



NORWICH BOARD OF PUBLIC UTILITIES' COMMISSIONERS
REGULAR MEETING

November 27, 2018

The Regular November Meeting of the Norwich Board of Public Utilities' Commissioners was held on Tuesday, November 27, 2018 in the 2nd Floor Board 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 Michael Goldblatt. Absent: Commissioner Steven Becker. Also in attendance were: Acting General Manager Chris LaRose and NPU staff Laura Huren, Chris LaRose, Jeff Brining, Ruth Swift, Michele Addabbo, Steve Sinko, Kerri Kemp, Mary Lou Rychling and Chris Riley.

Item 2. Fifteen-Minute Public Comment Period. The following members of the public spoke to the Board:

Joseph DeLucia, 37 Sherwood Lane. Mr. DeLucia presented a list of action items for review by the Board, and asked for the document to be added to the minutes.

Action Items for the NPU Board of Commissioners

11/27/2018

1. NPU and its Board of Commissioners should commission a forensic audit of all fiscal operations of all its divisions. The auditing firm shall be chosen by the City of Norwich through RFP, and all expenses of said audit shall be paid by NPU. Said audit shall be submitted to the Comptroller of the City of Norwich and shall become the property of the Norwich Public Utilities and the City of Norwich.
2. NPU and its Board of Commissioners should institute an immediate freeze to all hiring, promotions, reassignments, and adjustments within *SUPERVISORY EMPLOYEES' ASSOCIATION, INC. LOCAL 818, COUNCIL 4 AFSCME, AFL-CIO*, regardless if a job vacancy is the result of employee separation through dismissal, resignation, retirement, or any other reason.

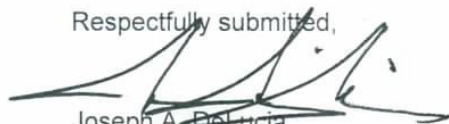
3. NPU and its Board of Commissioners should hire, at its own expense through RFP, an independent contractor to conduct a comparative analysis of all compensation and fringe benefits as enumerated in the Collective Bargaining Agreement between the *City of Norwich Board of Utility Commissioners and SUPERVISORY EMPLOYEES' ASSOCIATION, INC. LOCAL 818, COUNCIL 4 AFSCME, AFL-CIO.*

NPU and its Board of Commissioners should then collaborate with the Director of Human Resources of the City of Norwich to define each Classification listed in Appendices A-1, A-2, & A-3 in the Collective Bargaining Agreement between the *City of Norwich Board of Utility Commissioners and SUPERVISORY EMPLOYEES' ASSOCIATION, INC. LOCAL 818, COUNCIL 4 AFSCME, AFL-CIO,* and to identify which of the classifications are specific to the utility industry and which are not. No current position at NPU may be transferred into any other Union at NPU until the completion of this task.

The comparative data source for this analysis shall be the **publicly-owned municipal utility companies** in the Northeast Region of the United States (attached). Upon completion, said analysis will be submitted to the City Manager of the City of Norwich and shall become the property of Norwich Public Utilities and the City of Norwich.

4. NPU and its Board of Commissioners should release, or cause the release of, all Memoranda of Understanding/Agreement for all bargaining units at the Utility, to the Director Human Resources for the City of Norwich and shall become the property of Norwich Public Utilities and the City of Norwich.
5. NPU and its Board of Commissioners should end the practice of including the 10% payment to the City of Norwich in its rate calculations. NPU should make said payment from its gross receipts and not pass the cost of this payment on to ratepayers in any way.
6. The NPU Board of Commissioners should amend its bylaws so that Commissioners are enjoined from having any financial, fiduciary, commercial, or personal interest in any project or development being undertaken by the City of Norwich, the Norwich Community Development Corporation, or Norwich Public Utilities or any of its divisions.
7. The NPU Board of Commissioners should amend its bylaws to permanently invite the City Manager of the City of Norwich and the Director of Human Resources of the City of Norwich to attend all negotiations with any and all organized labor unions at the Utility.
8. The NPU Board of Commissioners should amend its bylaws to require the Board's approval, by majority affirmative vote, of all Collective Bargaining Agreements, Memoranda of Understanding/Agreement, and any other compensation and benefit agreement.

Respectfully submitted,



Joseph A. DeLucia
37 Sherwood Lane
Norwich, CT 06360

Publicly-owned Municipal Utilities

1. Braintree (MA) Electric Light Department
2. Burlington (VT) Electric Department
3. Chicopee (MA) Electric Light Department
4. Concord (MA) Municipal Light Plant
5. Groton (CT) Utilities
6. Hingham (MA) Municipal Lighting Plant
7. Holyoke (MA) Gas & Electric Department
8. Ipswich (MA) Utilities
9. Littleton (MA) Utilities
10. Littleton (NH) Water & Light Department
11. North Attleborough (MA) Electric
12. Princeton (MA) Municipal Light Department
13. Reading (MA) Municipal Light Department
14. Shrewsbury's (MA) Electrical Light Plant
15. Taunton (MA) Municipal Lighting Plant
16. Wakefield (MA) Municipal Gas & Light Department
17. Westfield (MA) Gas & Electric Light Department
18. Jewett City (CT) Department of Public Utilities
19. South Norwalk (CT) Electric & Water
20. Norwalk 3rd District (CT) Electric

Harry Jarrow, 366 Central Ave. Mr. Jarrow spoke to the Board regarding his property and utility account.

