

APPROVED

8/2/22

PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION

WALLINGFORD TOWN HALL

ROOM 315

45 SOUTHMAIN STREET

WALLINGFORD, CT 06492

Tuesday, July 19, 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 – Roger Norke

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 ERMOC/PUC Budget Workshop Meeting Minutes of June 16, 2022.
- b. Consider and approve Meeting Minutes of July 5, 2022.
- c. Consider and approve Budget Amendment – Electric Division – Transformers -
Removed

Motion to Approve the Consent Agenda Items 2a and 2b

Made by: Mr. Birney

Seconded by: Mr. Rinebold

Votes: 3 ayes

42 **3. Items Removed from Consent Agenda**

43
44 **2c. Consider and approve Budget Amendment – Electric Division – Transformers**

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48 **4. Discussion and Action: Budget Amendment – Electric Division – Transformers**

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50 Mr. Buccheri stated that the WED is looking for a budget increase of \$920,000.00 to Account
51 #368 Distribution Plant – Line Transformer. This account includes the cost of installed overhead
52 and underground line transformers, pole type voltage regulators, and capacitor banks owned by
53 the utility, for use in transforming electricity to the voltage at which it is to be used by the
54 consumer. Market conditions continue to be a cause of immediate concern. Based on the
55 WED’s current bid results, transformer costs increased an average of 316% from last year. Lead
56 times have continued to extend and are now at a maximum of two years. Additionally,
57 manufacturers are not holding prices based on raw material costs escalators and market pricing.

58
59 **Motion to Approve 2022-2023 Budget Amendment**

60
61 **Made by: Mr. Birney**

62 **Seconded by: Mr. Rinebold**

63 **Votes: 3 ayes**

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67 **5. Discussion and Action: Approval of the Director’s Report for the Month of June**
68 **2022**

69
70 Mr. Birney noted the issue to the emergency generator and questioned what is the “facility
71 study.”

72
73 Mr. Hendershot stated that the facility study is the school’s study to ensure that if this now spare
74 generator is indeed installed at a school, it is installed at the appropriate location.

75
76 **Motion to Approve the Director’s Report for the Month of June 2022**

77
78 **Made by: Mr. Birney**

79 **Seconded by: Mr. Rinebold**

80 **Votes: 3 ayes**

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84 **Public Question and Answer Period**

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86 No members of the public present

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88 **Public Question and Answer Period Closed**

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6. Discussion and Possible Action: Intermunicipal Agreement – Sanitary Sewer and Water Connection 75 & 77 Midland Drive

Mr. Amwake referenced the maps shown in Item No. 5-3 and Item No. 5-4 and stated that these two properties are located geographically in Wallingford but from a topography standpoint the properties can be served by Meriden. A private sewer main was constructed in 1979 on the property of 77 Midland Drive within a 20-foot-wide access way leading to the residence at 77 Midland Drive situated on a rear lot located in Wallingford. The private sewer main runs from the Meriden municipal sanitary sewer main in Midland Drive to a manhole located on the town line dividing Meriden and Wallingford, which would allow the properties at 75 and 77 Midland Drive to connect to the Meriden municipal sanitary sewer system. The private sanitary sewer main from Midland Drive to the townline will be owned and maintained jointly by the owners of 75 and 77 Midland Drive. The proposed Intermunicipal Agreement is between the City of Meriden, the Town of Wallingford, Nancy M. Norke, and Brian and Brenda Monroe. The ownership, operation and maintenance of the private sanitary sewer main will be subject to a Maintenance Agreement between the owners of 75 Midland Drive and 77 Midland Drive. Both the Maintenance and Intermunicipal Agreements have been reviewed by the City of Meriden, Wallingford Water and Sewer Division staff, and the Wallingford Law Department. In general, the Intermunicipal Agreement allows Norke and Monroe to connect to the private sanitary sewer main and become customers of the Meriden municipal sanitary sewer system. Under the separate Maintenance Agreement, the private sanitary sewer main will be owned, operated and maintained by both Norke and Monroe and both will equally share the cost of maintenance and repair of the common private sanitary sewer main. The Maintenance Agreement is binding on current and future property owners in perpetuity.

Mr. Birney questioned if this is the only Intermunicipal Agreement that Wallingford has?

Mr. Amwake stated that it is not. The last one that was in front of the PUC was a lot located on the Wallingford/Cheshire town line.

Mr. Norke stated that there were two other Intermunicipal Agreements done in 2005 on Midland Drive. 75 and 77 Midland Drive were supposed to be included in the 2005 Intermunicipal Agreement but the ball was dropped and these were never included.

Motion to Approve the Execution of the Intermunicipal Agreement for the Sanitary Sewer and Water Connection of 75 & 77 Midland Drive

Made by: Mr. Birney

Seconded by: Mr. Rinebold

Votes: 3 ayes

134 **7. Discussion and Possible Action: Policy Concerning Water Meters which have**
135 **become Inaccurate or Inoperative**
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137 Mr. Amwake stated that the current Policy Concerning Water Meters Which Have Become
138 Inaccurate or Inoperative (Policy), is commonly referred to as the Stopped Meter Policy. This
139 policy was previously approved by the PUC on August 22, 1990 and subsequently revised and
140 approved by the PUC on September 4, 2001. The current Stopped Meter Policy separates Water
141 and Sewer Divisions customers into either Residential Properties or Non-Residential Properties.
142 For residential properties with a stopped meter, the current Policy charges the owner of record
143 the lower of either the applicable flat rate consumption or the average of historical consumption
144 levels as determined by the Water and Sewer Divisions Business Office. For non-residential
145 properties with an inaccurate or inoperative meter, the existing Policy charges the owner of
146 record based on the average of historical consumption levels.

