA Board held a public hearing on Wednesday, April 26, 2023, with Robert Morra presiding. Also in attendance were Mike Purcaro, Dan Champagne, Jim Rupert, and Jessica Webb.

R. Morra called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

R. Morra stated that the current sewer fee is \$100.00 a quarter per EDU, and because of the operating costs, which are absorbed by each of the towns (Town of Bolton and Vernon), and also because the Town of Bolton often provides smart covers and ground pump repairs when required, the amount of \$100.00 a quarter per EDU will change to \$105.00.

R. Morra explained that the last raise was in 2019 and that the year prior to that they were in a debit of \$85,000.00, and because of the change they were able to come out of the debit. In the year 2020, their surplus was \$38,000. In 2021, it was \$32,000, and this year, 2023, they don't have it accounted for yet, but there is an estimate that it is going to be under \$40,000. R. Morra also adds that one of the board's concerns is not having enough funds for maintenance repairs, which means they will have to make significant changes to what was charged. And rather than do that, a moderate increase will be made now so they can increase the amount to put forward for emergencies.

D. Champagne also said that it is very important to think that the cost of the grinder's pumps will be replaced by the authority at no additional cost for the owners. He also said that the BLRWPCA is looking to expand their system and bring more people to the program for less. And hoping that the small increase they are doing now will carry them until this expansion, and after a year of bringing in the new people, the board will have a better idea where they are at. However, the savings account will still be important in case there is a major issue with the sewers.

Public Comment:

Judy Virchow, Tolland Road, asked a question about a speed bump, and the board explained that the meeting purpose was to talk about sewer.

Chery Udin, Keeney Drive, questioned how the choice of the repair and replacement of a pump works. J. Rupert answered, saying it depends on what is wrong with the pump and if the price of repairing a pump is close to the same amount as replacing a pump with a warranty, it is worth replacing the pump. He also adds that the town keeps spare pumps in the inventory, as does F. R. Mahony.

David and Sandra DeBlois, Boston Turnpike, sent a letter (attached to the packet) regarding the price increase.

R. Morra adjourned the meeting at 7:15 p.m.

BLRWPCA BOARD
WEDNESDAY, APRIL 26, 2023
IMMEDIATELY AFTER THE PUBLIC HEARING
SPECIAL MEETING MINUTES

The BLRWPCA Board held a public hearing on Wednesday, April 26, 2023, with Robert Morra presiding. Also in attendance were Mike Purcaro, Dan Champagne, Jim Rupert, Jessica Webb and Mike Ruff (Town of Coventry)

1. Call to Order.

R. Morra called the meeting to order at 7:15 p.m.

Movement of agenda items.

Motion: I move that the BLRWPCA moved the Executive Session Regarding Legal Advice for Shady Glen Drainage down to item between 6 and 7.

1st: Dan Champagne

2nd: Mike Purcaro

Vote: Yes: Robert Morra, Jim Rupert, Dan Champagne, Mike Purcaro and Jessica Webb.

No: None

Absent: Richard Hayes and Carmine Pellegrino.

3. Public Comment.

No public comment.

4. Approval of Minutes.

Motion: I move that the BLRWPCA Board approved the minutes as presented:
February 22, 2023 Meeting.

1st: Mike Purcaro

2nd: Dan Champagne

Vote: Yes: Robert Morra, Jim Rupert, Dan Champagne, Mike Purcaro and Jessica Webb

No: None

Absent: Richard Hayes and Carmine Pellegrino.

5. Correspondence.

No discussion was had.

6. New Business:

a. 176 Grier Road, Vernon – Grinder Pump Easement Agreement.

No action was taken.

b. Collection Enforcement Recommendation (Vernon Tax Collector)

Everything has been collected, and the collection enforcement has been concluded.

c. FY 2023/2024 Budget.

D. Champagne asked if the grinder pumps sheered the wipes or not.

J. Rupert said he never had an issue with wipes before; depending on the location, you can predict what the issues are, such as disposable diapers, and certain locations in Bolton can have needles as an issue.

D. Champagne questioned, "In the case of these issues, who is responsible for fixing them?"

J. Rupert said if there is no damage to the pump, the town of Bolton will send a letter to the property saying if the same issue happens again, the property owner will be responsible for the service costs.

M. Purcaro questioned if there was something missing from the proposed budget for the contingency line item.

J. Rupert answered that they have not had a contingency line item up until this year. And so that's why there's no balance in it. However, R. Morra and he met with the finance director and got a particular page in the Bolton Lakes audit that shows what surplus they have.

Motion: I move the BLRWPCA Board approved the FY 2023/2024 Budget.

1st: Dan Champagne

2nd: Mike Purcaro

Vote: Yes: Robert Morra, Jim Rupert, Dan Champagne, Mike Purcaro and Jessica Webb. No: None

Absent: Richard Hayes and Carmine Pellegrino.

Movement of agenda items.

3. Executive Session Regarding Legal Advice for Shady Glen Drainage and Discussion Regarding Legal Advice for Coventry Sewer Extension.

The members of BLRWPCA came out of the executive session at 7:54 p.m.

7. Pending Business:

a. Discussion with Town of Coventry Regarding Sewer Extension.

R. Morra explained to Mike Ruff that both towns' attorneys are making some adjustments to the contract before it gets back to him. And in the meantime, the BLRWPCA members and he can set up an appointment to talk more about this extension.

8. Additional Matters & Other Business.

No discussion was had.

9. Adjournment.

Motion: I move that the BLRWPCA Board adjourned the meeting at 8:00 p.m.

Vote: Yes: Robert Morra, Jim Rupert, Dan Champagne, Mike Purcaro and Jessica Webb. No: None

Absent: Richard Hayes and Carmine Pellegrino.

Respectfully Submitted,

Suellen Kamara

Please see minutes of subsequent meetings for corrections to these Minutes and any corrections hereto.