

PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION

WALLINGFORD TOWN HALL

ROOM 315

45 SOUTHMAIN STREET

WALLINGFORD, CT 06492

Tuesday, March 1, 2022

6:30 P.M.

MINUTES

PRESENT: Chairman Robert Beaumont; Commissioner Joel Rinebold; Director Richard Hendershot; Electric Division General Manager Tony Buccheri; 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

Members of the Public – Melissa Bivelacque

Mr. Beaumont called the Meeting to order at 6:30 P.M., and the pledge of Allegiance was recited.

1. Pledge of Allegiance

2. Consent Agenda

- a. Consider and Approve Budget Amendment – Water – Pumping Plant – Electric Pumping Equipment.
- b. Consider and Approve Budget Amendment – Water – Outside Services Employed – Leak Detection Survey.

Motion to Approve the Consent Agenda

Made by: Mr. Rinebold

Seconded by: Mr. Beaumont

Votes: 2 ayes

42 **3. Items Removed from Consent Agenda – None**

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46 **4. Discussion WPCF Upgrades Project Update**

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48 Mr. Amwake updated the Commission on the construction of the WPCF Upgrades Project.

49
50 At the Secondary Settling Tanks, the Contractor continues to install equipment for the sludge and
51 scum rakes. The sludge is on the bottom of the tanks and the scum is what floats to the surface.
52 The electricians are installing conduit and pulling wires in the electrical building on top of the
53 SST gallery extension roof. The Contractor is installing the 30-inch influent pipe to SST5&6
54 (extension of the existing 30-inch pipe). Grating over the effluent troughs is being installed.

55
56 At the Secondary Pump Station, optimization of the pump on/off cycling in response to the
57 influent flowrate to the SPS is ongoing.

58
59 At the Tertiary Phosphorous Building, testing of individual equipment associated with the
60 tertiary phosphorus treatment process, and testing and optimization of each treatment train is
61 moving forward.

62
63 At the UV Disinfection/Post Aeration Building, there are no new activities.

64
65 At the Existing Personnel Electrical Building, the electrical work is substantially complete.

66
67 At the Site Work, the Contractor has completed installation of the 16-inch return activated sludge
68 (RAS) pipe along Main Street. Construction of the SCADA duct bank along Main Street is
69 ongoing.

70
71 Construction Contract Payment Applications – C. H. Nickerson

72	Original Contract Sum	\$45,507,000.00	
73	Net Change by Change Orders	<u>\$179,590.33</u>	(No Change this Month)
74	Contract Sum to Date	\$45,686,590.33	As of January 15, 2022

75
76
77 Construction Contract Schedule

78	Original Completion Date	February 10, 2022	
79	Net Change Schedule Days	<u>193</u>	(+186 calendar days)
80	Contract Completion Date	August 22, 2022	As of January 15, 2022

81
82 Time Extension Rationale

- 83 • Removal of a former valve vault, settling tank structure and pump station within the
84 excavation at Secondary Settling Tanks 5 & 6 (3 separate structures throughout the
85 excavation area)
- 86 • Select demolition of undocumented sheet piling and removal of excess concrete at the
87 existing influent gallery knockout panel

- 88 • Dewatering issues at SST 5 & 6
- 89 • Demolition of the existing UV Tank slab on grade cantilevered sidewalk and tank
- 90 sidewalk
- 91 • Linear progression of existing and new returned activated sludge (RAS) piping to
- 92 maintain existing WPCF plant operations
- 93 • Revised scope of work to maintain the existing high pressure and low pressure plant
- 94 water systems and electrical service for plant process operation flexibility
- 95
- 96 ✓ Per the DEEP Change Order Approval letter dated December 17, 2021 "... all systems
- 97 required for [tertiary] phosphorus removal will be in place and operational prior to the
- 98 April 1, 2022 deadline."
- 99

100

101

102 **Public Question and Answer Period**

103

104 No members of the Public Present

105

106 **Public Question and Answer Period Closed**

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108

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110 **5. Discussion and Possible Action: Customer Appeal – Bivelacque DEDR**
111 **Discount Reinstatement**

112

113 Ms. Bivelacque stated that she is the owner of the Nail and Wax Room located on Center Street
114 in Wallingford.

115

116 Mr. Buccheri advised that Ms. Bivelacque was part of the Downtown Economic Development
117 Rider. The termination of the DEDR discount was effective with the January 2022 bill based on
118 a late payment on the account at that time. Participation in the program commenced August,
119 2018 and was scheduled to expire July, 2023. A review of the account activity shows that since
120 July 2018, each monthly bill has been paid on a timely basis until this delinquency. A payment
121 is considered timely if it is paid within 30 days of the bill date.

122

123 Ms. Bivelacque explained that the late payment was due to Covid-19. Ms. Bivelacque and her
124 daughter both were sick and therefore, there was a gap in time from when the bill was received.
125 The bill went to the business directly and Ms. Bivelacque was quarantined at home.

126

127 **Motion to Reinstate DEDR Discount for Customer Melissa Bivelacque**

128

129 **Made by: Mr. Rinebold**

130 **Seconded by: Mr. Beaumont**

131 **Votes: 2 ayes**

132

133 **6. Discussion and Possible Action: Pole Attachment Master Agreement – Verizon**
134 **Wireless**

135
136 Mr. Buccheri stated that this Agreement is between Wallingford Electric Division and Verizon
137 Wireless. This agreement will allow Verizon to attach their facilities to WED poles within the
138 public right-of-way. This Agreement has been reviewed by both Verizon’s Legal Counsel and
139 the Town of Wallingford’s Department of Law.

140
141 Mr. Buccheri advised that Verizon Wireless will need to submit an application for each location
142 and that each attachment needs to be in a safe space on the pole. Every single location will need
143 to be engineered by Wallingford Electric Division internally. If there is not enough space on the
144 pole, then Verizon would be responsible to install the bigger pole and any shift work required.
145 So far, there have been eight applications. Five of the applications have already been installed
146 and the other three are in the engineering process. Per guidance from the Town of Wallingford
147 Law Department, this Agreement must be approved by the PUC and if approved, WED requests
148 authorization for the Director to execute the Agreement.

149
150 Mr. Rinebold voiced his concerns with the Agreement in regards to the roll out of 5G and cell
151 splitting. Will every pole in Town eventually have an antenna and will these become big multi-
152 panel arrays? Will there be a loss of control to assess land use compatibility? Can WED control
153 the type of antennas that will be put on the pole?

154
155 Mr. Hendershot stated that he will work with the Law Department to have some language folded
156 into the Agreement to have control of what antennas are being put on the poles and what areas of
157 the Town the antennas will be put in.

158
159 There was further discussion in regards to the Agreement with Verizon in Article IV paragraph 3
160 and revising language in the WED’s standards, policies, practices and procedures to give
161 practical control on antennas and antennae placement.

162
163 **No Action Taken**

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167 **ADJOURNMENT**

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169 **Motion to adjourn**

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171 **Made by: Mr. Rinebold**

172 **Seconded by: Mr. Beaumont**

173 **Votes: 2 ayes**

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

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177

178 Respectfully submitted,
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180
181
182 Bernadette Sorbo
183 Recording Secretary

Respectfully submitted,

Joel Rinebold
Secretary