

APPROVED

2/24/22

PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION

WALLINGFORD TOWN HALL

45 SOUTHMAIN STREET

ROOM 315

WALLINGFORD, CT 06492

Tuesday, January 18, 2022

6:30 P.M.

MINUTES

PRESENT: Chairman Robert Beaumont; Commissioner Joel Rinebold; Director Richard Hendershot; Electric Division Business Office Manager Marianne Dill; Water and Sewer Divisions General Manager Neil Amwake, Water and Sewer Divisions Business Manager Brian Naples and Recording Secretary Bernadette Sorbo.

Absent - Commissioner Patrick Birney and Electric Division General Manager Tony Buccheri

Members of the public – None

Mr. Beaumont called the Meeting to order at 6:31 P.M., and the pledge of Allegiance was recited.

1. Pledge of Allegiance

2. Consent Agenda

- a. Consider and approve Meeting Minutes of January 4, 2022.

Motion to approve the Consent Agenda

Made by: Mr. Rinebold
Seconded by: Mr. Beaumont
Votes: 2 ayes

3. Items Removed from Consent Agenda – None

42                   **4. Discussion and Action: Approval of the Director’s Report for the month of**  
43                   **December 2021**

44  
45 Mr. Rinebold referenced Item 4-9 and questioned what happened on 11-24-2021? Was this due  
46 to a cold spike?

47  
48 Mr. Hendershot stated that he did not know but could find out.

49  
50 Mr. Rinebold referenced Item 4-14 and questioned if there is any inclination to hedge earlier  
51 before the prices increase due to inflation?

52  
53 Mr. Hendershot stated that historically the spring and fall are the times when the market is soft.  
54 WED is looking to get through the winter and then WED will determine. WED is required to  
55 make a minimum purchase of approximately 5%.

56  
57 **Motion to approve the Director’s Report for the month of December 2021**

58  
59 **Made by: Mr. Rinebold**

60 **Seconded by: Mr. Beaumont**

61 **Votes: 2 ayes**  
62  
63  
64

65                   **5. Discussion and Possible Action: Customer Appeal – Anthony Hudon – High**  
66                   **Consumption and Billing**

67  
68 Mr. Naples stated that on Saturday, November 27, 2021 there was a house fire at 167 S. Colony  
69 Road, a multi-family residential dwelling owned by Mr. Anthony Hudon. The following day the  
70 customer requested that the Water Division shut off the water to the property. Upon arrival,  
71 Water Division staff was unable to shut the water off at the curb stop but was able to read the  
72 meter, which indicated that 5,100 cubic feet of water had been consumed since the last quarterly  
73 cycle read on September 14, 2021. A final bill in the amount of \$479.39 was generated based on  
74 this read. The following day, Monday, November 29<sup>th</sup>, Water Division staff returned to the  
75 property, dug out the curb stop, and shut off the water service. At that point the meter was re-  
76 read, and there was an additional 3,253 cubic feet of consumption. The Water Division staff has  
77 not yet billed for this additional consumption, though once billed this consumption will result in  
78 additional charges of \$285.73 for a total outstanding balance of \$765.12. Based on the first read  
79 taken on Sunday, November 28, 2021, the average daily consumption for the billed period was  
80 68.92 CF per day. If the additional consumption through Monday November 29<sup>th</sup> is included,  
81 the average daily consumption would be 111.37 CF per day. The historical average consumption  
82 during the same billing quarter over the previous three years was 32.59 CF per day. Given the  
83 known facts, Water Division staff believes that the house’s internal plumbing was damaged by  
84 the fire, creating a constant demand for water from the time of the fire on Saturday through the  
85 time the water was shut off on Monday. The customer was unable to access the house’s internal  
86 shutoff valve because the house was unsafe to enter, and Water Division staff was unable to  
87 access the curb stop until a crew was available to dig it out on Monday. Due to the

88 circumstances, the Water and Sewer Divisions feel it would be appropriate to offer the customer  
89 a credit for the water and sewer charges incurred from the time the fire began to the time the  
90 water was shut off at the curb stop. Because no meter read is available from immediately before  
91 the fire, staff estimated the consumption based on the historical average daily consumption  
92 during the same period for the prior three years. This estimated read would result in a bill of  
93 \$240.32. In order to best accommodate this credit and the Water and Sewer Divisions billing  
94 software staff recommends that the Water and Sewer Division bill the additional charges as they  
95 normally would and the PUC grant Mr. Hudon a credit of \$524.80, which is the difference  
96 between the total charges of \$765.12 and the estimated charges of \$240.32.

97  
98 **Motion to provide reconciliation with account of \$524.80 based on the time of shut off, time**  
99 **of request and damage of house**

100  
101 **Made by: Mr. Rinebold**  
102 **Seconded by: Mr. Beaumont**  
103 **Votes: 2 ayes**

104  
105  
106  
107 **Public Question and Answer Period**

108  
109 None

110  
111 **Public Question and Answer Period Closed**

112  
113  
114  
115 **6. Discussion and Possible Action: Water Division Budget Amendment FY 2021-**  
116 **2022 – Transportation Equipment**