Roberta Paro, 246A Yantic Street. Ms. Paro spoke to the Board regarding her concern for renewable energy and the environment.

Item 3. Minutes of the Special October Meeting, held on Tuesday, October 16, 2018. Secretary Staley, seconded by Vice Chairman Peil moved to approve the Minutes of the Special October Meeting held on Tuesday, October 16, 2018. Unanimously approved. Minutes of the Special Meeting held on Thursday, November 15, 2018. Secretary Staley, seconded by Vice Chairman Peil moved to approve the Minutes of the Special November Meeting held on Thursday, November 15, 2018. Unanimously approved.

Item 4. NPU Leadership Team Update. Informative.

Item 5. Financial Report. Laura Huren gave an update to the Board on the monthly financials. Discussion followed. Informative.

Item 6. Strategic Presentations. LED street light Installation and rates. Jeff Brining gave a presentation to the Board regarding the LED Street Light Installation and proposed new rates.

Discussion followed. Informative. NPU Collections Process. Ruth Swift spoke to the Board regarding the NPU collections process. Discussion followed. Informative.

Item 7. General Business. None.

Commissioner Goldblatt, seconded by Secretary Staley moved to recess the Board Meeting at 6:52 p.m.

The Board Meeting resumed at 7:00 p.m.

Item 8. Action Items. Public Hearing at 7:00 p.m. – Electric LED Lighting Rates. Chair Jones opened the Public Hearing at 7:00 p.m. and asked for any public comment.

Joseph DeLucia, 37 Sherwood Lane. Mr. DeLucia applauded the Street Light project and NPU’s efforts improve the community.

Chair Jones then asked three times for any additional comments from the public. Hearing no additional comments from the public, Chair Jones declared the Public Hearing closed.

Secretary Staley, seconded by Commissioner Goldblatt moved to approve the Electric LED Lighting Rates as presented. Unanimously approved.

**NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING
CITY OF NORWICH
DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC UTILITIES
ELECTRIC LED LIGHTING RATES**

The City of Norwich Board of Public Utilities Commissioners will conduct a public hearing for the purpose of receiving comments concerning proposed changes to electric rates as set forth below. Copies of the proposed electric rates are available at the Office of the City Clerk, City Hall, 100 Broadway, Norwich, Connecticut, and the Norwich Public Utilities offices located at 16 South Golden Street, Norwich, Connecticut. If approved, the rates will become effective for bills rendered on or after February 1, 2019.

The Public Hearing is scheduled to be held on **Tuesday, November 27, 2018 at 7:00 PM** in the Norwich Public Utilities Board Room, 16 South Golden Street, 2nd floor, Norwich, Connecticut.

**NORWICH PUBLIC UTILITIES
ELECTRIC SERVICE RATES
LED ELECTRIC CITY STREET LIGHTING - RATE ECSLED**

AVAILABILITY: Available only to the City of Norwich for LED street lighting purposes.

RATE:

All kWh = \$0.35198 per kWh
@ \$0.00130 per kWh

ELECTRIC CAPITAL TRACKER:

PURCHASED POWER ADJUSTMENT:

The Purchased Power Adjustment Rate will be applied to all kWh billed.

ENERGY EFFICIENCY FUND:

A charge will be applied to all billed kWh consumption to recover the costs of investment in renewable energy resources and energy efficiency and load reduction initiatives through the NPU Energy Efficiency Fund.

ELECTRIC CAPITAL TRACKER: A charge will be applied to all billed kWh consumption to recover the costs of investment in Capital Infrastructure. This charge will be reviewed and adjusted periodically as necessary through applicable rate adjustment processes and procedures to reflect the funding needs of specific capital projects as approved

by the Board of Public Utilities Commissioners. This tracker will reflect all applicable taxes.

PURCHASED POWER ADJUSTMENT: Electric rates include a base power cost. The Purchased Power Adjustment Charge or Credit applied will be the actual power costs billed to Norwich Public Utilities by its Wholesale Supplier less the amount of purchased kWh priced at the base power cost. The total Purchased Power Adjustment Charge or Credit will be adjusted to reflect all applicable taxes.

ENERGY EFFICIENCY FUND: A charge will be applied to all billed kWh consumption to recover the costs of investment in renewable energy resources and energy efficiency and load reduction initiatives through the NPU Energy Efficiency Fund. This charge will be reviewed and adjusted periodically as necessary to meet funding needs, to comply with applicable State of Connecticut legislative requirements and to reflect all applicable taxes.

