

1 **DRAFT**

2 **PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION**

3 **WALLINGFORD TOWN HALL**

4 **ROOM 315**

5 **45 SOUTH MAIN STREET**

6 **WALLINGFORD, CT**

7 **Tuesday, August 17, 2021**

8 **6:30 P.M.**

9 **MINUTES**

**TOWN OF
WALLINGFORD**

AUG 23 2021

**DEPARTMENT OF
PUBLIC UTILITIES**

10
11 **PRESENT:** Chairman Robert Beaumont; Commissioner Patrick Birney (attended via
12 teleconference); Director Richard Hendershot; Electric Division General Manager Tony Buccheri;
13 Water and Sewer Divisions General Manager Neil Amwake; Water and Sewer Divisions Business
14 Manager Brian Naples; Business Office Manager Marianne Dill; Recording Secretary Bernadette
15 Sorbo

16 *Absent* – Commissioner Joel Rinebold

17 *Members of the public* – None

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

19 **1. Pledge of Allegiance**

20
21 **2. Consent Agenda**

- 22
23 a. Consider and approve Minutes of July 20, 2021
24 b. Consider and Approve Budget Transfer – Electric – A/C 584 – Distribution –
25 Operation – Underground Line Expenses to A/C 585 – Distribution – Operation –
26 Street Light & Signal System Expenses and A/C 596 – Distribution – Operation –
27 Underground Line Expenses (FY – 20/21).
28 c. Consider and Approve Budget Transfer – Sewer – 461-00673 – Maint. of
29 Collection System to Misc. Engineering Expenses – A/C 461-00665 (FY 20/21).
30 d. Consider and Approve Budget Transfer – Water – A/C 431-00675 – Maint. of
31 Services to A/C 431-00676 – Maint. of Meters (FY 20/21).
32 e. Consider and Approve Budget Transfer – Water – A/C 431-00612 – Maint. of
33 Collecting and Impounding Reservoir Dam to A/C 431-00641 – Chemicals (FY
34 20/21).
35

36

37

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

39

40 **Made by: Mr. Birney**

41 **Seconded by: Mr. Beaumont**

42 **Votes: 2 ayes**

43

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

45

46 **4. Discussion and Action: Approval of Director's Report for the Month of July 2021**

47

48 Mr. Beaumont referenced Item No. 4-1- Primary URD Replacements and questioned if the WED
49 Chief Engineer will complete the review in July or August?

50

51 Mr. Hendershot apologized and stated that he failed to update the date. Mr. Hendershot advised
52 that this will be completed this month.

53

54 Mr. Buccheri advised that this was done in July.

55

56 **Motion to approve the Director's Report for the Month of July 2021**

57

58 **Made by: Mr. Birney**

59 **Seconded by: Mr. Beaumont**

60 **Votes: 2 ayes**

61

62 **5. Discussion and Action: Sewer Division: Resolution – J. Walters**

63

64 Mr. Amwake stated that Mr. Walters has been with the Wallingford Sewer Division for more than
65 32 years as a Collections Maintainer II. The crew will miss the way that Mr. Walters interacted
66 with the customers and the excellent field notes that he took. Mr. Amwake stated that Mr. Walters
67 is an all-around great guy.

68

69 Mr. Beaumont agreed that Mr. Walters is a great guy.

70

71 **Motion to approve the Resolution of Jim Walters**

72

73 **Made by: Mr. Birney**

74 **Seconded by: Mr. Beaumont**

75 **Votes: 2 ayes**

76

77 **6. WPCF Upgrades Project Update**

78

79 Mr. Amwake updated the Commission on the construction of the WPCF Project.

80

81 At the Secondary Settling Tanks, the formwork and reinforcing steel for the walls is being placed.
82 As of today, seven of the wall sections have been poured to date, with three sections remaining to
83 be poured. The Contractor has begun installation of the shoring and formwork for the influent

84 trough. In the process of removing the concrete knockout at the west end of the existing influent
85 pipe gallery for extension of the SST influent pipe gallery to serve SST5&6.

