

APPROVED

2/18/26

TOWN OF WALLINGFORD
PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION
WALLINGFORD ELECTRIC DIVISION
100 JOHN STREET
WALLINGFORD, CT 06492
Wednesday, January 21, 2026

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; Water and Sewer Divisions Assistant Business Manager Scott Cleary 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 December 23, 2025.

Motion to Approve the Consent Agenda

Made by: Dr. Rinebold

Seconded by: Mr. Zabrowski

Votes: 3 ayes

3. Items Removed from Consent Agenda

42 None

43

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45

46 **4. Discussion and Action: Director's Report – Month of December 2025**

47

48 Dr. Rinebold referenced Item No. 4-9 and questioned why Algonquin Gas prices increased on
49 November 26, 2025 to November 30, 2025? Have the prices gone back to normal?

50

51 Mr. Hendershot stated that his guess would be that it was temperature driven. ENE indicated that
52 recently they have seen the biggest net increase in years.

53

54 Dr. Rinebold referenced Item No. 4-12 and questioned when did the switch happen for the 36W
55 to 13M loads? Was anyone shut off during the switch?

56

57 Mr. Arborio stated no, the circuits are paralleled together. There will be an outage for the one
58 located on Ives Street because the primary conductors are over the top of the old primary
59 conductors. There will be an overnight cut-over and the street will be de-energized. The WED
60 will also coordinate an outage with all of the restaurants.

61

62 **Motion to Approve the Director's Report for the Month of December 2025.**

63

64 **Made by: Mr. Zabrowski**

65 **Seconded by: Dr. Rinebold**

66 **Votes: 3 ayes**

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68

69

70 **Public Question and Answer Period**

71

72 None

73

74 **Public Question and Answer Period Closed**

75

76

77

78 **5. Discussion and Possible Action: Budget Amendment – Water Division – FY**
79 **2025/26 – Liability Insurance (Account #43100925)**

80

81 Mr. Langenauer stated that the WWD is requesting the PUC's approval of a FY 2025-26 budget
82 amendment to increase Account #43100925 – Liability Insurance by \$79,000.00. The WWD
83 budget for workers' compensation expenses is based on the rolling average of the prior three
84 years' expenses. However, as the WWD cannot foresee the actual expenses that will be incurred
85 from year to year, there is no way to accurately forecast future workers' compensation expenses.
86 For FY 2025-26, a workers' compensation budget of \$77,093.00 was appropriated for the Water
87 Division. Based on recent communications with the Risk Management Department, the Water

88 Division has determined that there are multiple significant workers' compensation invoices
89 coming due that will exceed the current fiscal year budget.

90
91 **Motion to Approve a Budget Amendment – FY 2025/26 – Water Division to increase**
92 **Account #43100925 – Liability Insurance by \$79,000.00 from Cash.**

93
94 **Made by: Dr. Rinebold**
95 **Seconded by: Mr. Zabrowski**
96 **Votes: 3 ayes**

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100 **6. Discussion and Possible Action: Budget Amendment – Sewer Division – FY**
101 **2025/26 – Liability Insurance (Account #46100925)**

102
103 Mr. Langenauer stated that for FY 2025-26, a workers' compensation budget of \$66,165.00 was
104 appropriated. The WSD is requesting PUC's approval of a FY 2025-26 budget amendment to
105 increase Account #46100925 – Liability Insurance by \$67,000.00.

106
107 **Motion to Approve a Budget Amendment – FY 2025/26 – Sewer Division to increase**
108 **Account #46100925 – Liability Insurance by \$67,000.00 from Cash.**

109
110 **Made by: Mr. Zabrowski**
111 **Seconded by: Dr. Rinebold**
112 **Votes: 3 ayes**

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116 **7. Discussion and Action: Resolution – Keith Letourneau**

117
118 Mr. Amwake stated that Mr. Letourneau was with the WSD for over forty years. Mr. Letourneau
119 began with the WSD as a Collections Maintainer I and then moved up to a Collections
120 Maintainer II and then to a Collection Maintainer III (foreman) for the last several years prior to
121 his retirement. Mr. Letourneau's best attribute was that he really understood the collection
122 system. He had such an extensive knowledge of syphons, the trouble spots and the rights of way
123 that comes with the years of experience.. Mr. Amwake stated that he is sorry to see him go and
124 wished Mr. Letourneau all the best in his future endeavors.

125
126 **Motion to Approve the Resolution for Keith Letourneau**

127
128 **Made by: Mr. Zabrowski**
129 **Seconded by: Dr. Rinebold**
130 **Votes: 3 ayes**

131
132

133 **8. Discussion and Possible Action: Budget Amendment – Electric Division – FY**
134 **2025/26 – Account 592 – Distribution – Maintenance of Station Equipment**
135

136 Mr. Arborio pointed out a typo in Item No. 8-1 and stated that, in the third paragraph it should
137 read \$150,000.00 not \$125,000.00. Mr. Arborio stated that the WED is seeking an additional
138 \$150,000.00 in Account 592 – Distribution – Maintenance of Station Equipment. Account 592
139 Distribution – Maintenance of Station Equipment includes the cost of labor, materials used and
140 expenses incurred in maintenance of station equipment, the book cost of which is includible in
141 account 362 – Distribution – Station Equipment. As the work related to the replacement of the
142 forty GE Powervac PV-VL 13.7-750 bus bottle assemblies progressed, it became apparent that
143 the condition of the switchgear was considerably worse than WED staff had anticipated; thus
144 creating additional material cost and labor. The condition of the switchgear could not be assessed
145 until the panels were removed, which requires the portion of the switchgear to be de-energized.
146 While this work was being undertaken, the WED used the opportunity created by the outages to
147 complete additional regulatory compliance (NERC) work related to relay testing. The WED has
148 diverted electrician labor initially budgeted to Account 362 Distribution Plant – Station
149 Equipment to perform these tasks. In conjunction with the above appropriation from Retained
150 Earnings, the WED is requesting an appropriation to Retained Earnings from Account 362 –
151 Distribution Plant – Station Equipment in the amount of \$150,000.00. Funds are available in this
152 account as labor and overheads originally budgeted to this account are being redirected to
153 account 592 – Distribution Maintenance – Station Equipment to accomplish the work above.
154

