

**THESE MINUTES ARE SUBJECT TO APPROVAL AT THE NEXT WPCA MEETING  
WATER POLLUTION CONTROL AUTHORITY  
ESSEX TOWN HALL – FEBRUARY 11, 2019 AT 5:00 PM**

The Essex Water Pollution Control Authority Regular Meeting was held on Monday, February 11, 2019. In attendance were Chair Susan Malan, Leigh Rankin, Mark Reeves, and Randel Osborne. Also in attendance were Lisa Fasulo, Director of Health, Thad King, Environmental Health Inspector, and Shannon DeLorso, Secretary. Absent: Al Wolfgram, Wendy Arnold.

CALL TO ORDER – The meeting was called to order at 5:07 p.m.

APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA - A motion to approve the agenda was made by Randel Osborne and seconded by Mark Reeves

CONSIDERATION OF JANUARY MEETING MINUTES – a motion to approve the December 2018 meeting minutes was made by Mark Reeves and seconded by Leigh Rankin

PUBLIC COMMENT - None

**OLD BUSINESS**

**i. Main Street Essex – Monitoring Wells Report**

Ms. Fasulo asked Thad King, Essex Environmental Health Inspector, to give an overview of the wastewater management inventory project that he has been working on. His current focus is the Essex Village area (top of Main Street, all the way down to the River and back up Pratt Street). He is going through the property files lot-by-lot to see what is on file with respect to septic system installations & repairs, site surveys, Health Dept plan reviews, etc. If the WPCA decides (at some point in the future) to have a third-party review the existing 1997 Wastewater Management Study for the Town of Essex, this updated inventory will be available to assist in the review. The most important attribute is whether there is a CT Public Health Code-compliant area on the lot for installation of an on-site septic system. Additionally, the document can: (1) be used in conjunction with the ongoing water quality monitoring activity to assess trends over time; (2) provide concise information for simplifying Health Dept Plan Reviews; and (3) consolidate existing surveys for these properties into a mapping program to simplify the Plan Review process.

Ms. Rankin stated that septic system design and leaching product availability have changed greatly since the 1997 Wastewater Management Study was done. She also mentioned that the current monitoring wells were drilled because the Town was under Order by CT DEEP, but the Town is no longer under an Order. Ms. Rankin said that she thinks best practice is to map the terrain and identify where we think we should be monitoring groundwater quality to ensure that we're in compliance with our Wastewater/Sewer Avoidance Plan. She raised a question on how we should know when we think we want to sample it.

Mr. Reeves agreed with Ms. Rankin and mentioned that what Mr. King is presently doing - identifying properties that cannot sustain a PHC-compliant septic system - in those general areas would be where to look. (By analysis of property, terrain and topography).

Mr. Reeves thinks that it's a worthy investment to know what's currently in place in the village in case the State ever does come in with an issue. Ms. Fasulo said that if the Town were to hire a private engineering firm to look at the town property, they are likely not required to make that report available to the state. She questioned if the report would have to be available to the public, but Ms. Malan does not think so.

Ms. Fasulo said that to be in alignment with the Town's Plan of Conservation and Development -where there are defined centers of density - having the wastewater management inventory information readily available would be valuable.

Ms. Rankin stated that none of their findings would be certified.

Mr. King said that the benefit to the town of knowing what the status of their systems are is far greater than not knowing. DEEP tends to not have the resources to do a thorough study and makes decisions based on little information. He also mentioned that it is the Director of Health's responsibility to know the status of each system.

Mr. Reeves said that he thinks there should be a set of standards developed or protocol which shows what the groundwater analysis should be. Ms. Malan thinks if we set a standard than we should look at if we need more monitoring wells or less wells, are the wells being tested properly located, etc. Ms. Fasulo agreed that we need to make sure we are looking in the correct areas. She said that Eastern Analytical Labs will be coming out to sample the monitoring wells in March and she will see what their sampling protocol is.

**ii. Budget**

Nothing new to report.

**iii. Cesspool Removal/Replacement Ordinance Action Steps**

Nothing new to report.

**REPORT – LISA FASULO, HEALTH DIRECTOR**

No further update.

**REVIEW OPERATING STATEMENT AND INCOME STATEMENT**

The financial reports were reviewed.

**ADJOURNMENT**

Upon motion made by Mark Reeves and seconded by Leigh Rankin, the Water Pollution Control Authority unanimously **VOTED** to adjourn at 5:48 pm.

Respectfully Submitted,  
Shannon DeLorso, Water Pollution Control Authority Secretary