

RECEIVED FOR RECORD 12-3-25  
AT 10:46 a.m. AND RECEIVED BY  
Christen Parizo TOWN CLERK

1 APPROVED  
2

3 TOWN OF WALLINGFORD 1212125  
4 PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION  
5 WALLINGFORD ELECTRIC DIVISION  
6 100 JOHN STREET  
7 WALLINGFORD, CT 06492  
8 Tuesday, November 18, 2025  
9 6:00 P.M.  
10 MINUTES

11 **PRESENT:** Chairman Robert Beaumont; Commissioners Dr. Joel Rinebold and Laurence  
12 Zabrowski; Director Richard Hendershot; Electric Division General Manager Jake Arborio;  
13 Electric Division Business Office Manager Marianne Dill; Water and Sewer Divisions General  
14 Manager Neil Amwake; Water and Sewer Divisions Assistant Business Manager Scott Cleary  
15 and Acting Recording Secretary Michelle Bracale

16 *Absent – Water and Sewer Divisions Business Manager Donald Langenauer*

17 *Members of the Public – Bill Comerford*

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

24 1. Pledge of Allegiance

28 2. Consent Agenda

30 a. Consider and Approve Meeting Minutes of November 5, 2025

32 **Motion to Approve the Consent Agenda.**

34 **Made by: Mr. Zabrowski**

35 **Seconded by: Dr. Rinebold**

36 **Votes: 3 ayes**

39 3. Items Removed from Consent Agenda

41 None

42           **4. Discussion and Action: Director's Report – Month of October 2025**

43

44   Dr. Rinebold questioned where is the money going for the ancillary service market costs that was  
45   discussed in the last PUC meeting?

46

47   Mr. Hendershot stated that it is to pay generators to be there.

48

49   Dr. Rinebold stated that he shares his concerns with his fellow commissioners and is not overly  
50   happy about it. This will need to be watched.

51

52   There was further discussion on the future prices.

53

54   Mr. Zabrowski referenced the I/I Mitigation Program and questioned if the one new issue found  
55   in October is a trend?

56

57   Mr. Amwake stated that it generally is. What staff is finding is that if customers know that there  
58   is an issue, they generally will not participate even though there is a strong reimbursement  
59   program.

60

61   Mr. Beaumont questioned are there any more LED street lights that need to be changed out?

62

63   Mr. Arborio stated that the WED records show no. The private lights are replaced upon failure  
64   or requests from the customers.

65

66   **Motion to Approve the Director's Report for the Month of October 2025.**

67

68   **Made by: Mr. Zabrowski**

69   **Seconded by: Dr. Rinebold**

70   **Votes: 3 ayes**

71

72

73

74   **Public Question and Answer Period**

75

76   Mr. Bill Comerford questioned what is the employee vehicle policy for the WED or the WWSD  
77   that take vehicles home?

78

79   Mr. Hendershot stated that some of the cars are assigned, others are shown in the staff's job offer  
80   letters or traditionally left with the position of the General Manager to take vehicles home.  
81   Employees that are on call are also assigned a vehicle so that they can respond when called in.

82

83   Mr. Comerford questioned can the staff use the vehicles for personal use for the staff that is  
84   allowed to take the vehicles home?

85

86   Mr. Hendershot stated generally yes.

87

88 Mr. Comerford questioned if the Distribution Superintendent is allowed to use the vehicle?  
89  
90 Mr. Hendershot stated he believes so.  
91  
92 Mr. Beaumont stated that that position has been allowed a vehicle since at least the 1950's. It's  
93 not necessarily in the job description but has been done since the 1950's.  
94  
95 Mr. Comerford stated that the PUC is in violation for the past six years for not submitting the  
96 annual report due by October 1<sup>st</sup> and questioned if the PUC was aware of this?  
97  
98 Mr. Comerford stated that the Town Clerk did not have a copy of the annual report.  
99  
100 Mr. Hendershot stated it has been longer than six years and he was made aware of Mr.  
101 Comerford's request for the copy of the annual report. Mr. Hendershot stated that he has been  
102 with the Town for twenty years and he has not seen one report and was unaware of the reports.  
103 Previous Mayors and the current Mayor has not requested this from Mr. Hendershot. Mr.  
104 Hendershot suspects that the Town Hall believes that the annual financials are sufficient. The  
105 annual financials are submitted as scheduled.  
106  
107 Mr. Comerford stated that in the Charter, the Comptroller is required to submit these reports.  
108  
109 Mr. Comerford questioned why are these meetings not being recorded so that Government TV  
110 can put the meetings online so that the public do not have to attend?  
111  
112 Mr. Hendershot stated that it is not a requirement and it is a long standing practice that these  
113 meetings have never been recorded.  
114  
115 Mr. Comerford stated that it is a requirement through PURA.  
116  
117 Mr. Beaumont stated that PURA has nothing to do with the PUC.  
118  
119 Mr. Hendershot stated that if Government TV is supposed to record these meetings, then they  
120 should be doing that but they never have.  
121  
122 Mr. Comerford stated that it is a requirement and maybe the PUC is not aware that it is.  
123  
124 Mr. Comerford referenced the PUC meeting minutes in regards to exit interviews and questioned  
125 if this will be changed so that there are exit interviews conducted?  
126  
127 Mr. Beaumont stated that if the PUC believed that it was necessary, they would do so.  
128  
129 Mr. Comerford questioned how long does an account go before the power is shut off?  
130  
131 Mr. Hendershot stated there are rules described in the Connecticut General Statutes. It is  
132 complex and takes a while for the customer's power to be shut off due to non-payment.  
133

