

APPROVED

8/13/24

TOWN OF WALLINGFORD  
PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION  
WALLINGFORD ELECTRIC DIVISION  
100 JOHN STREET  
WALLINGFORD, CT 06492

Tuesday, July 16, 2024

6:00 P.M.

MINUTES

**PRESENT:** Chairman Robert Beaumont; Commissioners Dr. Joel Rinebold and Laurence Zabrowski; Director Richard Hendershot; Electric Division General Manager Jake Arborio; Electric Division Business Office Manager Marianne Dill; Water and Sewer Divisions General Manager Neil Amwake; Water and Sewer Divisions Business Manager Donald Langenauer and Acting Recording Secretary Michelle Bracale

*Absent – None*

*Members of the Public – None*

Mr. Beaumont called the Meeting to order at 6:00 P.M., and the pledge of Allegiance was recited.

**1. Pledge of Allegiance**

**2. Consent Agenda**

- a. Consider and Approve Special Meeting Minutes of June 25, 2024
- b. Consider and Approve Meeting Minutes of July 2, 2024

**Motion to Approve the Consent Agenda**

**Made by: Mr. Zabrowski**

**Seconded by: Dr. Rinebold**

**Votes: 3 ayes**

**3. Items Removed from Consent Agenda**

RECEIVED FOR RECORD

AT

4:30 pm

AND RECEIVED BY

Michael Pango (UG) TOWN CLERK

42 None

43  
44  
45  
46 **4. Discussion and Action: Approval of the Director's Report for the Month of June**  
47 **2024**  
48

49 Mr. Arborio stated that the WED personnel has changed as the WED has just lost another  
50 qualified lineman.  
51

52 **Motion to Approve the Director's Report for the Month of June 2024**  
53

54 **Made by: Mr. Zabrowski**

55 **Seconded by: Dr. Rinebold**

56 **Votes: 3 ayes**  
57  
58  
59

60 **5. Consider and Approve Budget Amendment – Water Division – FY 2023/2024 –**  
61 **Academy Street Water Services (Account #43300345)**  
62

63 Mr. Amwake stated that in March, 2024 the Wallingford Department of Public Works informed  
64 the Wallingford Water Division that the Department of Public Works has plans to mill and pave  
65 Academy Street in Spring 2024. The Wallingford Water Division then confirmed through  
66 records research that Academy Street had twelve lead gooseneck fittings along various water  
67 services on Academy Street. Lead goosenecks are not considered to be lead service lines, though  
68 they must be replaced when encountered during planned or unplanned infrastructure work  
69 pursuant to 40 CFR section 141.84, subdivision (c). Within ten calendar days, the Water  
70 Division mobilized and began replacing the existing lead goosenecks along with the WWD  
71 portion of each water service between the corporation and the curb stop prior to the planned  
72 DPW milling and paving project. The costs for this water service replacement work were  
73 originally charged to Operating Account #43100675 – Maintenance of Services, where FY 2023-  
74 2024 funding had been appropriated for lead service line test pits and inventory. Following  
75 completion of the work, Water Division leadership, Business Office staff and Mr. Amwake met  
76 and determined that this work and the associated costs should be charged as a capital project,  
77 specifically since the work was a betterment (removal and replacement of the lead goosenecks)  
78 and also should be capitalized so the expenses can be properly depreciated. In government  
79 general accepting accounting practices there is a two-step process to move funds.  
80

81 Mr. Langenauer stated that one can't just move budgetary items from operating directly to  
82 capital. These items need to be moved back to retained earnings out of the operating budget and  
83 then appropriate from retained earnings to the appropriate capital account.  
84

85 Mr. Amwake stated that there will need to be two motions to be approved by the PUC. The first  
86 motion will be to increase retained earnings from operating funds, and the second motion will be  
87 to increase the capital account from retained earnings.

88 Dr. Rinebold questioned what is the lead gooseneck fittings being replaced with?

89  
90 Mr. Amwake stated copper. This provides flexibility between the water main and the curb stop.

91  
92 **Motion to Approve the Water Division FY 2023/2024 Budget Amendment to Increase**  
93 **Retained Earnings (Cash) by \$68,200.00**

94  
95 **Made by: Dr. Rinebold**

96 **Seconded by: Mr. Zabrowski**

97 **Votes: 3 ayes**

98  
99 **Motion to Approve the Water Division FY 2023/2024 Budget Amendment to Increase**  
100 **Capital Account #43300345 – New Water Services by \$68,200.00 as well**

101  
102 **Made by: Dr. Rinebold**

103 **Seconded by: Mr. Zabrowski**

104 **Votes: 3 ayes**

105  
106  
107  
108 **6. Consider and Approve Budget Amendment – Water Division – FY 2024/2025 –**  
109 **Fair Street, Bull Avenue and Geneva Avenue Water Services (Account**  
110 **#43300345)**

