

APPROVED

8/19/25

TOWN OF WALLINGFORD
PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION
WALLINGFORD ELECTRIC DIVISION

100 JOHN STREET

WALLINGFORD, CT 06492

Tuesday, August 5, 2025

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 and Acting Recording Secretary Michelle Bracale

Absent – 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

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 – Purchased Power Workshop of July 14, 2025
- b. Consider and Approve Meeting Minutes of July 15, 2025

Motion to Approve the Consent Agenda

Made by: Mr. Zabrowski

Seconded by: Dr. Rinebold

Votes: 3 ayes

42 **3. Items Removed from Consent Agenda**

43
44 None

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48 **4. Discussion and Action: Resolution – Cynthia Nunez**

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50 Mr. Beaumont stated that Ms. Cynthia Nunez was with the Department of Public Utilities for
51 over twenty-five years and is a very nice lady. She has been an asset to the Town and will be
52 missed.

53
54 **Motion to Approve the Resolution for Cynthia Nunez.**

55
56 **Made by: Dr. Rinebold**

57 **Seconded by: Mr. Zabrowski**

58 **Votes: 3 ayes**
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61

62 **5. Discussion and Possible Action: Budget Amendment – FY 2025-2026 – Electric**
63 **Division – Account 592 – Distribution – Maintenance of Station Equipment**

64
65 Mr. Arborio stated that this increase is related to the costs associated with the replacement of
66 forty GE Powervac PV-VL 13.7-750 bus bottle assembly replacements and bus refurbishment.
67 This work was bid on PB 23-109 in fiscal 2023-2024. In June 2024, the project was awarded to
68 Sunbelt Solomon Services, LLC. Purchase Order 24201986 was created in the amount of
69 \$569,000.00 for this project. However, the work was not started during Fiscal 2023-2024 due to
70 storms and the need for the system to be in a nominal configuration to maximize reliability. The
71 \$569,000.00 encumbered in the O&M account 592 – Distribution – Maintenance of Station
72 Equipment was not spent during Fiscal 2023-2024 due to the timing of the project. Through the
73 year end closing process, these unused funds were returned to retained earnings. As an O&M
74 expense, these funds could not be carried forward. In September 2024, a budget amendment to
75 appropriate \$569,000.00 was approved by the PUC and Town Council. During Fiscal 2024-2025,
76 initial phases of work were performed by the contractor, Sunbelt Solomon Services, LLC, in the
77 amount of \$120,600.00. Through the year end closing process, these unused funds of
78 \$448,400.00 were returned to retained earnings.

79
80 **Motion to Approve the Budget Amendment – FY 2025-2026 in the amount of \$448,400.00**
81 **from Retained Earnings to Account 592 – Distribution – Maintenance of Station**
82 **Equipment**

83
84 **Made by: Dr. Rinebold**

85 **Seconded by: Mr. Zabrowski**

86 **Votes: 3 ayes**
87

88
89 **6. Discussion and Possible Action: Bid Waiver – Electric Division – Removal of the**
90 **Cost Escalator Clause with a Public Bid**
91

92 Mr. Arborio stated that the WED needs to replace the 115 kV circuit breaker at Colony
93 substation due to it being beyond the end of its useful life and the inability to obtain replacement
94 parts should the need arise. In April of 2025, the WED produced a detailed specification to
95 solicit competitive bids for a replacement circuit breaker. The Bureau of Purchases created
96 Public Bid 24-156 which opened on May 13, 2025 and closed on June 17, 2025. Every vendor
97 providing a cost estimate for a suitable circuit breaker took exception to the standard escalator
98 clause located within the Terms and Conditions of the Bid. The cause for this is the lead time for
99 this equipment will far exceed two years and due to the exotic metals used for this equipment, it
100 is unknown what the raw materials market will dictate. As a result of these exceptions made by
101 the vendors, the Purchasing group disqualified each of the offerings.
102

103 Mr. Zabrowski questioned if the language will be removed only for this bid?
104

105 Mr. Arborio stated that is correct.
106

107 **Motion to Approve the Bid Waiver request to Remove the Language referencing the**
108 **inability to charge cost escalators from the Bid Package as referenced in the memo dated**
109 **July 30, 2025, PUC Agenda August 5, 2025 – Item 6-1 on the condition that staff uses their**
110 **best efforts to quantify and reasonably justify cost changes**
111

112 **Made by: Dr. Rinebold**

113 **Seconded by: Mr. Zabrowski**

114 **Votes: 3 ayes**
115
116
117

118 **Public Question and Answer Period**
119

120 No Members Present
121

122 **Public Question and Answer Period Closed**
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124
125

126 **Committee Reports/Correspondence**
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128 None
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131

132 **ADJOURNMENT**
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Motion to Adjourn

Made by: Dr. Rinebold
Seconded by: Mr. Zabrowski
Votes: 3 ayes

The meeting was adjourned at approximately 6:18 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,



Michelle Bracale
Acting Recording Secretary

Respectfully submitted,



Laurence J. Zabrowski
Secretary