134 Ms. Dill stated that once the shut off notice is given, the WED gives the customer time to make a  
135 payment arrangement.

136  
137 Mr. Comerford pointed out that there was a residential customer who owed around \$10,000.00 -  
138 \$12,000.00 for over a decade.

139  
140 Mr. Beaumont stated that some of those accounts may possibly have medical needs.

141  
142 Mr. Arborio stated that there is certain criteria that prevents the WED from shutting off the  
143 power.

144  
145 Mr. Hendershot stated that the WED requests from customers that have met this criteria to  
146 redocument their medical needs annually.

147  
148 Mr. Comerford questioned would a lien be put on the property?

149  
150 Mr. Hendershot stated that the WED does not have the capability of placing a lien.

151  
152 Mr. Comerford questioned how many employees are in the utilities divisions?

153  
154 Mr. Hendershot stated about 140 employees.

155  
156 **Public Question and Answer Period Closed**

157  
158  
159  
160 **5. Discussion and Possible Action: Budget Amendment – Water Division – FY**  
161 **2025/2026 – Employee Pension & Benefits**

162  
163 Mr. Cleary stated that the WWD does not typically budget for unemployment compensation as  
164 future unemployment claims cannot be forecasted at the time the WWD budget is approved and  
165 adopted. However, this fiscal year there has been an unemployment claim for a former WWD  
166 employee who was entitled to such compensation. The WWD anticipates this will be for a  
167 period of six months with the possibility of an extension for an additional three months of  
168 unemployment compensation totaling \$24,738.00. The Town of Wallingford has already made  
169 the first three months payment to the State of Connecticut for \$8,246.00. The WWD is  
170 requesting PUC approval of a Fiscal Year 2025-2026 budget amendment to increase Account #  
171 43100926 – Employee Pension & Benefits by \$24,738.00.

172  
173 **Motion to Approve a Budget Amendment – Water Division – FY 2025/2026 to Increase**  
174 **Account #43100926 – Employee Pension & Benefits by \$24,738.00 from Retained Earnings.**

175  
176 **Made by: Dr. Rinebold**

177 **Seconded by: Mr. Zabrowski**

178 **Votes: 3 ayes**

179

180        **6. Discussion and Action: 2026 Schedule of Meetings**

181  
182        Dr. Rinebold stated that he may not be able to attend the March 3, 2026 PUC meeting and that he  
183        will let the PUC know once the date is closer.

184  
185        **Motion to Approve the 2026 Schedule of Meetings for the Public Utilities Commission as  
186        presented.**

187  
188        **Made by: Mr. Zabrowski**  
189        **Seconded by: Dr. Rinebold**  
190        **Votes: 3 ayes**

191  
192  
193  
194        **Committee Reports/Correspondence**

195  
196  
197  
198        **ADJOURNMENT**

199  
200        **Motion to Adjourn**

201  
202        **Made by: Mr. Zabrowski**  
203        **Seconded by: Dr. Rinebold**  
204        **Votes: 3 ayes**

205  
206        The meeting was adjourned at approximately 6:36 p.m.

207  
208  
209        Respectfully submitted,

210  
211        *Michelle Bracale*

212  
213        Michelle Bracale  
214        Acting Recording Secretary

Respectfully submitted,

*Laurence Zabrowski Jmb*

Laurence J. Zabrowski  
Secretary