111  
112 Mr. Amwake stated that once Academy Street was completed, the Wallingford Department of  
113 Public Works has plans to mill and pave three more streets - Fair Street in Fall 2024, and Bull  
114 Avenue and Geneva Avenue in Spring 2025. Fair Street has eleven lead gooseneck fittings, Bull  
115 Avenue has ten lead gooseneck fittings and Geneva Avenue has two confirmed lead gooseneck  
116 fittings. Lead goosenecks are not considered to be lead service lines though must be replaced  
117 when encountered during planned or unplanned infrastructure work pursuant to 40 CFR section  
118 141.84, subdivision (c). As the Water Division was informed of the Department of Public Works  
119 plans after the Fiscal Year 2024-225 budget preparation, review and approval process the costs  
120 for this water service replacement work was not incorporated in the Wallingford Water  
121 Division's Fiscal Year 2024-25 capital budget. The estimated cost to replace the twenty-three  
122 lead gooseneck fittings and water service lines along Fair Street, Bull Avenue and Geneva  
123 Avenue including labor and benefit expenses, water service materials, pavement and sidewalk  
124 restoration, traffic control, etc. is \$130,714.00. With a 15.14% contingency the estimated cost is  
125 \$150,500.00.

126  
127 **Motion to Approve the Water Division FY 2024/2025 Budget Amendment to Increase**  
128 **Capital Account #43300345 – New Water Services by \$150,500.00**

129  
130 **Made by: Mr. Zabrowski**

131 **Seconded by: Dr. Rinebold**

132 **Votes: 3 ayes**

133

134 **Public Question and Answer Period**

135  
136 None - No Members Present

137  
138 **Public Question and Answer Period Closed**

139  
140  
141  
142 **7. Discussion and Action: Resolution – Rocco Candela**

143  
144 Mr. Arborio stated that Mr. Candela's official last day was July 3, 2024. Mr. Candela began his  
145 Wallingford Electric Division career in June 2014 as a First-Class Lineman and was promoted on  
146 December 7, 2015 to Chief Lineman. Mr. Candela has been an asset to the Division and will be  
147 missed.

148  
149 **Motion to Approve the Resolution for Rocco Candela**

150  
151 **Made by: Mr. Zabrowski**

152 **Seconded by: Dr. Rinebold**

153 **Votes: 3 ayes**

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156  
157 **8. Discussion Only: Rate Comparison**

158  
159 Dr. Rinebold thanked Mr. Hendershot for the comparison.

160  
161 Mr. Hendershot stated that the WED staff prepares a comparison of monthly residential electric  
162 rates of the investor owned and municipal utilities in Connecticut quarterly.

163  
164  
165  
166 **9. Discussion and Possible Action: Donation of Six Utility Poles to the NEPPA**  
167 **Training Yard**

168  
169 Mr. Arborio stated that NEPPA reached out to the WED for a donation of six utility poles to be  
170 used in the NEPPA training yard. Mr. Arborio agreed to donate the poles to NEPPA.

171  
172 Mr. Beaumont stated to go ahead and support them.

173  
174 **Motion to Approve the Donation of Six (6) Utility Poles to the NEPPA Training Yard in**  
175 **Littleton, MA**

176  
177 **Made by: Mr. Zabrowski**

178 **Seconded by: Dr. Rinebold**

179 **Votes: 3 ayes**

180                   **10. Discussion and Possible Action: Attendance at NEPPA Annual Conference in**  
181                   **Bretton Woods, New Hampshire – August 25-28, 2024**  
182

183       Mr. Beaumont reviewed the packet he put together in regards to the information for the annual  
184       conference. Registration will need to be completed before July 26, 2024. After July 26, 2024 the  
185       fee will increase by \$100.00. The room rates are \$352.40 per night which includes all taxes and  
186       fees. This price is only held thru July 23, 2024. Any reservations need to be made prior to then.  
187       There will be a mileage reimbursement of \$350.00. Dinner will be on your own on Tuesday  
188       based on the schedule. The total estimated meeting costs will be \$2,377.20 for one  
189       Commissioner to attend the conference. Also included in the packet is an agenda with details on  
190       the sessions to be held.  
191

192       Dr. Rinebold stated that he supports Mr. Hendershot as well as one PUC Commissioner to attend  
193       the conference.  
194

195       Mr. Hendershot added that the attendance of the Director is part of his contract and does not need  
196       formal approval from the PUC.  
197

198       **Motion to Approve the Attendance of one (1) Commissioner of the PUC to attend the**  
199       **NEPPA Annual Conference in Bretton Woods, New Hampshire – August 25-28, 2024**  
200

201       **Made by: Dr. Rinebold**

202       **Seconded by: Mr. Zabrowski**

203       **Votes: 3 ayes**  
204  
205  
206

207       **Correspondence**  
208

209       Mr. Hendershot stated that the second PUC meeting in August will be likely held on August 20,  
210       2024. The Town Council has moved their meeting to August 20, 2024. The PUC meeting may  
211       need to be moved up a day or two earlier if there are items that need to be put in front of the  
212       Town Council.  
213  
214  
215

216       **ADJOURNMENT**  
217

218       **Motion to Adjourn**  
219

220       **Made by: Mr. Zabrowski**

221       **Seconded by: Dr. Rinebold**

222       **Votes: 3 ayes**  
223

224       The meeting was adjourned at approximately 6:49 p.m.  
225

226 Respectfully submitted,

227

228 *Michelle Bracale*

229

230 Michelle Bracale

231 Acting Recording Secretary

Respectfully submitted,

*Laurence Zabrowski/mb*

Laurence J. Zabrowski  
Secretary