

APPROVED

9/21/22

PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION

WALLINGFORD TOWN HALL

ROOM 315

45 SOUTHMAIN STREET

WALLINGFORD, CT 06492

Tuesday, September 6, 2022

6:30 P.M.

MINUTES

PRESENT: Chairman Robert Beaumont; Commissioners Patrick Birney and 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; and Recording Secretary Bernadette Sorbo

Absent – None

Members of the public – Adelheid Koepfer

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 Meeting Minutes of August 17, 2022
- b. Consider and approve Budget Amendment – FY 2022/2023 – Water Division – Maintenance of Treatment Equipment

Motion to Approve the Consent Agenda

Made by: Mr. Birney

Seconded by: Mr. Rinebold

Votes: 3 ayes

3. Items Removed from Consent Agenda - None

42 **Public Question and Answer Period**

43

44 Ms. Koepfer stated that she sent a letter over to the Water Division and questioned if this was
45 received.

46

47 Mr. Amwake stated that Erin O'Hare, the Town Environmental Planner provided a document
48 written by BL Companies, the applicant's engineer, which responded to most of the questions
49 that were proposed in the letter and that the responses were picked up in person by Ms. Koepfer
50 last Friday, September 2, 2022.

51

52 Ms. Koepfer stated that she had some additional questions for the Water Division.

53

54 Ms. Koepfer questioned, that it is generally less expensive and more protective for public health
55 to prevent contamination then it is to treat [drinking] water to maintain health standards, less
56 expensive to use existing sources then it is to develop new ones, correct?

57

58 Mr. Amwake stated that the Water Division as well as the Sewer Division provides technical
59 comments to the Environmental Planner and to the Town Planner regarding plans and documents
60 submitted to the Town as part of an application package. The Divisions compare this to the
61 technical standards and regulations if the development falls within the watershed protection or
62 the aquifer protection area in town. The Water and Sewer Division provides information to the
63 Inland Wetlands and Watercourses Commission as well as to the Planning and Zoning
64 Commission. How the Commissions act and what they do with this information is their
65 interpretation and their decision.

66

67 Ms. Koepfer referenced a July 20, 2022 from Erik Krueger, P;E., former Water and Sewer
68 Divisions Senior Engineer and read a comment back from Mr. Amwake, "If sediment laid and
69 run off from the side its discharged downstream could potentially affect the water quality
70 entering Mackenzie Reservoir to the point at which this water supply source would need to be
71 taken out of service." Ms. Koepfer questioned what does this mean taken out of service?

72

73 Mr. Amwake stated that this falls under water security and water safety which is not discussed in
74 the public. This is part of the Water Divisions emergency contingency plan which is private.
75 This plan is submitted to the Department of Public Health as part of the water supply plan which
76 was last updated in 2017. How the Water Department moves and supplies the water is not for
77 public forum interest.

78

79 Additionally, that this statement is for a potential issue, not a known or anticipated issue. It is
80 noted that the memorandum goes on to state, "Therefore, best management practices such as the
81 following shall be implemented during construction:" with best management practices listed.

82

83 Ms. Koepfer questioned if Mr. Amwake has historical data about the water quality and the
84 Muddy River from before Bristol Meyers Squibb was built, during construction, when it was
85 occupied and running, when it was a vacant building and when it was demolished? Has there
86 been any difference in the water quality?

87

88 Mr. Amwake stated that a trend analysis has not been looked at. Quarterly water samples are
89 collected from the Muddy River, from the reservoirs and the three groundwater wells. When
90 these are collected from each quarter depends on staffing. The Water Division will not try to
91 make a trend analysis based on quarterly samples.
92

93 Ms. Koepfer questioned if all of Mr. Amwake's concerns have been addressed in regards to 5
94 Research Parkway?
95

96 Mr. Amwake stated that the Divisions have put forward their comments in a written format to the
97 Town Environmental Planner.
98

99 Ms. Koepfer questioned if he received a response and if the responses satisfied the questions,
100 requests or comments?
101

102 Mr. Amwake stated that the Division provides information to the Inland and Wetland
103 Commissions. It is then up to that Commission to act.
104

105 Ms. Koepfer questioned if Mr. Amwake saw the responses?
106

107 Mr. Amwake stated that there has been a lot of paper going back and forth and that he is a
108 General Manager not a specific manager. This is handled by the Engineer Section staff. The
109 questions that are being asked are detailed and cannot be answered as they are outside the direct
110 purview of what Mr. Amwake handles on a day to day basis.
111

112 Mr. Amwake questioned has the Inland and Wetland Commissions acted yet?
113

114 Ms. Koepfer responded no and that the meeting is tomorrow, September 7, 2022.
115

116 Mr. Amwake questioned if the terms and conditions of any Inland Wetlands and Watercourses
117 permit have not been established yet?
118

119 Ms. Koepfer answered, correct.
120

121 Mr. Amwake questioned Ms. Koepfer, if she is asking him to comment on a moving target?
122

123 Ms. Koepfer answered, correct.
124

125 Ms. Koepfer questioned will someone from the Water and Sewer Divisions be at the meeting on
126 September 7, 2022?
127

128 Mr. Amwake stated, no. The Divisions have said what needed to be said in written format in
129 several memorandums.
130

131 Ms. Koepfer responded, yes I know.
132

133 Ms. Koepfer commented that she was disappointed that she could not get any more answers.
134 Ms. Koepfer thanked the PUC for the opportunity.

135
136 **Public Question and Answer Period Closed**

137
138
139
140 **ADJOURNMENT**

141
142 **Motion to adjourn**
143 **Made by: Mr. Birney**
144 **Seconded by: Mr. Rinebold**
145 **Votes: 3 ayes**

146
147 The meeting was adjourned at approximately 6:38 p.m.

148
149 Respectfully submitted,

150 

151
152
153 Bernadette Sorbo

154
155 Recording Secretary

Respectfully submitted,



Joel Rinebold

Secretary