86

87 At the Secondary Pump Station, the CMU block work for the exterior walls is complete, with
88 installation of the brickwork also complete. Installation of the electrical and HVAC systems for
89 the building continues.

90

91 At the Tertiary Phosphorous Building, the installation of process piping in the lower level is
92 ongoing. The installation of the stainless steel piping for the microsand system is complete.
93 Installation of the lamella plates in one settling tank is complete. Electrical work in the lower level
94 of the TPB is ongoing, along with HVAC on both the upper and lower levels. The bulk chemical
95 storage tanks (2 Alum tanks and 1 sodium hydroxide tank) have been placed, and the fire sprinkler
96 system in this area is complete.

97

98 At the UV Disinfection/Post Aeration Building, the contractor has completed installation of the
99 stainless steel air piping, along with piping for the plant water systems. The diffusers along the
100 bottom of the PA tanks have been installed. Mr. Amwake referenced the photo that was sent out
101 of the post aeration tanks showing the completed work.

102

103 At the Existing Personnel Electrical Building, the Electrical work is ongoing. Masonry work for
104 the new people doors on the North and East sides of the PEB is ongoing with installation of the
105 CMU block complete and the brickwork outstanding at this time.

106

107 At the Site Work, excavation for the plant water, return activated sludge (RAS) piping and potable
108 water service between the pipe gallery near the fuel island is complete, while work continues on
109 for the electrical duct banks in this area.

110

111 Construction Contract Payment Applications – C. H. Nickerson

112

113 Original Contract Sum	\$45,507,000.00	
114 Net Change by Change Orders	<u>\$160,715.49</u>	(No Change this Month)
115 Contract Sum to Date	\$45,667,715.49	As of July 15, 2021

116

117 Construction Contract Schedule

118

119 Original Completion Date	February 10, 2022	
120 Net Change Schedule Days	<u>7</u>	(No Change this Month)
121 Contract Completion Date	February 17, 2022	As of July 15, 2021

122

123 Mr. Amwake pointed out that there is a difference between the actual contract end date and the
124 operational date. Mr. Amwake advised that in late fall/early winter the equipment will be turned
125 on and the equipment will go through its formal testing.

126

127 Mr. Beaumont questioned if C.H. Nickerson will need to have the work completed by February
128 17th?

129

130 Mr. Amwake stated that is correct.

131
132 **7. Discussion and Action: Budget Transfer – Electric – From A/C 366, Dist. Plant –**
133 **Underground Conduit and A/C 367 – Dist. Plant – Underground Conductors to**
134 **A/C 353 – Trans. Plant – Station Equip. Transmission, A/C 364 – Dist. Plant –**
135 **Poles, Towers, Fixtures, A/C 373 – Dist. Plant – Street Lighting & Signal Syst.,**
136 **and A/C 365 – Dist. Plant – Overhead Conductors (FY 20/21).**
137

138 Mr. Buccheri referenced Item No. 7-1 and noted that there are several transfers for various reasons
139 indicating where the funds are available and where the funds are being transferred to. Some of
140 these are related to year end payroll allocations adjusting where time was spent vs. where time was
141 budgeted. The other transfers are related to:

- 142 a. Engineering Services provided by PLM for transmission line relay upgrade projects and
143 the NERC PRC-027 compliance.
144 b. Products that were ordered for a project that the Engineering Department was working on.
145 The specifications were provided and the products were delivered. The products were used
146 by the Electric Division for replacements not knowing that the products were for the
147 Engineering Department.
148

