Water Pollution Control Authority

Regular Meeting (Remote)
September 10, 2026 – 7:00 P.M.
The meeting was virtual format only on Zoom and broadcast on
the Town of Simsbury's Public Works Facebook Live

MINUTES

CALL TO ORDER & ROLL CALL

There being a quorum present, the regular meeting of the Water Pollution Control Authority was called to order.

☒ Mr. Paul Gilmore
☒ Mr. Ed Kelly
☒ Mr. Jacques Brignac
☒ Mrs. Abby Lawrence
☐ Mr. Jay Sheehan
☒ Mr. Lucian Dragulski
☒ Dr. Michael Park

GUESTS

Simsbury Water Pollution Control: Anthony Piazza, Superintendent
Minutes Recorder: Jessica Campbell, Administrative Secretary
Public Guest(s): James Salter & Mark Salter, Salter's Express Co., Inc.

AGENDA ITEMS

1.) **SAFETY BRIEF**

Chair Gilmore provided a safety reminder regarding travel during rain. He noted that roads can be especially slippery when rain first begins, as oil and other substances rise to the surface, increasing stopping distances and creating hazards for drivers and cyclists. Committee members were encouraged to remain alert to changing weather conditions and exercise caution while traveling.

2.) **REQUEST FOR VARIANCE: 119/121 WEST ST. LATERAL CONNECTION**

Mr. Piazza presented a request from Salter's Express Co. to add a bathroom and office area to a garage on the property. Because town code requires each building to have its own lateral, the applicants are seeking a variance to connect the garage to the existing

lateral serving the adjacent maintenance garage, rather than installing a separate lateral extending to West Street. The proposed connection would create a combined lateral serving both maintenance garages, which are under the same ownership**.**

Mr. Piazza noted that similar connections have been permitted in the past and indicated that the variance request is primarily financial. Connecting to the existing lateral would cost a few thousand dollars, while installing a new lateral across West Street could cost approximately $20,000–$30,000 due to the road being a state route. The applicants reportedly obtained estimates for both options and could provide further details. He also shared that the existing sewer line was installed around 1978 and meets more recent sewer standards. The applicants indicated that the number of employees at the property would not increase; the proposed work would only relocate existing employees to the other building.

Ms. Lawrence questioned whether the existing 6-inch lateral could accommodate increased future flow. Mr. Dragulski and Mr. Piazza confirmed that the line has sufficient capacity, noting that local elementary schools use similar 6-inch lines and would generate greater flow. The proposed garage will not have floor drains or activities involving oils. Mr. Piazza recommended documenting an easement for the shared lateral in the event the properties are sold separately in the future. A clean-out would also be provided at the connection point.

Mr. Piazza explained that connecting through the 115 property would still require excavation and a waiver. The committee agreed that connecting directly to the existing lateral near the proposed bathroom was the more practical option. Chair Gilmore stated that any easement or title matters should be handled by the property owners and their attorneys rather than imposed as a condition of the waiver. The discussion then returned to consideration of the waiver request.

Mr. Dragulski made a motion to grant the Salters a variance allowing the proposed building to connect to the existing lateral serving another building. Ms. Lawrence seconded the motion, Mr. Kelly abstained. The motion carried.

James Salter and Mark Salter both left the meeting at 7:20 P.M.

3.) STATUE REPORT ON SEWER EXTENSION PROJECTS, ETC.

Mr. Piazza reported that the Michael Road sewer extension survey is underway, with a potential public hearing anticipated in November. The Cambridge Court project has resumed, with permits issued and foundations underway for nine homes. The Iron Horse

Boulevard development is progressing well, with the first building being leased and the second under construction. He further shared the South Campus project on Hopmeadow Street remains on hold due to litigation and an appeal. The proposed hotel near the skating center is expected to seek a building permit within the next few weeks. The proposed car wash at Dorset Crossing received zoning approval, but additional review is anticipated regarding aquifer concerns.

4.) TREATMENT FACILITY REPORT

Mr. Piazza stated that the DEEP permit renewal remains pending. The new septage receiving station is operational and being tested with one hauler, with full implementation anticipated before October 1st. The system will improve tracking of septage disposal and billing. A new disinfection system controller has been received and will be installed after the season. Weston & Sampson were selected to evaluate aeration system upgrades, with the contract under town attorney review. Influent pumps have been ordered, and the HVAC project was awarded to SK Mechanical, with installation anticipated in the spring. Mr. Piazza also reported that the department is now fully staffed following the hiring of a new operator, Alex Andrade, who is currently completing training.

5.) CORRESPONDENCE

Mr. Piazza noted that Elizabeth Burt of 12 Woods Lane requested the amortization table for the Pine Hill project. The finance department prepared and provided the 15-year payment schedule and accompanying letter for her records. The table was prepared internally by the Finance Director.

6.) JUNE MEETING MINUTES – POSSIBLE APPROVAL

The committee reviewed the prior meeting minutes. Mr. Kelly identified a typographical error in the street name, noting that "Hot Meadow Street" should be corrected in Item 5 to "Hop Meadow".

Mr. Kelly made a motion to approve the minutes as amended. Mr. Brignac seconded the motion. Ms. Lawrence and Dr. Park abstained. The motion carried.

ADJOURNMENT

Mr. Kelly made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Ms. Lawrence seconded the motion. The motion was carried unanimously and the meeting adjourned at 7:32 P.M.