

1 **DRAFT**

2 **PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION**

3 **100 JOHN STREET**

4 **WALLINGFORD, CT**

5 **TUESDAY, AUGUST 21, 2018**

6 **6:30 p.m.**

7 **MINUTES**

TOWN OF  
WALLINGFORD

AUG 27 2018

DEPARTMENT OF  
PUBLIC UTILITIES

8  
9 **PRESENT:** Chairman Robert Beaumont (via telephone); Commissioners Patrick Birney (via  
10 telephone); Joel Rinebold (Acting as Chair); Director Richard Hendershot; Electric Division  
11 General Manager Tony Buccheri; Office Manager Tom Sullivan; Water and Sewer Divisions  
12 General Manager Neil Amwake; Office Manager Bill Phelan; Cynthia Kleist Recording Secretary;  
13 Public: None

14 Acting-Chair Rinebold called the Meeting to order at 6:30 p.m. and the Pledge of Allegiance was  
15 recited.

16 **1. Pledge of Allegiance**

17 **2. Consent Agenda**

- 18 a. Consider and approve Minutes of August 7, 2018  
19 b. Consider and approve Budget Appropriation to A/C 909 – Conservation Expense

20 In his August 14, 2018 memo, Mr. Sullivan explained this budget amendment was to  
21 appropriate \$8,300 from retained earnings into Account #909 – Conservation Expense for Fiscal  
22 Year 2017-2018 to cover the accrual of expenses through the fiscal year end. The memo  
23 explained that Connecticut State Statute requires the WED to collect funds from its customers  
24 for the purpose of funding energy conservation programs and the amount collected from WED  
25 customers for the Energy Conservation and Load Management Fund is recognized as revenue.  
26 Mr. Sullivan's memo explained further that if the WED does not expend the amount budgeted in  
27 Account #909 within a given year, the unexpended balance becomes retained earnings, but  
28 remains segregated as Energy Conservation and Load Management Funds and may only be  
29 used for those purposes

- 30 c. Consider and approve APPA Legal Seminar – Town Attorney

31 In his August 15, 2018 memo, Mr. Hendershot explained that the WED was seeking PUC  
32 approval to enable the Town Attorney Gerald Farrell, Sr. to attend the American Public Power

1 Association (APPA) Legal and Regulatory Conference for four days, from October 7 through  
2 October 10 in Charleston, South Carolina. The WED's FY2018-2019 budget includes \$5,000 in  
3 Account 930, Miscellaneous General Expense, earmarked for the APPA Legal Seminar.

4 **Motion to approve consent items.**

5 Made by: Birney

6 Second by: Beaumont

7 Vote: 3 ayes

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

9 **4.** Discussion and Action: Approval of Director's Report for the Month of July 2018

10 **Mr. Beaumont made a motion to approve the Director's Report for the Month of July**  
11 **2018. Mr. Birney seconded the motion.**

12 **DIRECTOR'S OFFICE/DEPARTMENT-WIDE**

13 Mr. Hendershot reported the pilot Transmission Cost Reduction ("TCR") Program, begun on  
14 June 1, resulted in over a \$3,000 credit to the Water Division on the June electric bills for the  
15 Mackenzie and Ulbrich Reservoir pumping stations, while providing the Water Division with  
16 more flexibility to schedule pumping. He noted this initial success has prompted the Water  
17 Division to expand the TCR Program to its west side well pumps, and also has staff looking for  
18 "interruptible" load at the Pistapaug Water Treatment Plant.

19 **ELECTRIC DIVISION**

20 LS Power/Wallingford Energy Plant Expansion Project

21 Mr. Hendershot reported the Division continues to work through the physical punch list items.

22 Former Truck Barn, Office Building Garage Bays, Inc.

23 Mr. Hendershot noted that except for items associated with pulling in new overhead conductors,  
24 all Line Department tools and materials have been moved from the old truck barn to the new  
25 building.

