



**TOWN OF PLYMOUTH
WATER POLLUTION CONTROL AUTHORITY
80 MAIN STREET
TERRYVILLE, CT 06786**

PLYMOUTH, CT
TOWN CLERK'S OFFICE
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Shirley Pomeroy
TOWN CLERK

The Regular Meeting of the Water Pollution Control Authority was held on Monday September 21, 2026, immediately following the closure of the Public Hearing held in the training room of the facility at 35 Canal Street, Pequabuck, CT.

PRESENT: Regular Members

George Andrews, JR. Chair
Peter Giancesini
John Murphy
Joeseoh Carey, JR

OTHERS IN ATTENDANCE:

Plant Manager – Jason Patrick
Assistant Plant Manager- Ryan Wells
Recording Secretary- Heather Dell'Aera
Council Liaison- T.J Zagurski

1. Call to Order:

The meeting was called to order by Chair Andrews at 7:10 P.M.

2. Roll Call Attendance:

Chairman Andrews took roll call attendance. Mr. Carey was appointed as a voting member. WPCA Membership update- Mr. Joseph Carey JR. was officially appointed by the town Council, on September 1, 2026 to a regular member seat, to fill a vacancy through January 6, 2029. Mr. Carey previously served as an alternate member.

3. Acceptance of Minutes:

a. Special Meeting Minutes- August 24, 2026: Upon a motion made by Mr. Murphy and seconded by Mr. Carey it was VOTED: To approve the Regular Meeting Minutes of August 24, 2026. Roll call was taken, and the motion passed unanimously.

4. Bills and Communications:

a. Review & Approval of WPCA Monthly Bills for August 2026:

Upon a motion made by Mr. Murphy and seconded by Mr. Carey, it was VOTED: To approve WPCA monthly bills for August 2026. Roll call was taken, and the motion passed unanimously.

5. Report of Officers and Committees:

a. Report of the Plant Manager & Assistant Plant Manager:

Monthly Operating Report for August 2026-

Assistant Plant Manager Mr. Wells reported:

Pump Station #6 Check Valves- We were having issues at Pump Station #6 with the force main draining back into the wet well. After an inspection, it was discovered both check valves were worn and clogged with rags. We replaced one check valve with a new one that was intended for station #5. Also, repaired the check valve at Pump Station #6 with a new flapper. Both check valves are in good working order. We then placed an order for the three new check valves, two are intended to be installed at Pump Station #5 with one remaining as a spare.

Allen St./Main St. Stoppage- On 08/05/26 the on call operator was called about a possible stoppage at the intersection of Allen Street and Main Street. Sewage was backing up into a resident's basement. The WPCA responded with our new Jet Truck, two operators and the assistant plant manager. American Rooter was called in to camera the line, showing the stoppage was on the upstream side inside a drop manhole. The WPCA then repositioned to jet downstream and cleared the stoppage. A subsequent claim was filed.

- We had no violations of our NPDES Permit for the month of August.

Flow-

- Average monthly flow for August 2026 was .871 MGD (49.7% of design flow).
- Plant is designed for 1.75 MGD
- 7.25 inches of rain in the month of August.
- Phosphorous discharge: 4.63 lbs./day average
- Total Nitrogen – 84.6 lbs./day. Our discharge limit is 42 lbs./day.

Sludge-

- We trucked out a total of 34,911 dry lbs. of solids or 17.5 dry tons.
- The sludge hauler had an average solids content of 2.8%
- Total gallons hauled out for incineration was 149,500 gallons or 23 tanker loads.

Efficiency, % Removal-

- BOD % Removal = 95%
- TSS % Removal = 96%

5b. Report of the Secretary: Not present

5c. Comments from the Council Liaison: None at this time

5d. Energy Conversation Issues: Nothing at this time.

5e. Capital Improvements Projects:

(e1) Discussion & Voting- Blower Building RFQ-

Mr. Patrick reported- See Attachment-

There was a brief discussion regarding the Blower Building and the Request for Qualifications (RFQ) Mr. Patrick prepared for the evaluation of the building. The use of an AIA Statement of Qualifications was also discussed as a possible standardized format for obtaining qualifications.

