

APPROVED

8/5/25

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

Tuesday, July 15, 2025

6:00 P.M.

MINUTES

PRESENT: Chairman Robert Beaumont; Commissioners Dr. Joel Rinebold and Laurence Zabrowski; Director Richard Hendershot; Water and Sewer Divisions General Manager Neil Amwake; Water and Sewer Divisions Business Manager Donald Langenauer; Water and Sewer Divisions Assistant Business Office Manager Scott Cleary and Acting Recording Secretary Michelle Bracale

Absent – Electric Division General Manager Jake Arborio; Electric Division Business Office Manager Marianne Dill

Members of the Public – William Comerford

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 Meeting Minutes of June 17, 2025

Motion to Approve the Consent Agenda

Made by: Dr. Rinebold

Seconded by: Mr. Zabrowski

Votes: 3 ayes

3. Items Removed from Consent Agenda

None

4. Discussion and Action: Approval of the Directors Report for the Month of June 2025

Dr. Rinebold referenced Item No. 4-106: "Hidrostal technician visited the WPCF to review and troubleshoot RAS and WAS pumps and to demonstrate methods of rebuilding Hidrostal pumps to the Maintenance Repair Technician". Dr. Rinebold questioned is this being done to get more internal maintenance and repair to the pumps?

Mr. Amwake stated that there are nine RAS pumps and two WAS pumps. The seals are only 4 ½ years old and have been giving the staff trouble. The reason for the technician coming out is to take a look at the reason why this is happening. The staff does the internal repairs themselves.

Mr. Zabrowski questioned did the technicians come out already?

Mr. Amwake stated that they came today, July 15, 2025 with follow up questions and there should be some guidance or technical memorandum by late July or early August.

Mr. Beaumont referenced Item No. 4-15: Forward Capacity Market – June 2025 – May 2026 and pointed out that the ISO-NE peak for 2024 is July 16 in hour ending 6:00 PM, which sets each Load-Serving Entity's share of Forward Capacity Market charges for June 1, 2025 – May 31, 2026. The WED's load in this hour was 127.620 MW, resulting in a capacity obligation of 167.625 MW, which is 6.795 MW higher than assumed in the FY 2026 budget prepared in January 2025. This is going to cost more than the WED anticipated.

Mr. Beaumont shared his concerns in regards to the increase in the Day-Ahead Ancillary Services Market.

Dr. Rinebold stated that he is looking forward to Mr. Hendershot's thoughts and strategies on demand response to bring the WED's capacity peak down.

Motion to Approve the Directors Report for the Month of June 2025

Made by: Mr. Zabrowski

Seconded by: Dr. Rinebold

Votes: 3 ayes

Public Question and Answer Period

Mr. Comerford questioned if there were any recent issues that DEEP had to get involved with?

88 Mr. Hendershot questioned regarding what?
89
90 Mr. Comerford responded anything.
91
92 Mr. Hendershot stated that he does not know the specifics but the WED may have had a few
93 transformer spills this calendar year as this happens all the time.
94
95 Mr. Comerford questioned if this happened within the last month?
96
97 Mr. Hendershot responded that he was not aware of that.
98
99 Mr. Comerford questioned if anyone else on the board was aware of this?
100
101 Mr. Beaumont responded no.
102
103 Mr. Hendershot stated that whenever transformer oil hits the ground there is a very structured
104 clean up procedure. DEEP will be notified along with reporting paperwork.
105
106 Mr. Comerford questioned if there are birth dates on the transformers?
107
108 Mr. Hendershot stated yes, the WED knows the age of every transformer. Nearly all
109 manufacturers do not put the date on the name plate. The date is coded in the serial number of
110 the transformer. The WED knows when every one of its transformers was purchased.
111 Transformers are unique items and are capitalized once they hit the yard and do not have to be
112 installed.
113
114 Mr. Comerford questioned are they replaced based upon the age?
115
116 Mr. Hendershot stated that transformers of a certain age will not be put back even if they are
117 functioning properly.
118
119 Mr. Comerford questioned if there is a policy when a spill happens?
120
121 Mr. Hendershot responded yes.
122
123 Mr. Comerford questioned if part of the policy is to give DEEP the birthdate or serial number?
124
125 Mr. Hendershot stated they are interested in what is the PCB content, in any, of the transformers.
126 Depending on the age, the WED can certify that the transformer was manufactured to the
127 standard of non-PCB. If it is older the oil can be tested.
128
129 Mr. Comerford questioned what is the average age of the transformers in the system?
130
131 Mr. Hendershot stated because transformers do not have any moving parts the way the industry
132 treats them is that you use the transformers until they fail. As old transformers come down, they
133 are checked out and if they are in relatively good health the WED stock piles them