26 LendLease Solar-PV Interconnection

27 Mr. Hendershot told the PUC the Interconnection Agreement that was approved by them on  
28 July 3 was also approved by the Town Council on July 10. Mr. Hendershot stated Wallinford's  
29 version of the System Impact Study has been completed and noted ISO-NE was still working on  
30 their study. He said the System Impact Study was forwarded to Wallingford Renewable Energy  
31 for review and comment. Mr. Hendershot said the WED learned during July that LendLease had

1 b sold the Wallingford Renewable Energy Project to Global Atlantic. He said an initial meeting  
2 with one representative from Global Atlantic took place and was informed they intend to keep  
3 this project for a while and operate this site.

4 Service work during July included nine new services; 18 service changes and eight retired  
5 services; WED conducted 73 LED streetlight conversions and 13 street light repairs; to date,  
6 894 LED streetlights have been installed, with 3,471 HPS streetlights remaining to be replaced.

#### 7 Personnel

8 Mr. Hendershot said two new Maintenance Electricians began work August 6 and 13  
9 respectively; the Apprentice Lineman vacancy is being filled internally.

#### 10 Electric System Metrics

11 Mr. Hendershot noted that system input for July totaled 60,811 MWh, an increase of 7.3% from  
12 July 2017, owing to the consistent warm weather during this month; maximum system demand  
13 for July was 124.8 MW, a decrease of 1.5% from the June 2017 peak; Customer Average  
14 Interruption (CAIDI) was 101.8 minutes

#### 15 June Wholesale Power Supply

16 Mr. Hendershot noted that in June, 93.9% of WED's total energy was hedged, which was above  
17 the forecasted hedging level for June of 92.2%

#### 18 WED's generation cost

19 Average cost for hedged volume = \$47.43; Average cost for total volume - \$47.44. He said  
20 higher unit costs (due to fewer units over which to spread fixed costs) were offset by low LMP's  
21 for un-hedged energy. Mr. Birney asked about the ("CAIDI") number of 101.8 minutes and  
22 asked if this was high. Mr. Hendershot noted WED's CAIDI runs a little high for a number of  
23 reasons. He said WED has done a good job of knocking brief outages out of the system with  
24 tree trimming and trying to keep wildlife away from the lines. He said what is left are outages  
25 that take longer to repair. He said sometimes this CAIDI is an indication of attempting to find  
26 people to respond to the outage.

27 Mr. Birney noted that WED's participation in the Pierce/Microgen Project resulted in a nice cash  
28 benefit during the month. Mr. Hendershot said because of current capacity costs, both projects  
29 are in the money. Mr. Rinebold said he was pleased to see the \$3,000 credit for Water Division  
30 pumping demand response program. He asked about the transfer of the LendLease ownership  
31 to Global Atlantic and asked if there were any concerns or problems. Mr. Hendershot said Global  
32 Atlantic has indicated they own and operate a large amount of solar facilities nationwide and  
33 worldwide.

1 Mr. Rinebold asked if the Electric Division knew the sale was to take place. Mr. Hendershot said  
2 the Division had heard the sale was to take place a while back. Mr. Buccheri said LendLease  
3 was looking for financing and Global Atlantic informed LendLease they had the money and  
4 would purchase WRE. Mr. Rinebold asked if the RFP for Home Energy Services Program was on  
5 schedule. Mr. Hendershot said there was only one bidder (CMC), which was the Division's  
6 current provider. He said the recommendation has been sent to the Purchasing Dept.

## 7 **WATER DIVISION**

8 Mr. Hendershot said during July, Water Division crews responded to and repaired one water  
9 main break and one service break.

### 10 Pond Hill Emergency Interconnection Station

11 Mr. Hendershot noted that hydrostatic testing of the new facilities inside the building was  
12 successfully completed, but the second of two disinfection tests failed for piping located inside  
13 the pumping station using water from The Regional Water Authority. He said a repeat test is  
14 scheduled for this month.

### 15 Water Main Replacements

16 Mr. Hendershot said the pre-construction meeting with Quality Associates, the Contract 35  
17 contractor, took place on July 19 and work is expected to begin around this time period.