147
148 The proposed language eliminates the two categories of customers, residential properties and
149 non-residential properties, with the Policy applicable to all categories of water and sewer
150 customers, including residential, commercial, industrial, and institutional customers as well as
151 irrigation accounts. Additionally, the water consumption and/or sewer usage for all water and
152 sewer customers with an inaccurate or inoperative water meter shall be based on the average of
153 historical water consumption levels for the property as determined by the Water and Sewer
154 Divisions; the applicable flat rate consumption for residential properties has been deleted.

155
156 The impetus for the proposed revisions is to refine the Policy so that all water and sewer
157 customers are treated fairly and equitably, irrespective of customer category or meter size. It is
158 noted that the current billing software allows the Water and Sewer Divisions to calculate the
159 historical water consumption and/or sewer usage per day (cubic foot/day), which can then be
160 applied to the time period for which the water meter was inaccurate or inoperative. The
161 Department of Law has reviewed the proposed policy language and has provided peer review
162 comments to the Water and Sewer Divisions, which have been incorporated.

163
164 **Motion to Approve the Change in Policy Concerning Water Meters which have become**
165 **Inaccurate or Inoperative**
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167 **Made by: Mr. Birney**

168 **Seconded by: Mr. Rinebold**

169 **Votes: 3 ayes**
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173 **8. Discussion: WPCF Upgrades Project**
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175 Mr. Amwake updated the Commission on the construction of the WPCF Project.
176

177 In regards to the General Building and Facility Construction, the Town, the Contractor and the
178 Engineer continue to review and complete punch list items, including construction details such as

179 wiring and equipment labeling, touch up painting and housekeeping. The System Integrator is
180 finalizing the SCADA user interface screens based on input from WSD staff.

181
182 At the Anaerobic Basin, optimization of the flow pattern through the AB continues.

183
184 At the Intermediate Pump Station, the Town and SCADA System integrator are reviewing the
185 pump control logic for the operation of the IPS.

186
187 At the Secondary Settling Tanks, demolition and installation of new scum skimmers in
188 Secondary Settling Tanks 1 and 2 (SST1&2) is complete. Return activated sludge (RAS) Phase
189 3 pump and piping work is complete for SSTs 1 and 2.

190
191 At the Secondary Pump Station, data collection and optimization of the pump on/off cycling in
192 response to the influent flowrate to the SPS continues.

193
194 At the Tertiary Phosphorous Building, the Kruger Actiflo tertiary phosphorus treatment system is
195 online and operational. Optimization of the individual equipment and chemical dosages
196 associated with the tertiary phosphorus treatment process continues, particularly focusing on the
197 polymer pump flowrate and dosage.

198
199 At the UV Disinfection/Post Aeration Building, the UV disinfection system is operational and
200 staff continues to monitor and adjust the system settings per experienced flowrates.

201
202 For Site Work, line striping for parking spaces, etc.. has been completed.

203
204 Construction Contract Payment Applications – C. H. Nickerson

205	Original Contract Sum	\$45,507,000.00	
206	Net Change by Change Orders	<u>\$179,590.33</u>	(No Change this Month)
207	Contract Sum to Date	\$45,686,590.33	As of June 15, 2022

208
209 Mr. Amwake stated C. H. Nickerson and AECOM bill the Wallingford Water and Sewer
210 Division on a monthly basis. The Wallingford Water and Sewer Division assembles a Clean
211 Water Fund (CWF) submission that is due by 12:00 PM on the 2nd business day of each month.
212 The Wallingford Water and Sewer Division is then paid electronically by the State on the 13th
213 business day of the month. The Wallingford Water and Sewer Division then pays AECOM and
214 C. H. Nickerson on the last Friday of the month. There is no cash out of pocket.

215
216 Looking at the change orders to date they are showing \$179,590.33 posted through June 15,
217 2022. The \$179,590.33 represents the approval through Change Order #12. Change Order #13
218 is with DEEP and has not been approved yet. Change Order #14 is with AECOM. As of
219 Tuesday, July 19, 2022, the Town has negotiated and approved with AECOM and C.H.
220 Nickerson various mini change orders (PCCORs) making the net Change Order value to date
221 equal to \$375,893.32. This represents 0.8260% and the Division is projecting to land around
222 1.5-1.75%.

223
224 Construction Contract Schedule

225 Original Completion Date February 10, 2022
226 Net Change Schedule Days 193 (No Change this Month)
227 Contract Completion Date August 22, 2022 As of June 15, 2022

228
229 Mr. Birney questioned what does “The System Integrator is finalizing the SCADA user interface
230 screens based on input” mean?

231
232 Mr. Amwake stated that SCADA is based on flow. With the old system, it took a while for the
233 system to ramp up whereas with the SCADA system allows the WSD to see what is coming on at
234 the head of the plant. This allows the WSD to react ahead of time. The user interface is like the
235 desktop of a computer.

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239 **ADJOURNMENT**

240

241 **Motion to adjourn**

242 **Made by: Mr. Birney**

243 **Seconded by: Mr. Rinebold**

244 **Votes: 3 ayes**

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246 The meeting was adjourned at approximately 7:29 p.m.

247

248 Respectfully submitted,

249

250 *Mitchell Sorbo for*

251 Bernadette Sorbo

252

253 Recording Secretary

254

Respectfully submitted,

Joel Rinebold /mb

Joel Rinebold

Secretary