

APPROVED

6/2/26

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

Tuesday, May 19, 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 and Acting Recording Secretary Michelle Bracale

Absent – None

Members of the Public – Kevin Lohmann

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 April 21, 2026
- b. Consider and Approve Special Meeting Minutes – Electric Division Workshop – April 29, 2026
- c. Consider and Approve Budget Transfer – Electric Division – FY 2025/2026 – Account 596 – Distribution – Maintenance – Street Light & Signal Systems
- d. Consider and Approve Budget Transfer – Electric Division – FY 2026/2026 – Account 595 – Distribution – Maintenance – Line Transformers

Motion to Approve the Consent Agenda

Made by: Dr. Rinebold

Seconded by: Mr. Zabrowski

42 **Votes: 3 ayes**
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46 **3. Items Removed from Consent Agenda**
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48 None
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52 **4. Discussion and Action: Approval of the Director's Report for the Month of**
53 **April 2026**
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55 Mr. Hendershot noted that the WED does not have the typical report from Energy Initiatives, Inc.
56 as Mr. Craig Kieny has been having health issues and is scheduled for surgery.
57

58 Mr. Beaumont referenced Item No. 4-1 Hot Line Tag Installation and questioned if the date for
59 the WED staff meeting is correct?
60

61 Mr. Arborio apologized and stated that the April 21st meeting date is incorrect and was a typo.
62 The meeting date should read May 21st.
63

64 **Motion to Approve the Director's Report for the Month of April 2026**
65

66 **Made by: Dr. Rinebold**

67 **Seconded by: Mr. Zabrowski**

68 **Votes: 3 ayes**
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72 **5. Discussion and Possible Action: Customer Appeal – 1258 Old Colony Road –**
73 **Water Meter**
74

75 Mr. Kevin Lohmann stated that he is 66 years old and has doing street sweeping and vacuuming
76 for over fifty years. Mr. Lohmann stated that he is disputing the meter that has been in his home
77 for over twenty years. Over the past year he has been noticing a surge on his water service line.
78 There is a plastic company next door and United Concrete which is down the street. These
79 companies consume a large volume amount of water because they are making plastic and
80 concrete products. When these companies use a big amount of water it is causing a massive
81 vibration in his home. It feels like there is an earthquake. Mr. Lohmann provided the WWSO
82 with pictures of his house and stated that his house is about 1000 sf and the basement is heated.
83 The temperature is kept consistent at 65° and the home is heated by gas. The WWSO is stating
84 that the pipes froze. Mr. Lohmann stated that the pipes did not freeze and that the bottom plate
85 of the water meter cracked from the water surge that causes violence and trembling in his home.
86 If this was a frozen meter it would have frozen in January or February when the temperatures
87 dropped. The meter failed early in April. The new poly water meter that was installed is now

88 dripping from the vibration and violence. Mr. Lohmann stated that he has conveyed this to the
89 WWD many times and is very concerned with the pipe that is leading from the street into his
90 home.

91
92 Mr. Zabrowski questioned what the image was in the last picture?
93

94 Mr. Lohmann stated that it was a picture of the bucket to show the inch of water that is coming
95 from the new poly water meter.
96

97 Mr. Lohmann stated that he does not want to pay for something that he did not do or should be
98 responsible for. He does not believe he owes this money.
99

100 Mr. Amwake stated that he took notes and that he would like to table this item so that he can
101 investigate with the Water and Sewer Divisions Engineering Section and with WWD leadership.
102

103 Dr. Rinebold and Mr. Beaumont stated that he appreciates this.
104

105 Mr. Lohmann stated that it is not about the money it is about the bigger issue that is going on.
106

107 **Motion to Table this Agenda Item**

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109 **Made by: Dr. Rinebold**

110 **Seconded by: Mr. Zabrowski**

111 **Votes: 3 ayes**
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115 **Public Question and Answer Period**

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117 None
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119 **Public Question and Answer Period Closed**
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123 **6. Discussion and Possible Action: Budget Amendment – Water Division – FY**
124 **2025/2026 - Outside Services Employed**
125

126 Mr. Langenauer stated that during the WWD FY 2025-2026 budgeting process there was a
127 misunderstanding regarding proportionate charges. While it was thought that all Wallingford
128 proportionate charges including Information Technology (IT) charges would be assessed by the
129 Town, in actuality there remained some IT expenses that were still assessed through the WED.
130 As such, no funds were appropriated for WED-assessed Water Division information technology
131 expenses for FY 2025-2026. The WWD FY 2026-2027 budget includes a Proportionate Charges
132 line item of \$514,137.00 and a separate line item for WED-assessed Information Technology
133 expenses at \$59,760.00. Therefore, the account was underfunded by \$28,450.00. The WWD is

134 requesting PUC approval of a FY 2025-2026 budget amendment to increase Account #43100923
135 – Outside Services Employed by \$28,450.00. Funds for this purpose will be made available
136 through a corresponding transfer from Cash in the Source of Funds section of the WWD budget.
137