### 18 Personnel

19 Mr. Hendershot said there is an impending vacancy for an Account Clerk in the Water Division  
20 which has been posted and advertised.

### 21 Water Division Metrics

22 Mr. Hendershot said water production for July totaled 137.5 million gallons, an increase of 3.3%  
23 from July 2017; Reservoir storage at months end was at 87.8% of total effective impoundment  
24 which is above the historical average of 86% for July; precipitation for the month totaled 5.14  
25 inches, which is 30.7% above the historical average; precipitation for the year is 29.9 inches,  
26 which is approximately 1.8 inches above the historic average for the first seven months of the  
27 year.

## 28 **WASTEWATER DIVISION**

29 Mr. Hendershot said Sewer Division staff responded to and resolved three WWTP alarms and  
30 two collection system trouble calls; during July, the collection system staff televised 150 linear  
31 feet of sewer main and flushed 5,000 feet.

### 32 Wastewater Division Metrics

1 Mr. Hendershot noted that at the Wastewater Treatment Plan, the average daily flow during  
2 July was 4.04 MGD, a 6.6% decrease from June 2017; nitrogen discharge for the month  
3 averaged 284 pounds per day, slightly below the June 2017 discharge rate of 289 pounds per  
4 day, but still above the permit level of 269 pounds per day; for July, the average phosphorus  
5 discharge was 0.54 mg/L compared to 0.46 mg/L in July 2017; the current permit level is 0.70  
6 mg/L.

#### 7 Private Side I/I Mitigation Program

8 Mr. Hendershot said that during July, staff conducted 35 inspections, which identified four total  
9 I/I connections; YTD I/I efforts have resulted in 310 inspections and 30 connections identified;  
10 since inception, the I/I program has conducted 1,117 inspections, identified 143 connections  
11 and corrected 76. Mr. Hendershot noted that embedded in Mr. Amwake's report was a chart  
12 which goes into great detail about this program; contacts made, letters sent.

13 Mr. Beaumont said it was interesting that the Sewer Division saw a decrease of 6% of influent  
14 whereas the Water Division ended up putting out more than 3% of what they had before. Mr.  
15 Amwake said this is most likely the result of irrigation, noting there hasn't been a lot of rain.

16 Mr. Amwake updated the PUC on the facility plan and phosphorus project. He read from his  
17 report noting the draft (full) Facility Plan submitted to CT DEEP on July 27, 2018 for their  
18 review, comment and approval. He said a meeting has been requested with CT DEEP to review  
19 the (full) Facility Plan. Mr. Amwake said CT DEEP's priority for the past few weeks has been to  
20 review the ballasted flocculation phosphorus removal system RFP. He said the actual treatment  
21 technology must go out first in a separate RFP per CT DEEP procedure; then an analysis is done  
22 based upon qualitative items as well as financial, capital as well as the 20-year operating and  
23 maintenance life cycle cost, put this all together, and make a recommendation to DEEP, they  
24 approve this, select a vendor and the selected vendor gets dropped in the overall design.

25 Mr. Amwake said the reason this has been a priority is because this was finished today and will  
26 be posted on the Purchasing Portal on August 23. He noted the last day for bidders to submit  
27 questions are September 6 and RFP responses from bidders are due September 25 for the  
28 qualitative and financial portion; the qualitative counts for 40% and the financial counts for  
29 60%. Mr. Amwake pointed out that CT DEEP responded and gave their comments in a week  
30 and a half to two weeks and the Purchasing Dept. gave their comments in approximately one  
31 weeks' time. Mr. Amwake said the bid portion is about 27 pages and the technical page is 231  
32 pages plus appendices. He said this must meet Town and CT DEEP procurement requirements.  
33 He said this should be posted this Thursday. He noted the bids are due on September 25, 2018.