Ms. Christine Kurtz from Wright- Pierce discussed the Blower building is anticipated to be used for chemical storage as part of the phosphorus upgrade. Keeping the building evaluation and any associated work within the upgrade project could allow those costs to qualify for the applicable grant funding. She stated that Wright Pierce's structural engineer will already be involved in evaluating portions of the building. Discussion followed regarding the Town's responsibility for municipal buildings versus the WPCA's responsibility for wastewater-related improvements. Mr. Andrews expressed concern that incorporating the Blower Building work into the phosphorus upgrade could create uncertainty regarding responsibility for the cost of future building improvements. It was suggested that necessary building improvements could potentially be identified as a separate bid item, allowing the costs to be tracked independently. The WPCA Board agreed that additional discussion with the town and clarification regarding funding and responsibility should occur before proceeding with the RFQ or formally incorporating the work into the phosphorus upgrade project.

Upon a motion made by Mr. Murphy and seconded by Mr. Carey, it was VOTED: To table item 5e- Discussion & Voting – Blower Building RFQ. Roll call was taken, and the motion passed unanimously.

(e2) Discussion- FY27 – WPCA Capital Improvements Projects-

Mr. Patrick reported- He spoke with the Mayor and he asked that we start to discuss what projects we would like to submit for Capital improvements. Last year we submitted 1.- Blower and Service Building. 2.- Plant Generator. 3- HVAC Equipment. A brief discussion ensued regarding prioritizing the replacement of the boiler and air-conditioning/ HVAC equipment serving the current administrative building. Ms. Kurtz noted that HVAC work in other plant buildings may be affected by building code requirements.

The Service building was also discussed. The building dates to the original plant construction (1960's) Ms. Kurtz advised that their structural engineer had reviewed the previous building report and the cost of repairing and bringing the building into compliance with current building codes would need to be considered against possible replacement. Because work associated with the phosphorus upgrade is anticipated in the service building the Board discussed handling its evaluation similarly to the Blower Building and, if permitted, including evaluation of both buildings within the previously allocated \$50,000.00 (fifty-thousand dollars). Approval from the Town would be required for any change in the use of those capital funds.

The SCADA system needs were also discussed. Mr. Patrick reported that the existing system will eventually require an upgrade. Because substantial SCADA work is anticipated as part of the phosphorus upgrade, the board discussed coordinating future SCADA improvements with the upgrade. Additional potential capital requests discussed included – plant water hydrants, Pump Station roofs and installing permanent generators at the remaining pump stations that currently rely on portable generators. Based on the discussion, the HVAC work in the administration building and permeant generators were identified as potential priorities. Mr. Patrick will also investigate if the Service Building evaluation can be incorporated with the Blower Building evaluation.

6. Old Business:

6a. Follow Up Discussion – Wright-Pierce Phosphorus Upgrade/ CDS Funding:

Ms. Christine Kurtz provided an overview of the draft phosphorus and solids handling study. She explained based on current and projected flows; a tertiary filtration system is recommended to meet future phosphorus and NPDES permit requirements. The purposed improvements would utilize portions of the existing primary tanks and include replacement of the existing failing screw pumps with a new submersible pump station. Wright Pierce also recommends installing a rotary drum thickener, this process would reduce sludge volume and reduce long term hauling costs. She also discussed additional improvements including modifications to the aeration system (baffle wall) and secondary clarifiers, equipment and pump replacements and electrical improvements. The purposed upgrades are also expected to improve overall nutrient removal. The current planning -level estimate for the overall project is approximately 56 million dollars. The estimate currently carries an approximate 30% design contingency. The board discussed potential state and federal assistance. Eligible nutrient related costs may qualify for approximately 30% grant funding, while other eligible costs may qualify for approximately 20%. The State may establish a blended grant percentage of approximately 23% this was discussed for planning purposes. These potential grant amounts are not reflected in the current planning level project cost. Final funding will depend upon project eligibility and State determination. The timeline was also discussed. The project is anticipated to require approximately nineteen months for design and regulatory approvals, followed by approximately two and a half to three years of construction. Due to the failure of one of the screw pumps the possibility to fast track the new pump station as a separate first contract was discussed. This would reduce the reliance on the temporary Godwin pump while designing the remaining project continues. The board discussed the need for public education and a future referendum. Ms. Kurtz addressed public outreach and recommended beginning around the 30% design stage, when the project scope and costs are more clearly defined. The Board discussed the consequences if the project was not approved. The WPCA was issued a NOV- Notice of Violation on May 6, 2022. It was issued for phosphorus limit violation. It was explained that the majority of the purposed improvements are necessary for the facility to continue meeting NPDES permit requirements. Failure to make the necessary improvements and comply with permit requirements could result in regulatory enforcement and potential penalties of up to approximately \$25,000.00 (twenty-five thousand) per a day. The report and presentation will also be provided for the Mayor to review and a meeting will be set up to go over the information with him. Wright Pierce will continue coordinating with DEEP regarding the project, potential funding and the possibility of separating the pump station work from the remaining improvements.

6b. Follow up Discussion – Multi Unit Developments:

Mr. Patrick reported- He did receive the post CCTV inspection report for 9 Scott Road. The initial inspection report had one area of concern between manholes #6 and #7 where there was a lot of gravel in the line. Post inspection still showed some sort of gravel / debris in that line, so Mr. Patrick requested they clean the line again. The Line was cleaned again on Friday, September 18, 2026. He is waiting for that report. Nothing to report on any other developments.

6c. Follow Up Discussion – Screw Pump Failure / Godwin pump Replacement:

Mr. Patrick reported- See attachment- A brief discussion ensued. Due to the emergency nature of this purchase the matter was brought before the Town Council shortly thereafter, and the Town Council approved the purchase.

7. New Business:

a. Discussion – Stani Yogurt Dairy Processing Facility:

See Attachment- Mr. Patrick reported. A brief discussion ensued regarding the purposed dairy processing facility.

b. Discussion – Budget Report & Line Item Transfers:

Mr. Patrick reported- The current budget report was included in the meeting packet. It is still relatively early in the fiscal year and there are no significant budget concerns at this time. The two line-item transfers are those previously approved by the Board for the Headphones and the Godwin pump. No additional line item transfers have been made.

c. ICS Account – Interest and Fees Update:

Mr. Patrick reported- For the month of June, July and August we accumulated \$16,879.20 in interest and the fees were \$309.75. It was noted the account has been in place for about a year and has generated just under \$70,000.00 in interest earnings to date.

d. Discussion – Rate Book Report August & Northwest Mutual Statement August:

A brief discussion ensued regarding the status of Northwest Mutual. The current collection rate is 85.07% for the month of August 2026.

Mr. Andrews asked if staff can prepare historical information showing annual collection rates for approximately the last three years.

e. Discussion & Voting- Wright Pierce Invoice #0000254318 in the amount of \$22,591.91:

The Statement was reviewed. A brief discussion ensued. Upon a motion made by Mr. Murphy and seconded by Mr. Carey, it was VOTED: To pay invoice #0000254318 in the amount of \$22,591.91 and to transfer \$1,711.20 to cover the remaining balance. Roll call was taken and the motion passed unanimously.

8. Public Comment:

Melanie Church 328 Main St. Terryville commented that she heard the Thomaston Savings bank was not collecting our sewer use fee anymore. Mrs. Dell'Aera confirmed she spoke to the tax collector, and payments will continue to be made at the Terryville branch of Thomaston Savings Bank.

She also asked when the meeting minutes will be available since the town has been using new software to process minutes. Mrs. Dell'Aera explained that meeting minutes are required to be completed within seven days. The town has purchased a new program for preparation of meeting minutes; however, the usage is currently limited, with priority given to the Town Council and Board of Finance. The WPCA minutes will continue to be prepared independently.