134 in light of the supply chain issues that all distribution utilities are facing.
135

136 Mr. Comerford questioned if there are no moving parts can these transformers be rebuilt here?
137

138 Mr. Hendershot responded no and you wouldn't want to do that anyway. The way these are built
139 you want to be in a controlled factory environment with skilled craftsman.
140

141 Mr. Comerford stated that in the minutes he read about big batteries being placed throughout the
142 town specifically near Mansion Road and asked for more information on this?
143

144 Mr. Hendershot stated that the two projects that the WED is considering are not in that area.
145 There was talk from Eversource that they may be towards the orchards which is outside of the
146 WED's territory.
147

148 **Public Question and Answer Period Closed**

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150
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152 **5. Discussion and Possible Action: Customer Appeal – Sewer Credit – 243 North** 153 **Colony Street** 154

155 Mr. Langenauer stated that there is a new customer at 243 N. Colony Street who contacted the
156 Water and Sewer Divisions Business Office stating that the water meter in the basement had
157 frozen and subsequently flooded the basement. The customer indicated that the house was under
158 complete renovation and there were currently no toilets or sinks in the home. An inspection of
159 the property by the WWD confirmed the customer's representation of the property. The
160 customer's May 1, 2025 water and sewer bill was \$977.95 and was based on the period February
161 1 – April 30, 2025. The customer sent a request to the PUC to obtain credit for the sewer portion
162 of the bill as the water was not conveyed to the sanitary sewer collection and treatment system.
163 Therefore, the Business Office has determined that the customer is entitled to a full refund and is
164 recommending that the PUC approve a sewer credit to the customer for the Sewer usage portion
165 of this bill which is \$526.57.
166

167 **Motion to Approve a Sewer Credit to the Customer at 243 North Colony Street for the**
168 **Sewer portion of their May 1, 2025 bill in the amount of \$526.57**
169

170 **Made by: Dr. Rinebold**

171 **Seconded by: Mr. Zabrowski**

172 **Votes: 3 ayes**
173
174
175

176 **6. Discussion and Possible Action: Budget Transfer – FY 2024/2025 – Sewer** 177 **Division – Sludge Disposal** 178

Mr. Amwake stated that the WSD utilizes a third-party vendor, Synagro, to transport and dispose of its wastewater sludge as needed throughout the fiscal year. During the FY 2024-25 budget process a miscalculation in the wet ton unit rate for the transportation and disposal of the wastewater sludge resulted in underbudgeting for these costs. As a result, WSD requires an additional \$24,558.26 to make final payment to the vendor for sludge transportation and disposal for FY 2024-25. The WSD is requesting PUC approval of a FY 2024-2025 budget transfer to increase Account #46100645 – Sludge Disposal by \$24,558.26. Funds for this purpose will be made available through a corresponding transfer from Account #46100643 – Electricity, Gas and other Utilities Expenses.

Dr. Rinebold pointed out that the spreadsheet shows funds coming from a Miscellaneous account not from Account #46100643 – Electricity, Gas and other Utilities Expenses and questioned if this is a sub category of Miscellaneous?

Mr. Amwake stated it is the same account. The name of the account is just how it is labeled in that report.

Motion to Approve a Budget Transfer - FY 2024-2025 – Sewer Division to increase Account #46100645 – Sludge Disposal by \$24,558.26 from Account #46100643

Made by: Dr. Rinebold

Seconded by: Mr. Zabrowski

Votes: 3 ayes

Committee Reports/Correspondence

None

ADJOURNMENT

Motion to Adjourn

Made by: Dr. Rinebold

Seconded by: Mr. Zabrowski

Votes: 3 ayes

The meeting was adjourned at approximately 6:23 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,



Michelle Bracale
Acting Recording Secretary

Respectfully submitted,



Laurence J. Zabrowski
Secretary