34 Mr. Amwake followed up on field tasks noting the wetland flagging is complete and the  
35 geotechnical and environmental borings are complete and noted the he is still waiting on the  
36 log and the geotechnical and environmental laboratory analysis. He said one additional boring  
37 was advanced. Mr. Rinebold asked if a proposal or request for a waiver to the Town Inland

1 Wetlands Commission. Mr. Amwake said permitting is through the IWWC. He said he believes  
2 the Town is outside the 100 ft. upland review area. He affirmed Mr. Rinebold's statement that  
3 the Town would be looking for a declaratory ruling that they are outside the 100 ft. upland  
4 review area. He said a stormwater retention basin will probably have to be installed even  
5 though the project is less than one-quarter mile from the river.

6 Mr. Birney asked for more of an explanation of geotechnical and environmental borings and the  
7 impact on timing and cost. Mr. Amwake noted these have already been completed. He said the  
8 foundations and footings have been designed so the buildings don't sink. He said on the  
9 environmental side, he knows there is groundwater on the site up to the ground surface and  
10 want to ensure that if there are any residual pollution from the site, this will need to be  
11 managed and treated during construction. Mr. Amwake said we are continuing to take  
12 groundwater level readings every two weeks and this is a constructability function as far as  
13 dewatering and costs are concerned.

14 Mr. Amwake said by the end of the month, a 30% preliminary design report is expected to be  
15 done which he said was high level and initial feedback from designers as far as tank layout and  
16 bulding and piping layout as well as initial reads from mechanical, electrical and HVAC. He said  
17 meetings with AECOM occur on a bi-weekly basis. He noted the first meeting of the month is  
18 usually more administrative and the second meeting of the month is technical. He said AECOM  
19 is doing this in 3-D Autocadd. Mr. Rinebold asked if there would be any disconnect between  
20 the Contractors bidding in before the design report is completed. Mr. Amwake said this would  
21 not occur at the 30% which he noted was high level. Mr. Amwake said this will be a "just in  
22 time" finish but at this time have not come across any roadblocks.

23 **Vote: 3 ayes**

24 **PUBLIC QUESTION & ANSWER PERIOD – 6:59 p.m. – NO QUESTIONS**

25 **ELECTRIC**

26 5. Discussion and Action: Approval of the use of the QBS Procedure for a Wholesale Power  
27 Procurement Auditing Consultant

28 Mr. Hendershot referred to his August 14, 2018 memo and Sal Amadeo's August 13, 2018  
29 memo in which he noted no objection to using this selection process. Mr. Hendershot said once  
30 Purchasing has approved this, the PUC must give their endorsement and then this goes to the  
31 Town Council for approval and then an RFP can be crafted and issued using this process.

32 **Mr. Beaumont made a motion to approve the Qualification Based Selection (QBS)**  
33 **Procedure for a Wholesale Power Procurement Auditing Consultant. Mr. Birney**  
34 **seconded the motion.**

1 Mr. Birney said based upon his experience, this is the best way to go about this. Mr. Birney said  
2 he appreciated the efforts which he said serves the utility well. Mr. Rinebold said he was in  
3 agreement.

4 **Vote: 3 ayes**

5 **6.** Review of Electric Division Disbursements for the Month of July 2018 – REVIEW ONLY-  
6 NO ACTION REQUIRED

7 Mr. Beaumont left the Meeting at 7:00 p.m.

8 No questions or comments on the Electric Division Disbursements.

9 **WATER/SEWER**

10 **7.** Review of Water/Sewer Division Disbursements for the Month of July 2018 – REVIEW  
11 ONLY – NO ACTION REQUIRED

12 No questions or comments on the Water/Sewer Disbursements.

13 **ELECTRIC**

14 **8.** Executive Session pursuant to CGS Sections 1-225(f), 1-200(6)(b), 1-210 (b)(4) and (10)  
15 to discuss pending litigation/claim involving CMEEC arbitration and legal advice related  
16 thereto – **REMOVED FROM AGENDA**