MINIMUM CHARGE: All active electric accounts having no electricity use charges will be billed a minimum charge. This minimum charge covers costs associated with service requirements, including metering, maintenance and infrastructure costs.

PENALTY: A penalty charge equal to 1.5% of the unpaid balance compounded monthly is added to all bills not paid within 25 days of the billing date.

EFFECTIVE: For bills rendered on or after February 1, 2019.

**NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING
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The Public Hearing is scheduled to be held on **Tuesday, November 27, 2018 at 7:00 PM** in the Norwich Public Utilities Board Room, 16 South Golden Street, 2nd floor, Norwich, Connecticut.

**NORWICH PUBLIC UTILITIES
ELECTRIC SERVICE RATES**

LED ELECTRIC PRIVATE AREA LIGHTING - RATE EPALED

AVAILABILITY: Available to customers for LED lighting purposes.

RATE:

	Rate per Light	kWh Per Light
EPALED 29 – 0 to 29 Watt LED	\$ 5.48	9
EPALED 39 – 30 to 39 Watt LED	\$ 6.51	13
EPALED 49 – 40 to 49 Watt LED	\$ 6.75	16
EPALED 59 – 50 to 59 Watt LED	\$ 6.99	20
EPALED 69 – 60 to 69 Watt LED	\$ 7.83	23
EPALED 79 – 70 to 79 Watt LED	\$ 8.67	27
EPALED 89 – 80 to 89 Watt LED	\$ 9.51	30
EPALED 99 – 90 to 99 Watt LED	\$10.98	34
EPALED 124 – 100 to 124 Watt LED	\$12.45	40
EPALED 149 – 125 to 149 Watt LED	\$13.93	49

ELECTRIC CAPITAL TRACKER:

@ \$0.00130 per kWh

PURCHASED POWER ADJUSTMENT:

The Purchased Power Adjustment Rate will be applied to all kWh billed.

ENERGY EFFICIENCY FUND:

A charge will be applied to all billed kWh consumption to recover the costs of investment in renewable energy resources and energy efficiency and load reduction initiatives through the NPU Energy Efficiency Fund.

MINIMUM CHARGE: The minimum charge shall be the Rate per Light charge.

PENALTY: A monthly penalty charge equal to 1.5% of the unpaid balance compounded monthly is added to all bills not paid within 25 days of the billing date.

ELECTRIC CAPITAL TRACKER: A charge will be applied to all billed kWh consumption to recover the costs of investment in Capital Infrastructure. This charge will be reviewed and adjusted periodically as necessary through applicable rate adjustment processes and procedures to reflect the funding needs of specific capital projects as approved by the Board of Public Utilities Commissioners. This tracker will reflect all applicable taxes.

PURCHASED POWER ADJUSTMENT: Electric rates include a base power cost. The Purchased Power Adjustment Charge or Credit applied will be the actual power costs billed to Norwich Public Utilities by its Wholesale Supplier less the amount of purchased kWh priced at the base power cost. The total Purchased Power Adjustment Charge or Credit will be adjusted to reflect all applicable taxes.

ENERGY EFFICIENCY FUND: A charge will be applied to all billed kWh consumption to recover the costs of investment in renewable energy resources and energy efficiency and load reduction initiatives through the NPU Energy Efficiency Fund. This charge will be reviewed and adjusted periodically as necessary to meet funding needs, to comply with applicable State of Connecticut legislative requirements and to reflect all applicable taxes.

MINIMUM CHARGE: All active electric accounts having no electricity use charges will be billed a minimum charge. This minimum charge covers costs associated with service requirements, including metering, maintenance and infrastructure costs.

PENALTY: A penalty charge equal to 1.5% of the unpaid balance compounded monthly is added to all bills not paid within 25 days of the billing date.

EFFECTIVE: For bills rendered on or after February 1, 2019.

Vice Chairman Peil, seconded by Secretary Staley moved to recess the Board Meeting and enter into the Sewer Authority Meeting at 7:04 p.m. Unanimously approved.

The Board Meeting resumed at 7:06 p.m.

Item 9. 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 as it relates to Strategic Planning and Acting GM’s contract.

Vice Chairman Peil, seconded by Secretary Staley moved to enter into Executive Session at 7:07 p.m. Unanimously approved. Acting General Manager LaRose, Division Manager Kerri Kemp and Attorney Anthony Palermino were asked to stay for Executive Session.

The Board came out of Executive Session at 10:49 p.m. No votes were taken.

Item 10. Other Business. None.

The next Regular Meeting is scheduled to be held on Tuesday, December 18, 2018.

Secretary Staley, seconded by Vice Chairman Peil moved to adjourn the Meeting at 10:50 p.m

Attest:

Robert Staley, Secretary