138 **Motion to Approve the Budget Amendment – Water Division – FY 2025/2026 in the**
139 **amount of \$28,450.00 to Increase Account #43100923 – Outside Services Employed from**
140 **Cash**

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142 **Made by: Mr. Zabrowski**
143 **Seconded by: Dr. Rinebold**
144 **Votes: 3 ayes**
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148 **7. Discussion and Possible Action: Budget Amendment – Sewer Division – FY**
149 **2025/2026 – Outside Services Employed**
150

151 Mr. Langenauer stated that during the WSD FY 2025-2026 budgeting process there was a
152 misunderstanding regarding proportionate charges. While it was thought that all Wallingford
153 proportionate charges including Information Technology (IT) charges would be assessed by the
154 Town, in actuality there remained some IT expenses that were still assessed through the WED.
155 As such, no funds were appropriated for WED-assessed Sewer Division information technology
156 expenses for FY 2025-2026. The WSD FY 2026-2027 budget includes a Proportionate Charges
157 line item of \$464,276.00 and a separate line item for WED-assessed Information Technology
158 expenses at \$39,840.00. Therefore, the account was underfunded by \$26,250.00. The WSD is
159 requesting PUC approval of a FY 2025-2026 budget amendment to increase Account #46100923
160 – Outside Services Employed by \$26,250.00. Funds for this purpose will be made available
161 through a corresponding transfer from Cash in the Source of Funds section of the WWD budget.
162

163 **Motion to Approve the Budget Amendment – Sewer Division – FY 2025/2026 in the amount**
164 **of \$26,250.00 to Increase Account #46100923 – Outside Services Employed from Cash**

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166 **Made by: Mr. Zabrowski**
167 **Seconded by: Dr. Rinebold**
168 **Votes: 3 ayes**
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172 **8. Discussion Only: Rate Comparison**
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174 Ms. Dill stated that the WED staff prepared a comparison of the monthly residential electric rates
175 of the investor owned and municipal utilities in Connecticut. WED rates for the 750 kWh
176 customer are 27% less than Eversource and 38% less than United Illuminating (UI) for a 750
177 kWh residential customer. The data will show that Jewett City (\$137.94/mo. per 750 kWh
178 usage) currently has the lowest residential rates in the state followed by South Norwalk
179 (\$140.02/mo. per 750 kWh usage) then Wallingford (\$141.14/mo. per 750 kWh usage).

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9. Discussion and Possible Action: Budget Transfer – Electric Division – FY 2025/2026 – Account 585 – Distribution – Operation – Street Light & Signal System Expenses

Motion to Approve the Budget Transfer – Electric Division – FY 2025/2026 in the amount of \$10,000.00 to Account #585 – Distribution – Operation – Street Light & Signal System Expenses from Cash

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

10. Discussion and Possible Action: Set Date of June 23, 2026 at 6:00 p.m. at the Wallingford Electric Division for Public Hearing on Electric Rates and Miscellaneous Charges

Motion to Set Date of June 23, 2026 at 6:00 p.m. at the Wallingford Electric Division for Public Hearing on Electric Rates and Miscellaneous Charges

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

11. Executive Session pursuant to Connecticut General Statutes §1-200(6)(E), §1-210(b)(5)(B) and §7-232(a) to discuss Power Supply Agreements

Motion was made to move into Executive Session at 6:41 p.m. pursuant to Connecticut General Statutes §1-200(6)(E), §1-210(b)(5)(B) and §7-232(a) to discuss Power Supply Agreements

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

Attendance at Executive Session: Chairman Robert Beaumont, Commissioners Dr. Joel Rinebold and Laurence Zabrowski, Director Richard Hendershot, Electric Division General Manager Jake Arborio and Electric Division Business Office Manager Marianne Dill

Time of Executive Session: 6:41 p.m. – 7:08 p.m.

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227 **12. Discussion and Possible Action: Authorization for Director to Execute**
228 **Master Power Purchase and Sale Agreement with Smartest Energy US, LLC**
229 **as discussed in Executive Session pursuant to Connecticut General Statutes**
230 **§1-200(6)(E), §1-210(b)(5)(B) and §7-232(a) to discuss Power Supply**
231 **Agreements**

232
233 **Motion to Authorize the Director to Execute the Master Power Purchase and Sale**
234 **Agreement with Smartest Energy US, LLC as discussed in Executive Session**

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236 **Made by: Mr. Zabrowski**
237 **Seconded by: Dr. Rinebold**
238 **Votes: 3 ayes**

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242 **Committee Reports/Correspondence**

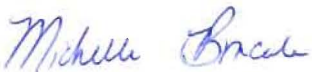
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246 **ADJOURNMENT**

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248 **Motion to Adjourn**


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250 **Made by: Dr. Rinebold**
251 **Seconded by: Mr. Zabrowski**
252 **Votes: 3 ayes**

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256 The meeting was adjourned at approximately 7:09 p.m.

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259 Respectfully submitted,

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263 Michelle Bracale
264 Acting Recording Secretary

Respectfully submitted,


Laurence J. Zabrowski
Secretary