

TOWN OF WESTBROOK
866 BOSTON POST ROAD
WATER POLLUTION CONTROL AUTHORITY

Special Meeting
Monday, April 15, 2026 - 7:00 p.m.
866 Boston Post Road, North Conference Room and via Zoom
Meeting Minutes

1. Call to Order

The Special Meeting of the Westbrook Water Pollution Control Authority (WPCA) was called to order by Chairman Sid Holbrook on Wednesday, April 15, 2026 at 7:07 p.m.

Members Present: Chairman Sid Holbrook, Vice Chairman Ray Fontana, Scott Brainard, and Shirley Mickens

Absent: Kristen Meyer, Mark Richard, Athena Uzzo

Also Present: Brian Curtis, P.E.

2. Meeting Minutes – January 28, 2026, Regular Meeting Minutes

S. Brainard made a motion to approve the January 28, 2026, WPCA Regular Meeting Minutes as submitted. The motion was seconded by S. Mickens and was approved unanimously.

3. Bills

There were no bills.

4. Correspondence

The WPCA has received reports from Water’s Edge, which are a requirement from CT DEEP. They will be forwarded to Z. Faiella.

5. Health Department Report

Z. Faiella was not present to give a Health Department Report.

6. Town Center Community Wastewater System

S. Holbrook had a conversation with Jennifer Perry, from the CT DEEP, about both the pilot program at the Riggio Building and the town center wastewater situation.

B. Curtis also spoke with Jennifer Perry. He said Westbrook has been put on the Clean Water Fund Priority List. J. Perry explained that based on the number of projects on the list and their severity, it is not likely that Westbrook will be awarded the funding at this time.

Regarding the passive nitrogen system at the Riggio Building, she said she reviewed the data, and she felt the data would need to show stabilization before they could approve it as a reliable system for nitrogen removal. The data showed the system started with 95% nitrogen removal, and then it leveled off to 50-65% nitrogen removal. J. Perry said they would like to see more data showing a more stable nitrogen removal percentage. B. Curtis suggested S. Mickens submit Guilford's data. B. Curtis said he is going to send the data to J. Perry again to be sure she has received all the data.

S. Holbrook said J. Perry also spoke with the developers of the Westbrook Outlets property on Flat Rock Place. She told them that based on the size of the proposed system, their plan would not be approved because there would be too much water going into the ground. The CT DEEP requires a load test for very large systems.

S. Holbrook will be meeting with the committee comprised of the Board of Selectmen, B. Curtis, Z. Faiella, members of the TCRC/EDC and Town Planner P. Gillespie to discuss the Town Center Wastewater System. In 2004, the cost of the Town Center Wastewater System project was \$11,700,000.00. The current unit cost of the project is \$14,100,000.00. Soft costs are included in these costs. Operations are a separate capital construction cost. There may be federal funding to help pay for the design costs. The cost per EDU is \$2,500.00 to maintain and operate the system. The system would serve 47 (forty-seven) properties.

S. Holbrook explained another plan discussed was to purchase the house directly behind the Turtle Café, demolish it, and create an area for a leaching system that would provide for development at Westbrook Place. The town has not been able to contact the owner of that house.

S. Holbrook said nitrogen studies are required in Coastal Area Management (CAM) zones. The Xenon systems have had some problems, and there are no parts available to fix them.

There was discussion about the challenges of installing compliant systems in the beach areas for all of the shoreline towns. This issue is also being addressed in the towns' resiliency plans.

There was discussion about the possibility of installing off-site septic systems on the Town Green. The property owners would have to obtain easements and health approval.

7. Riggio Building – Update

This was discussed above.

8. New Business

There was no New Business.

9. Old Business

There was no Old Business.

10. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 7:57 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Kathleen Savona

Kathleen Savona, Recording Clerk