155 Mr. Beaumont questioned what was the original amount that the WED budgeted for?
156

157 Mr. Arborio stated that he does not know the exact number.
158

159 Ms. Dill stated that she thinks it was \$740,000.00 with some of the work done and then the WED
160 had to reappropriate about \$569,000.00.
161

162 Mr. Arborio stated that the next step would be to refurbish the roof and noted the switch gear is
163 over sixty years old.
164

165 **Motion to Approve a Budget Amendment in the amount of \$150,000.00 from Account #362**
166 **– Distribution – Station Equipment to Retained Earnings.**
167

168 **Made by: Mr. Zabrowski**

169 **Seconded by: Dr. Rinebold**

170 **Votes: 3 ayes**
171

172 **Motion to Approve a Budget Amendment in the amount of \$150,000.00 from Retained**
173 **Earnings to Account #592 – Distribution – Maintenance of Station Equipment.**
174

175 **Made by: Mr. Zabrowski**

176 **Seconded by: Dr. Rinebold**

177 **Votes: 3 ayes**
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179 **9. Discussion and Possible Action: Extension of the DEDR Program**
180

181 Mr. Arborio advised that the WED is seeking a two-year extension of the DEDR Program that
182 expired on December 31, 2025. The last time this expired it was decided not to change the
183 footprint of the program. The WED is not asking for any changes to the program just the two-
184 year extension. There are currently 20 active accounts in the program.

185
186 Dr. Rinebold commented that this is a good program.

187
188 **Motion to Approve the Extension of the DEDR Program for 2 Years (Effective 1/1/26 –**
189 **12/31/27).**

190
191 **Made by: Dr. Rinebold**

192 **Seconded by: Mr. Zabrowski**

193 **Votes: 3 ayes**
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197 **10. Discussion Only: Rate Comparison**
198

199 Ms. Dill stated the WED staff prepared a comparison of the monthly residential electric rates of
200 the investor owned and municipal utilities in Connecticut. Ms. Dill reviewed the graph shown in
201 Item No. 10-3 and stated that Groton Utilities (\$130.72/month per 750 kWh usage) currently has
202 the lowest residential rates in the state followed by Jewett City (\$137.94/month per 750 kWh
203 usage) then Wallingford (\$141.14/month per 750 kWh usage). Wallingford is still one of the
204 most competitive rates in the State. WED rates for the 750 kWh customer are 41% less than
205 Eversource and 45% less than United Illuminating (UI). Jewett City has increased their
206 customer charge by \$5.00.
207

208 Mr. Zabrowski commented that this is very good and that he likes this comparison as it is helpful
209 to see where WED is.

210
211 Ms. Dill stated that the rate study is coming up and this will show where the WED will fall once
212 the rate study takes effect.
213

214 There was further discussion on the upcoming rate study.
215

216 Dr. Rinebold commented nice job.
217

218 The PUC thanked Ms. Dill for the great work.
219
220
221

222 **11. Executive Session pursuant to Connecticut General Statutes §1-200(6)(A), §1-**
223 **210(b)(2), and §1-225(f) to discuss the evaluation and performance of the**
224 **Director of Public Utilities**

225 **Motion was made to move into Executive Session at 6:43 p.m. pursuant to Connecticut**
226 **General Statutes §1-200(6)(A), §1-210(b)(2), and §1-225(f) to discuss the evaluation and**
227 **performance of the Director of Public Utilities**
228

229 **Made by: Mr. Zabrowski**
230 **Seconded by: Dr. Rinebold**
231 **Votes: 3 ayes**
232

233 **Attendance at Executive Session: Chairman Robert Beaumont, Commissioners Dr. Joel**
234 **Rinebold and Laurence Zabrowski and Director Richard Hendershot**
235

236 **Time of Executive Session: 6:43 p.m. – 7:35 p.m.**
237

238
239
240 **12. Discussion and Possible Action: Evaluation and Performance of the Director of**
241 **Public Utilities as discussed in Executive Session**
242

243 **Motion to Approve a General Wage Increase of 2.5% retroactive to 1/1/2026.**
244

245 **Made by: Dr. Rinebold**
246 **Seconded by: Mr. Zabrowski**
247 **Votes: 3 ayes**
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251 **Committee Reports/Correspondence**
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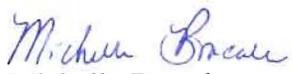
253
254 **ADJOURNMENT**
255

256 **Motion to Adjourn**
257

258 **Made by: Mr. Zabrowski**
259 **Seconded by: Dr. Rinebold**
260 **Votes: 3 ayes**

261 The meeting was adjourned at approximately 7:38 p.m.
262

263 Respectfully submitted,

264 
265 Michelle Bracale
266 Acting Recording Secretary
267

Respectfully submitted,


Laurence J. Zabrowski
Secretary