

1 **DRAFT**

2 PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION

3 WASTEWATER TREATMENT PLANT

4 ADMINISTRATION BUILDING

5 155 JOHN STREET

6 WALLINGFORD, CT 06492

7 Wednesday, November 4, 2020

8 6:30 P.M.

9 **MINUTES**

TOWN OF  
WALLINGFORD

NOV 9 2020

DEPARTMENT OF  
PUBLIC UTILITIES

10 **PRESENT:** Chairman Robert Beaumont; Commissioners Patrick Birney (TC) and Joel  
11 Rinebold; Director Richard Hendershot; Electric Division General Manager Tony Buccheri,  
12 Office Manager Tom Sullivan; Water and Sewer Divisions General Manager Neil Amwake;  
13 Recording Secretary Bernadette Sorbo.

14 (TC-TELECONFERENCE)

15 *Members of the public – none*

16 Mr. Beaumont called the Meeting to order at 6:30 P.M.

17 **1. Pledge of Allegiance**

18  
19 **2. Consent Agenda**

- 20 a. Consider and approve meeting Minutes of October 6, 2020  
21

22 **Motion to approve the Consent Agenda:**

23 **Made by: Mr. Rinebold**

24 **Seconded by: Mr. Birney**

25 **Votes: 3 ayes**  
26

27 **3. Items Removed from Consent Agenda – None**  
28  
29

30 **4. Discussion and Action: Approval of Director's Report for the Month of**  
31 **September 2020**  
32

33 Mr. Hendershot asked if there were any questions pertaining to the Director's Report.

34  
35 Mr. Beaumont questioned how long the term will be for the Electric Division Section, Cost of  
36 Service Study, Financial Forecast, Revised Rates on Page 4-1?  
37

38 Mr. Hendershot responded that the term will be four years. Mr. Hendershot stated that any of the  
39 revised rates will be implemented July 1, 2021.

40  
41 Mr. Beaumont inquired regarding the Pad-Mounted Transformers discussed on Page 4-1. Mr.  
42 Beaumont stated that 29 locations have been prioritized and asked if these have been prioritized  
43 because they are more in need?

44  
45 Mr. Buccheri responded that this was correct. Mr. Buccheri stated the Electric Division is  
46 currently out to bid and are waiting on the pricing to come in for the transformers. Mr. Buccheri  
47 is hoping that by the next meeting he will have lead times and pricing information to provide to  
48 the PUC.

49  
50 **Motion to Approve the Director's Report for the Month of September 2020**

51 **Made by: Mr. Rinebold**

52 **Seconded by: Birney**

53 **Votes: 3 ayes**

54  
55  
56 **5. Discussion and Action: Electric Division: Budget Transfer- A/C 598 -**  
57 **Miscellaneous Dist. - Environmental**

58  
59 Mr. Buccheri stated that this account is for Environmental Services. This account covers  
60 expenses incurred by the Electric Division for spill response, transformer oil testing and disposal.  
61 While the Division recently increased the budget for this account as part of a larger multi-line  
62 item appropriation connected to Storm Isaias, the remediation costs for the storm were  
63 underestimated in that request by approximately \$31,000.00. Mr. Buccheri advised that in  
64 addition to the storm costs, the Division has also experienced a year-to-date increase in the  
65 amount of remediation costs connected to failing transformers. The Electric Division staff has  
66 also identified additional failing transformers which will need to be replaced in the coming  
67 months and will likely result in additional response, testing and disposal costs which will exceed  
68 the current budget amount. The transfer request is intended to cover those anticipated costs for  
69 the balance of the fiscal year.

70  
71 Mr. Birney stated that he was aware of the excess costs due to Storm Isaias but questioned if  
72 there was something going on that was creating the excess costs that the PUC should be aware  
73 of?

