



NORWICH BOARD OF PUBLIC UTILITIES' COMMISSIONERS
SPECIAL MEETING
October 16, 2018

The Special Meeting of the Norwich Board of Public Utilities' Commissioners was held on Tuesday, October 16, 2018 in the 2nd Floor Conference Room of Norwich Public Utilities (NPU) located at 16 South Golden Street, Norwich.

Item 1. The Meeting was called to order at 6:00 p.m. by Chair Grace Jones.

Present: Chair Grace Jones, Vice Chairman Stewart Peil, Secretary Robert Staley and Commissioner Steven Becker. Commissioner Michael Goldblatt joined the meeting at 6:05 p.m. Also in attendance were: General Manager John Bilda, and NPU staff Steve Sinko, Laura Huren, Chris LaRose and Jeff Brining.

Item 2. Fifteen-Minute Public Comment Period. None.

Item 3. Minutes of the Regular August Meeting, held on Tuesday, August 28, 2018. Commissioner Becker, seconded by Secretary Staley moved to approve the Minutes of the Regular August Meeting held on Tuesday, August 28, 2018. Unanimously approved

Item 4. Action Items. 2019 Board Meeting Schedule Approval. Commissioner Becker, seconded by Vice Chairman Peil moved to approve the 2019 Board Meeting Schedule. Unanimously approved.

NEPPA Lineworker's Rodeo Proclamation. General Manager Bilda read the following proclamation and Chair Jones thanked each employee for their efforts:

WHEREAS, Norwich Public Utilities understands the value that well-trained, skilled crews provide toward accomplishing its mission of providing utility services in a safe, efficient and environmentally conscious manner to the citizens of the City of Norwich; and

WHEREAS, for the third consecutive year, a three-man utility crew from Norwich Public Utilities (NPU) demonstrated these skills by participating in the Lineworker Rodeo held by the Northeast Public Power Association (NEPPA); and,

WHEREAS, the Rodeo is designed to enhance skills and job knowledge, foster strong working relationships and encourage teamwork while providing a better understanding of utility work for the general public; and

WHEREAS, NPU's team, comprised of Lineworkers Graham Andruskiewicz, Will Bowman and Jim Rogers, took first place in the event which consisted of three-person teams competing in six different events. These events were: cutout change-out, hurt man rescue, obstacle course, rope toss w/guy wire installation, speed climb and transformer change-out; and,

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED we, the City of Norwich Board of Public Utilities Commissioners and Sewer Authority do hereby proclaim our pride in the accomplishments exhibited by the NPU Lineworkers at this event and offer our sincere congratulations. Furthermore, the City of Norwich Board of Public Utilities Commissioners and Sewer Authority recognizes that the talent demonstrated by these employees at the NEPPA Lineworkers Rodeo has been developed as a result of the dedicated service they perform continuously on behalf of our customers to make Norwich a better place to live, work and do business. Proclamation Dr. Grace Jones, Chair Stewart Peil, Vice Chairman Robert Staley, Secretary Steven Becker, Commissioner Michael Goldblatt, Commissioner Dated this 16th day of October, 2018.

LED Streetlights – Set Public Hearing Date for November 27, 2018. Commissioner Becker, seconded by Vice Chairman Peil moved to approve the LED Streetlights Public Hearing date for November 27, 2018. Unanimously approved.

Item 5. NPU Leadership Team Update. Commissioner Becker thanked NPU Staff for their participation in the recent Your NPU Day and commented how professional and well run the event was. Informative.

Item 6. Financial Report. Informative.

Item 7. Strategic Presentations. Year End Review. Steve Sinko, Laura Huren and Chris LaRose spoke to the Board regarding the FY2018 financial review. Discussion followed. Informative. Columbia Gas Mutual Aid. Chris LaRose spoke to the Board regarding the Columbia Gas incident. Discussion followed. Informative.

Vice Chairman Peil, seconded by Commissioner Goldblatt moved to recess the Board Meeting and enter into the Sewer Authority Meeting at 7:10 p.m. Unanimously approved.

The Board Meeting resumed at 8:01 p.m.

Item 8. General Business. None.

Item 9. General Manager's Report. General Manager Bilda announced his decision to retire as General Manager from NPU and stated that he would remain in place until his replacement has been identified and hired by the Board. Chair Jones expressed her thanks for General Manager Bilda's dedication, leadership and vision for NPU throughout his career but especially during his tenure as General Manager. Commissioners Goldblatt and Becker added their appreciation for a job well done by General Manager Bilda as well.

Item 10. Executive Session – 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. This information is commercially valuable, confidential and proprietary and is not subject to public disclosure, pursuant to Public Act No. 98-212.

Vice Chairman Peil, seconded by Secretary Staley moved to enter into Executive Session at 8:07 p.m. Unanimously approved. General Manager Bilda was asked by the Board to stay for the purpose of providing proprietary information.

The Board came out of Executive Session at 8:45 p.m. No votes were taken.

Item 11. Other Business. None.

The next Regular Meeting is scheduled to be held on Tuesday, November 27, 2018.

Secretary Staley, seconded by Vice Chairman Peil moved to adjourn the Meeting at 8:46 p.m

Attest:

Robert Staley, Secretary