149 **Motion to approve the Budget Transfers**

150
151 **Made by: Mr. Birney**

152 **Seconded by: Mr. Beaumont**

153 **Votes: 2 ayes**
154

155 **8. Discussion and Action: Electric Division – Billing Issue – Allnex**
156

157 Mr. Buccheri referenced the memo dated August 11, 2021 in regards to the Allnex Late Fee
158 Reimbursement. Mr. Buccheri stated that Allnex received their July 2021 bill and noted a penalty
159 was assessed on the June 2021 bill in the amount of \$9,081.00. Allnex accounts payable staff
160 called WED to inform us that they never received the June 2021 emailed bill. WED staff
161 confirmed the June 2021 bill was in fact not emailed to their AP invoice inbox. Mr. Buccheri
162 advised that in 2020 Allnex requested that their bills be emailed to their AP Invoice inbox to ensure
163 electric bills continue to be paid on time due to turnover in staff. WED staff has been emailing
164 the monthly bills and payments have been timely. This was a WED error; therefore, the electric
165 division is requesting that the late fee for the June 2021 billing be waived.
166

167 **Motion to approve the Reimbursement of Allnex Late Fee**

168
169 **Made by: Mr. Birney**

170 **Seconded by: Mr. Beaumont**

171 **Votes: 2 ayes**
172
173
174
175

176 **9. Discussion and Action – Electric Division – Cross Walk Lighting Fee – Choate**
177

178 Mr. Buccheri stated that the WED was approached by Choate after Choate spoke with the Town
179 and the Engineering Department. Choate will be installing “beacons” in the four locations of the
180 crosswalks. The beacons will be put on each side of the crosswalks for the public. When the button
181 is pushed it will trigger a flashing LED light on both sides of the crosswalk to indicate that there
182 are people crossing the street. WED came up with a monthly rate for the consumption of operating
183 these beacons based on the Rate 11 Kwh charge. This monthly rate came out to about \$20.00 for
184 all four locations.

185
186 Mr. Birney questioned what is this and if there is another example of this around town to reference?
187

188 Mr. Buccheri responded that there is not and that he is not familiar with these devices. Mr.
189 Buccheri stated that he was informed that other municipalities have these and have been funded to
190 install these devices.

191
192 **Motion to approve the Cross Walk Lighting Fee at Choate**
193

194 **Made by: Mr. Birney**

195 **Seconded by: Mr. Beaumont**

196 **Votes: 2 ayes**
197

198 **10. Discussion and Action: PUC – Resolution – White**
199

200 Mr. Hendershot stated that it is a sad and intimidating day but Mrs. White has earned her stripes
201 and has earned her time to retire. Mr. Hendershot wished Mrs. White well and stated that she will
202 be missed and appreciated all of the work she did behind the scenes. It will take a while for anyone
203 to fill her shoes.
204

205 Mr. Beaumont stated that he hates to see Mrs. White leave. Mr. Beaumont stated that Mrs. White
206 has done a phenomenal job particularly with the CMEEC issues. Mrs. White did a tremendous
207 amount of work that no job description could describe.
208

209 Mr. Birney stated that Mrs. White is responsive to any requests that were made over the years.
210 Not only has Mrs. White completed PUC specific duties but she was always ready and willing to
211 offer a hand in assisting with the duties of the former Commissioner. Mr. Birney stated that he
212 appreciated all of the work she did and particularly for the helping get the PUC packets sent
213 electronically. Mr. Birney wished Mrs. White the best.
214

215 **Motion to approve the Resolution for Kathy White**
216

217 **Made by: Mr. Birney**

218 **Seconded by: Mr. Beaumont**

219 **Votes: 2 ayes**
220
221

222 **Correspondence and Committee Reports**

223

224 Mr. Hendershot noted that Mr. Beaumont and Mr. Hendershot are scheduled to interview the
225 candidates for the replacement of Mrs. White's position starting next week.

226

227 Mr. Beaumont stated that there are seven candidates who will be interviewed for the position
228 during the course of the week.

229

230 **Public Question and Answer**

231

232 No questions from the Public

233

234 **Public Question and Answer Closed**

235

236 **ADJOURNMENT**

237

238 **Motion to adjourn**

239

240 **Made by: Mr. Birney**

241 **Seconded by: Mr. Beaumont**

242 **Votes: 2 ayes**

243 The meeting was adjourned at approximately 6:56 p.m.

244

245 Respectfully submitted,

246

247

248

249 Bernadette Sorbo

250 Recording Secretary

Respectfully submitted,

Joel M. Rinebold

Secretary