74  
75 Mr. Hendershot responded yes. Mr. Hendershot stated that the inspections for the pad mount  
76 transformers are finding that there are more transformers where there has been weeping or minor  
77 oil leakage. Mr. Hendershot advised that due to the increased attention given on the pad mount  
78 transformers, the Division is finding more work to do than anticipated when the budget was  
79 developed.

80  
81 Mr. Hendershot noted that on Item Number 5-2, the Request for appropriation of funds is  
82 incorrect and will be corrected to show Request for Transfer of funds.

83

84 **Motion to Approve the Budget Transfer into Account 598**  
85 **Made by: Mr. Rinebold**  
86 **Seconded by: Mr. Birney**  
87 **Votes: 3 ayes**

88  
89

90 **6. Discussion and Action: Electric Division – Resolution – Sullivan**

91

92 Mr. Sullivan has been with the Town of Wallingford, Electric Division for over twenty-eight  
93 years. Mr. Beaumont stated that the Division has been very fortunate to have Mr. Sullivan and  
94 that he sincerely appreciates him. Mr. Beaumont wished Mr. Sullivan and his family nothing but  
95 the best.

96

97 Mr. Sullivan thanked the Commissions and stated that they were a good group to work for and  
98 with. Mr. Sullivan stated that he appreciated the support and the trust that is put into the staff.

99

100 Mr. Birney stated that Mr. Sullivan will be missed. Mr. Birney thanked Mr. Sullivan for all of  
101 his hard work with CMEEC and his sense of humor.

102

103 **Motion to Approve the Resolution for Sullivan**

104 **Made by: Mr. Birney**

105 **Seconded by: Mr. Rinebold**

106 **Votes: 3 ayes**

107

108 **Public Question and Answer Period**

109

110 No members of the Public present

111

112 **Public Question and Answer Period Closed**

113

114

115 **7. Discussion and Action: Water Division – Budget Amendment – Transportation**  
116 **Equipment – WD-05**

117

118 Mr. Amwake stated that the budget amendment is to purchase a new cargo van with a trailer  
119 hitch package for water main flushing operations (WD-05). The goal each year is to flush 100%  
120 of the distribution system, which is 200 miles of water main. The current flushing van is Circa  
121 2005, has 133,500 local miles and is in fair/poor condition. Mr. Amwake advised that the Water  
122 Division's FY 2019-2020 budget included funding of \$30,000.00 to purchase a new cargo van.  
123 The bids were lower than anticipated based on the telephone calls made in January 2020 when  
124 the budget pricing was received. Therefore, the Water Division is requesting a budget  
125 amendment of \$22,000.00 to come out of the Retained Earnings Account and to be transferred  
126 into the Transportation Equipment Fund.

127

128 **Motion to Approve the Budget Amendment from Retained Earnings to Purchase**  
129 **Transportation Equipment**

130 **Made by: Mr. Rinebold**  
131 **Seconded by: Mr. Birney**  
132 **Votes: 3 ayes**

133  
134

135 **8. Discussion and Action: Water Division – Budget Amendment – Transportation**  
136 **Equipment – WD-14**

137 Mr. Amwake stated that this request is similar to the prior Budget Amendment request. Mr.  
138 Amwake stated that these bids were opened subsequent to the end of the prior fiscal year. As a  
139 result, the approved appropriation for FY 2019-2020 has now lapsed. The budget included  
140 \$24,000.00 to purchase a new van utilized for material and equipment pickup for water main  
141 repairs, etc.; delivery of water and sewer bills and late notices to the post office; and delivery of  
142 mail between the Public Utility divisions and Town Hall (WD-14). The existing 2008 Chevy  
143 Uplander van utilized for these functions has approximately 104,000 local miles and is in fair  
144 condition. Mr. Amwake advised that the bids came in better therefore, the Water Division is  
145 requesting approval of a budget amendment increasing the Account #43300392 (Transportation  
146 Equipment) in the amount of \$22,000.00.

