

NORWICH BOARD OF PUBLIC UTILITIES' COMMISSIONERS REGULAR MEETING January 28, 2014

The Regular January Meeting of the Norwich Board of Public Utilities' Commissioners was held on Tuesday, January 28, 2014 in the 2nd Floor Board Room of Norwich Public Utilities (NPU) located at 16 South Golden Street, Norwich, Connecticut.

Item 1. The Meeting was called to order at 6:00 p.m. by Chairman James Sullivan.

Present: Chairman James Sullivan, Vice Chairman Diana Boisclair, Secretary Larry Goldman, Commissioner Robert Groner and Commissioner Grace Jones. Also in attendance were: General Manager John Bilda; NPU Staff Members Chris LaRose, Steve Sinko, Kerri Kemp, Mark Greene, Randy Black, Mark Decker, Jeanne Kurasz, Laura Huren and Michele Addabbo.

Item 2. <u>Fifteen-Minute Public Comment Period</u>. None.

Item 3. <u>Minutes of the Regular October Meeting held on Tuesday, October 22, 2013.</u> Secretary Goldman, seconded by Commissioner Groner moved to approve the Minutes of the Regular October Meeting held on Tuesday, October 22, 2013, as written. Unanimously approved.

Item 4. <u>Action Items</u>

a) <u>Resolution - Norwich Regional Alternate Fuel and Clean Vehicle Project.</u> Commissioner
Jones, seconded by Vice Chairman Boisclair moved to approve the following Resolution:
BE IT RESOLVED THAT: John Bilda, General Manager, is hereby authorized to execute and file all documentation, applications, instruments and documents, accept payments, and do all other things that may be necessary in the name of, and on behalf of, Norwich Public Utilities with the Commissioner of the State of Connecticut Department of Transportation for State Project No. 103-264, Norwich Regional Alternate Fuel Infrastructure and Clean Vehicle Project. Unanimously approved.

b) <u>Resolution - Gas Line Extension Bond.</u> Commissioner Groner, seconded by Vice Chairman Boisclair moved to approve the following Resolution: APPLICATION OF AUGUST 2012 GAS LINE EXTENSION AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE CITY OF NORWICH AND THE BOARD OF PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSIONERS OF THE CITY OF NORWICH TO THE \$8.0 MILLIONGAS LINE BOND AUTHORIZATION APPROVED NOVEMBER 6, 2012

Whereas the City of Norwich owns a natural gas franchise including a system of natural gas distribution lines and other assets;

Whereas a Referendum on November 2, 2010, authorized the City of Norwich to appropriate \$3,000,000 and issue general obligation bonds of the City to finance the appropriation to expand the geographic areas served by natural gas, its customer base and facilitate the delivery of natural gas to all customers and related capital improvements (the "2010 Bond Resolution");

Whereas, the Board of Public Utilities Commissioners of the City of Norwich (the "Board") on August 28, 2012 and the City Council on August 6, 2012, approved a resolution (the "DPU Payment Resolution") providing that the Board will transfer to the City amounts sufficient to pay

when due the principal and interest on general obligation bonds issued pursuant to the 2010 Bond Resolution, and further provided that the Board and the City may add additional natural gas bond authorizations to be governed by the terms of the DPU Payment Resolution;

Whereas, in addition to the 2010 Bond Resolution, a Referendum on November 5, 2012, authorized the City of Norwich to appropriate \$8,000,000 and issue general obligation bonds of the City to finance the appropriation to expand the geographic areas served by natural gas, its customer base and facilitate the delivery of natural gas to all customers and related capital improvements (the "2012 Bond Resolution");

Whereas the City may authorize from time to time additional general obligation bond issuances to finance the extension and improvement of the natural gas system;

Whereas, while bonds issued pursuant to the 2010 and 2012 Bond Resolutions are general obligations of the City for which the City is and remains responsible to pay irrespective of the receipt of funds from the Board, it is the intent of the Board and City Council that the natural gas division of the Department of Public Utilities (the "Department") provide funds to the City for further payment of debt service when due on all bonds issued pursuant to the 2010 and 2012 Bond Resolutions;

NOW THEREFORE THE CITY OF NORWICH ACTING THROUGH THE CITY COUNCIL AND THE BOARD OF PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSIONERS HEREBY RESOLVE:

The Board of Public Utilities Commissioners will provide for the payment when due of all debt service on general obligation bonds issued by the City pursuant to the 2012 Bond Resolution, in addition to the 2010 Resolution. Revenues for payment will be derived from the gas division and will be included in the budget prepared by the Board pursuant to Chapter XII, sections 10 and 6 of the Charter. The City will provide the General Manager with a schedule of debt service payments, including amount and date due. The Department will make available to the City, funds at such times and manner so that the City may timely pay debt service when due.

The Board and the City Council may add other bond authorizations to be governed by the terms of this Agreement upon consent of the Board and the Council. The terms of this Agreement shall be subordinate to bonds issued by the City which are secured solely by natural gas revenues, unless such issuance otherwise provides. Unanimously approved.

c) <u>Resolution - Department of Energy and Environmental Protection for Clean Cities Funding.</u> Secretary Goldman, seconded by Commissioner Groner moved to approve the following Resolution: Be it resolved that it is in the best interests of the Norwich Public Utilities of Norwich, Connecticut to enter into contracts with the Department of Energy and Environmental Protection pertaining to the Clean Cities Program. In furtherance of this resolution, John Bilda the General Manager is duly authorized to enter into and sign Clean Cities Grant Award documentation, applications, instruments, documents and contracts, accept payments, and do all other things that may be necessary on behalf of the Norwich Public Utilities of Norwich, Connecticut. John Bilda currently holds the General Manager and has held that office since January 2006. The General Manager is further authorized to provide such additional information and execute such other documents as may be required by the local, state or federal government in connection with said contracts and to execute any amendments, rescissions, and revisions thereto. Unanimously approved. Item 5. <u>Financial Report.</u> General Manager Bilda, Steve Sinko, and Laura Huren presented the Board with a Second Quarter Update. Discussion followed. Informative.

Item 6. <u>General Business.</u> None.

Vice Chairman Boisclair, seconded by Secretary Goldman moved to recess the Board Meeting at 6:42 p.m. and enter into the Sewer Authority meeting. Unanimously approved.

The meeting resumed at 7:16 p.m.

Item 7. <u>Executive Session</u>. Vice Chairman Boisclair, seconded by Commissioner Jones moved to enter into Executive Session at 7:17 p.m. to Discuss Confidential Trade Secret & Commercially Valuable Confidential or Proprietary Information Not Subject to Inspection or Public Disclosure Pursuant to Section 1-210[5] and 7-232a of the CT General Statutes. Unanimously approved. General Manager Bilda, Steve Sinko and Chris LaRose were asked by the Board to stay for the purpose of providing proprietary information.

The Board arose from Executive Session at 7:50 p.m.

There were no votes taken during Executive Session.

Item 8. <u>Other Business.</u> None.

Item 9. The next Regular Meeting is scheduled to be held on Tuesday, February 25, 2014.

Commissioner Groner, seconded by Secretary Goldman moved to adjourn the Meeting at 7:51 p.m.

Attest:

Larry Goldman, Secretary