17 **PUC**

18 **9.** Correspondence – None

19 **10.** Committee Reports

20 a. AT&T Pole Agreement

21 Mr. Hendershot reported that Mr. Rinebold had asked he and Mr. Bucccheri about the AT& T  
22 pole agreement, the types of equipment and the use of pole attachments. Mr. Hendershot  
23 noted this was investigated and learned that AT& T was not planning to attach cables but to  
24 attach small cell wireless transceivers. He said because of this, the Agreement was not  
25 executed to put the brakes on this and using the shell of the Agreement worked out with AT&T,  
26 Mr. Bucccheri has done considerable work in finding the standards for this that is used at UI and  
27 NU. He said Mr. Bucccheri researched the PURA documents on these two companies. Mr.  
28 Hendershot said this will move forward that both parties can accept. He said Mr. Rinebold's  
29 questions were spot on and was happy these questions were asked.

30 Mr. Rinebold spoke about the NEPPA Conference, noting that the Electric Division had  
31 successfully completed its first ever NPCC audit of mandatory reliability standards in its  
32 designation as a transmission owner. Mr. Hendershot said Utility Services which he said was the

1 firm that assists the WED, presented WED with a Certificate of Achievement at the NEPPA  
2 Conference for the satisfactorily completion of all requirements identified on June 6, 2018. Mr.  
3 Birney and Mr. Rinebold congratulated staff including Ed Rizzo and Mark Patrick. Mr. Birney said  
4 he appreciated Mr. Rinebold's comments from last month about the AT&T Pole Agreement. He  
5 asked if there was something going on related to the Pole Agreement that could be opportunity  
6 for the WED. He said he appreciates the fact that WED is getting its arms around what other  
7 utilities are doing, i.e., Agreements with AT&T. He asked if there was something more WED was  
8 looking for in terms of what AT&T was doing in regards to the Pole Agreements that could  
9 result in opportunity for the WED.

10 Mr. Rinebold said the proposal seemed to focus on overlashing, which he said didn't appear to  
11 be related to the placement of transmitting and receiving antennas. Mr. Rinebold said there  
12 seemed to be a question of what AT&T was doing and to the extent we know what they are  
13 doing, he supports staff in their quest to see how this can work to the advantage of the Town.

14 Mr. Buccheri said as far as advantage to the Town, this is a question that could be asked of  
15 AT&T. Mr. Buccheri said there was a docket back in 2010 with a lot of these communications  
16 companies to review the installation of equipment on utility poles. He said what was determined  
17 at that time was that it can be allowed, but not in the way it was initially proposed. Mr. Buccheri  
18 said AT&T never came to the table with any standards of how to safely do this but noted they  
19 would do this based on National Electric Safety (NESC) requirements. Mr. Buccheri noted that  
20 PURA ruled that AT&T would have to work with the utility companies and at a minimum would  
21 have to follow NESC but could be more stringent than NESC. He said what resulted was that  
22 Eversource and U.I. worked with the communication companies developing wireless attachment  
23 agreements which allow for the installation of these small antennas. He said one of the things  
24 asked but was not approved and are not current standards, is that these small antennas be  
25 allowed to be installed at the top of WED's poles where there are primary wires.

26 Mr. Birney said he appreciated Mr. Rinebold asking questions and noted this was an eye-  
27 opening for me in terms of us looking at a document believing it was Standard Operating  
28 Procedure and not fully appreciating what was going on and realizing there could be income  
29 generation from this. Mr. Hendershot said there was a conference call with himself, Mr.  
30 Buccheri and AT&T representatives and asked them what they intended to do with this  
31 document noting the word "antenna" didn't show up anywhere in the document and noted  
32 there was silence on AT&T's end.

### 33 **ADJOURNMENT**

34 Mr. Birney made a motion to adjourn the Meeting at 7:16 p.m. Mr. Rinebold seconded the  
35 motion which passed unanimously.

36



1 Respectfully submitted,

2

3 Cynthia A. Kleist

4 Recording Secretary

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7

Respectfully submitted,

Joel Rinebold

Secretary