147

148 **Motion to Approve the Budget Amendment to Purchase Transportation Equipment from**  
149 **Retained Earnings**

150 **Made by: Mr. Rinebold**  
151 **Seconded by: Mr. Birney**  
152 **Votes: 3 ayes**

153

154

155 **9. Discussion: WPCF Upgrades Project Update**

156

157 At the Intermediate Pump Station, the switch over from the existing IPS to the new IPS occurred  
158 on September 17<sup>th</sup>. The new IPS is currently operational and pumping wastewater from the  
159 Primary Settling Tanks across the WPCF to the Anoxic Basin. The demolition of the former IPS  
160 is nearly complete. The two new Secondary Settling Tanks will be constructed on the area  
161 currently occupied by the former IPS.

162

163 At the Tertiary Phosphorous Building the installation of the grade level floor slabs is complete.  
164 All columns have been formed and poured. Shoring has been installed for the construction of the  
165 concrete roof slab and beams. The contractor is currently installing formwork and rebar for the  
166 roof slabs and beams.

167

168 At the UV Disinfection/Post Aeration Building the roof joists and decking has been installed for  
169 the UV Building. The Contractor is currently installing the exterior brick walls for the UV  
170 Building. As of today the brickwork is about 60-65% complete.

171

172 At the Emergency Generator Building, the foundation and reinforcing steel for EGB is complete.  
173 The concrete pad with reinforcing steel for the 10,000-gallon diesel aboveground storage tank  
174 (AST) is complete. Delivery of the AST is projected for late October or early November. The

175 contractor continues with the installation of the electrical feed between the EGB and the main  
176 switchgear in the Personnel Building.

177  
178 At the Secondary Pump Station, the sheeting and bracing for excavation of the SPS has been  
179 completed. The excavating has been completed and the Contractor is starting to form the rebar  
180 for the structure.

181  
182 Along Main Street the installation of the permanent RBC electrical duct bank continues. This  
183 work is approximately 50-55% complete at this time.

184  
185 Construction Contract Payment Applications – C. H. Nickerson

186	Original Contract Sum	\$45,507,000.00	
187	Net Change by Change Orders	(\$47,432.14)	
188	Contract Sum to Date	\$45,459,567.86	As of September 15, 2020

189  
190 Construction Contract Schedule

191	Original Completion Date	February 10, 2022
192	Net Change Schedule Days	_____ - 0
193	Contract Completion Date	February 10, 2022

194

195

196 **10. Discussion and Action: Water Division – Resolution - Johnson**

197

198 Mr. Johnson has been with the Town of Wallingford Water Division for ten years. Mr. Amwake  
199 commented that Mr. Johnson is a great, friendly, steady employee. Mr. Amwake stated that what  
200 everyone loved about Mr. Johnson is when any kind of issue arose Mr. Johnson always remained  
201 calm. Mr. Johnson also loved to teach, mentor and pass along his knowledge to other water  
202 treatment operators.

203

204 **Motion to Approve the Resolution for Johnson**

205 **Made by: Mr. Rinebold**

206 **Seconded by: Mr. Birney**

207 **Votes: 3 ayes**

208

209 **Committee Reports/Correspondence**

210

211 The PUC held a discussion on where the meetings would be held for the remainder of the year.  
212 Mr. Beaumont stated that the next three meetings would be held tentatively at the Wallingford  
213 Town Hall in Room 315. These meetings will be held on an individual case basis per the health  
214 department.

215

216 Mr. Birney stated that this should be added on as an agenda item for the next meeting.

217

218 Both Mr. Beaumont and Mr. Rinebold agreed.

219

220

221

222

223 **ADJOURNMENT**

224

225

226

227 **Motion to adjourn**

228 **Made by: Mr. Rinebold**

229 **Seconded by: Mr. Birney**

230 **Votes: 3 ayes**

231

232

233

234 The meeting was adjourned at approximately 7:10 p.m.

235

236 Respectfully submitted,

Respectfully submitted,

237

238

239

240 Bernadette Sorbo

Joel Rinebold

241 Recording Secretary

Secretary