117  
118 Mr. Naples stated that the Fiscal Year 2020-2021 Water Division Capital Budget included funds  
119 to replace WD-11, a 2011 Ford HD 4x4 pickup truck with a plow and lift gate, with a new 4WD  
120 regular cab pickup truck. The 2011 Ford pickup truck currently has 78,156 miles and is in fair  
121 condition. The vehicle was put out to bid for replacement in November 2020. The bid was  
122 awarded to Executive Dodge of Wallingford, and a purchase order was issued on February 16,  
123 2021. The bid price was \$39,149.00 less a trade value of \$10,000.00. Therefore, the net price  
124 was \$29,149.00. The new vehicle was to be a 2021 Ram 2500 HD 4x4 pickup with a plow and a  
125 lift gate. The vehicle was not delivered by the end of FY20-21, the encumbered funds carried  
126 forward into the FY21-22 Water Division Capital Budget. In October 2021, Executive Dodge  
127 notified the Water Division that they would not be able to provide the vehicle. The Bureau of  
128 Purchases advised that Executive Dodge could not be bound to honor the bid. In November  
129 2021 the vehicle was re-bid. The new low bidder was again Executive Dodge offering a 2022  
130 Ram 2500 HD 4x4 pickup with a plow and a lift gate. The new bid price for the vehicle was  
131 \$49,841.00 less a trade value of \$10,000.00. Total price delivered is therefore \$39,841.00. Per  
132 Executive Dodge, the manufacturer has discontinued incentives regarding the sale of fleet  
133 vehicles. The original budget included \$35,000.00 however at the close of FY20-21 only the

134 encumbered funds, \$29,149.00, were carried forward into the FY21-22. The remaining budgeted  
135 funds, \$5,851.00 were returned to retained earnings and are no longer available to the Water  
136 Division. The new low bid amount of \$39,841.00 exceeds the originally budgeted amount by  
137 \$4,841.00 and exceeds the currently available funds in the Water Division Capital Budget by  
138 \$10,692.00. Therefore, the Water Division respectfully requests the PUC to approve the FY21-  
139 22 budget amendment to increase Account #43300392 – Transportation Equipment by  
140 \$10,692.00. Funds for this purpose will be made available through a corresponding increase to  
141 the Appropriation from Cash in the Source of Funds section of the Water Division budget.  
142

143 **Motion to move the \$10,692.00 from Cash to Transportation Equipment Account**  
144 **#43300392**

145  
146 **Made by: Mr. Rinebold**  
147 **Seconded by: Mr. Beaumont**  
148 **Votes: 2 ayes**  
149  
150  
151

## 152 **7. WPCF Upgrades Project**

153  
154 Mr. Amwake updated the Commission on the construction of the WPCF Upgrades Project.  
155

156 At the Secondary Settling Tanks, the contractor is performing rubbing of the interior concrete at  
157 the influent trough area for SST5&6. The exterior brick for the electrical building on top of the  
158 SST gallery extension roof is complete. Construction of interior block walls inside the same  
159 electrical building is complete. Installation of the steel roofing deck and joists for the electrical  
160 building is complete. The Contractor is installing equipment for the sludge and scum rakes.  
161 Installation of the return activated sludge pumps and piping in the SST gallery is ongoing. The  
162 electricians are installing conduit and pulling wires in the electrical building on top of the SST  
163 gallery extension roof.  
164

165 At the Secondary Pump Station, installation of the electrical branch wiring for the building  
166 continues. The pumps and the screens have all been tested.  
167

168 At the Tertiary Phosphorous Building, the installation of process piping on the lower and upper  
169 levels is complete.  
170

171 At the UV Disinfection/Post Aeration Building, the plant water header pipe for the UV troughs  
172 and the PA tanks has been relocated per Town direction.  
173

174 At the Existing Personnel Electrical Building, the electrical work is substantially complete.  
175

176 For Site Work, the Contractor has installed a portion of the 16-inch RAS pipe along Main Street.  
177 Construction of a SCADA duct bank along Main Street is ongoing.  
178

179 Construction Contract Payment Applications – C. H. Nickerson

180 Original Contract Sum \$45,507,000.00  
181 Net Change by Change Orders \$179,590.33  
182 Contract Sum to Date \$45,686,590.33 As of December 15, 2021

183  
184 Out of 29 Monthly Payment Applications for C. H. Nickerson the Change Orders to Date are  
185 0.3946%.

186  
187 Construction Contract Schedule  
188 Original Completion Date February 10, 2022  
189 Net Change Schedule Days 7 (No Change this Month)  
190 Contract Completion Date February 17, 2022 As of December 15, 2021

191  
192 Mr. Rinebold questioned how does the invoicing work and how does the invoicing for DEEP  
193 work so that they pay their share?

194  
195 C. H. Nickerson and AECOM bill the Wallingford Water and Sewer Division on a monthly  
196 basis. The Wallingford Sewer Division then assembles together a Clean Water Fund (CWF)  
197 submission that is due by 12:00 PM on the 2<sup>nd</sup> business day of each month. The Sewer Division  
198 is then paid electronically by the State on the 13<sup>th</sup> business day of the month. The Wallingford  
199 Water and Sewer Division then pays AECOM and C. H. Nickerson on the last Friday of the  
200 month. There is no cash out of pocket.

201  
202

203  
204 **Correspondence/Committee Reports**

205  
206 None

207  
208  
209

210 **ADJOURNMENT**

211

212 **Motion to adjourn**

213

214 **Made by: Mr. Rinebold**

215 **Seconded by: Mr. Beaumont**

216 **Votes: 2 ayes**

217

218 The meeting was adjourned at approximately 7:04 p.m.

219

220 Respectfully submitted,

221

222 *Michelle Brucade for*

223

224 Bernadette Sorbo

225 Recording Secretary

Respectfully submitted,

*Joel Rinebold for mb*

Joel Rinebold

Secretary