9. Other Business:

Mr. Murphy questioned the process for the purchase of the Godwin Pump. Mr. Andrews replied that the purchase procedure had been reviewed with the Mayor and Town Attorney. The Town Attorney identified two applicable provisions governing expenditures of that magnitude without the standard bidding process. Which resulted in the purchase being brought to the Town Council for approval. Moving forward the board will remain cognizant of applicable and bidding thresholds and required approval procedures.

10. Adjournment: Upon a motion made by Mr. Murphy and seconded by Mr. Carey, it was:
VOTED: To adjourn at 8:59 pm. Roll call vote was taken, and the motion passed unanimously.

Respectfully Submitted

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Heather Dell'Aera". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Heather" written in a smaller, more compact script than the last name "Dell'Aera", which is more expansive and stylized.

Heather Dell'Aera
Recording Secretary

Attachments:
Capital Improvement Project Update
Godwin Pump Update
Stani Yogurt Dairy Processing Facility

Plymouth WPCA Board Meeting

9/21/2026

Capital Improvement Project Update

Blower Building RFQ

I reached out to the Town regarding some questions about the Capital Funds that we were awarded. The funds were available to use starting July 1st 2026. We have three (3) years to use the funds.

In June, we spoke about adding the generator Evaluation, Planning and Design work to the Phosphorus upgrade. Wright Pierce is recommending replacing the plant generator in the upcoming upgrade due to the replacement and adding of equipment. I was told that we did not need any further approval for this.

As far as the Blower Building is concerned, we talked about also adding that to the phosphorus project vs getting proposals. Christine would like to share her thoughts about including this with the upgrade.

I also prepared a Request for Qualifications. The reasoning for this instead of a request for proposals is because if a firm was to do the evaluation under a price proposal, it likely would not be eligible for any grants or funding. The draft RFQ was in your packet.

Capital Improvement Projects

I spoke with the Mayor and he asked that we discuss what projects we would like to submit for capital improvements. Last year we submitted

- Blower and Service Building
- Plant Generator
- HVAC Equipment

Jason W. Patrick

WPCA Plant Manager

Plymouth WPCA Board Meeting

9/21/2026

Godwin Pump Update

The new Godwin pump was ordered on Tuesday September 8th. The pump has a 5-to-8-week lead time. We ordered the CD150S. We first looked into getting a pump that could do all the pump stations and the plant but unfortunately there is a drastic difference in elevations and the pump needed for Pump Stations #2 and #3 would be too large for the plant and would operate off the curve which would damage the pump.

This pump we purchased comes with Field Smart Technology and can be monitored and controlled off site. It also comes with a built-in dialer system. The cost for the pump, hose, float systems and fittings came to **\$84,138.00**. Because of where we are putting the pump we did not include a trailer but this can be purchased once this pump is no longer needed as a back up to the screw pump. The pump is going to be installed near the Return Sludge wet well so it can automatically drain. The only other thing we need to look into is additional winterproofing (Heat trace tape, heated pipe blankets, insulation, etc)

Jason Patrick
Plymouth WPCA Plant Manager

Plymouth WPCA Board Meeting

9/21/2026

Stani Yogurt Dairy Processing Facility

Stani yogurt is a Dairy processing facility that is currently operating in Ansonia. They are looking into purchasing property located at 128 North Harwinton Avenue. I put an overview of their process in your packets.

They are looking to build a new facility. They are proposing to do this in phases, with phase 1 being a 31,000 sq ft building and work their way up to a 100,000 sq ft facility.

They are proposing to discharge 5,000 gallons a day, 7 days a week. Most of the discharge will be wash water. They are planning to pretreat and remove the whey from the product. Concentrated dairy wastes are not intended to be routinely discharged into the sewer.

They will be subject to a NON-SIU General permit because the flow is under 25,000 gallons. I explained to them how the Plymouth WPCA bills commercial properties and also let them know that we would need an engineer to review their pretreatment process.

Approximately 35 Flow Units for 5,000 gallons per day.

Jason W. Patrick

WPCA Plant Manager