



NORWICH BOARD OF PUBLIC UTILITIES' COMMISSIONERS  
REGULAR MEETING  
March 26, 2019

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The Regular March Meeting of the Norwich Board of Public Utilities' Commissioners was held on Tuesday, March 26, 2019 in the 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor Board Room of Norwich Public Utilities (NPU), located at 16 South Golden Street, Norwich.

Item 1. The Meeting was called to order at 6:05 p.m. by Chair Grace Jones.

Present: Chair Grace Jones, Vice Chairman Stewart Peil, Secretary Robert Staley, and Commissioner Steven Becker. Commissioner Michael Goldblatt was present by phone. Also in attendance were: Acting General Manager Chris LaRose, and NPU staff members Steve Sinko, Kerri Kemp, Jeff Brining, Eric McDermott, Mark Decker, Larry Sullivan, Chris Riley, Laura Huren, Michele Addabbo, Marylou Rychling, Fawn Walker, Dave Poore, Barry Ellison, Ruth Swift and Tom Finn.

Organization of the Board. Chair Jones congratulated Commissioner Becker on his reappointment to the Board, and thanked the other Board members for their support with his reappointment.

Chair Jones made a motion to nominate Vice Chairman Peil for the position of Chairman of the Board of Public Utilities Commissioners and asked if there was a second to the motion. Hearing none, Chair Jones stated the motion was not seconded and then asked for any other nominations. Commissioner Becker, seconded by Secretary Staley moved to nominate Secretary Staley for the position of Chairman of the Board. Voted in favor: Vice Chairman Peil, Secretary Staley, Commissioner Becker and Commissioner Goldblatt. Abstained: Chair Jones.

Chairman Staley then thanked Commissioner Jones for her service to the Board since 2013 and stated that she had done a very good job as Chair through recent difficult times. Commissioner Jones thanked Chairman Staley.

Commissioner Becker, seconded by Chairman Staley moved to nominate Vice Chairman Peil as Vice Chairman of the Board. Unanimously approved.

Commissioner Becker moved to nominate Commissioner Jones as Secretary of the Board. Commissioner Jones declined the nomination. Chairman Staley, seconded by Vice Chairman Peil moved to nominate Commissioner Becker as Secretary of the Board. Unanimously approved.

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

Item 3. Minutes of the Special March Meeting, held on Tuesday, March 5, 2019. Chairman Staley, seconded by Secretary Becker moved to approve the Minutes of the Special March Meeting held on Tuesday, March 5, 2019. Unanimously approved.

Item 4. NPU Leadership Team Update. Informative.

Item 5. Strategic Presentations. Electric Budget Drivers. Eric McDermott presented the Board with information on the Electric Budget Drivers. Discussion followed.

Chairman Staley, seconded by Vice Chairman Peil moved to recess the Board Meeting and enter into the Sewer Authority Meeting at 6:32 p.m. Unanimously approved.

The Board Meeting resumed at 6:51 p.m.

Item 6. Action Items.

- Auditors Report. Ronald Nossek and Matt Coit from Blum Shapiro presented the Audit of FY2018 to the Board. Discussion followed.
- NPU By-Laws. Chairman Staley, seconded by Secretary Becker moved to adopt the NPU By-Laws as amended. Unanimously approved.
- NPU Travel Policy. Chairman Staley, seconded by Secretary Becker moved to adopt the NPU Travel Policy. Unanimously approved.
- NPU Finance Subcommittee. Chairman Staley, seconded by Secretary Becker moved to appoint Commissioner Goldblatt and Chairman Staley to the NPU Finance Subcommittee. Discussion followed. Unanimously approved.
- NPU Economic Development Subcommittee. Chairman Staley, seconded by Secretary Becker moved to appoint Chairman Staley and Secretary Becker to the NPU Finance Subcommittee. Unanimously approved.
- Bog Meadow Temporary Easement. Mark Decker presented information regarding the Bog Meadow Temporary Easement. Discussion followed. Chairman Staley, seconded by Vice Chairman Peil moved to approve the Bog Meadow Temporary Easement and Signatory Resolution as follows:

**TEMPORARY ACCESS PERMIT**

We, Norwich, Board of Public Utilities Commissioners (the “Grantor”), for the agreements set forth below and other valuable consideration, the receipt and sufficiency of which is hereby acknowledged, hereby permit and license the Connecticut Light and Power Company d/b/a Eversource Energy a specially chartered Connecticut corporation having its office in Berlin, Connecticut (the “Grantee”), the right, privilege and authority for the Grantee, its agents, employees and contractors, to pass and repass with vehicles and equipment over and across a strip of land of varied width (the “Temporary Access Area”), as more particularly shown on the attached Exhibit A, over the property located at Meadowbrook Drive, Norwich, CT to provide the Grantee access to its electric transmission facilities for the 1080 Line Structure Replacement Project (the “Project”).

The Grantee shall have the right to cut and remove trees, brush, rocks, and other obstructions within the Temporary Access Area and to fill depressions or roughly grade the surface of the Temporary Access Area for the purpose of exercising the rights herein.

If the Temporary Access Area is disturbed or damaged due to the Project’s construction activity, Grantee agrees to restore said Temporary Access Area to a condition substantially the same as that which existed prior to said construction. Restoration shall include final grading where necessary and any repairs to paved driveway caused by the Project’s construction activity.

Said Temporary Access Area being a portion of that tract described in a deed recorded in Volume 149 Page 251 of the City of Norwich, CT land records.

This Temporary Access Permit will begin on the date hereof and shall terminate on December 31, 2021. It is understood by both parties that no electric transmission facilities shall be constructed on the Temporary Access Area.

Grantee agrees to indemnify and hold Grantor, its officers, employees and agents, harmless against any and all losses, damages, claims, demands and suits (and all reasonable costs and expenses incidental thereto, including court

costs and attorney's fees) that Grantor may suffer to incur or to which it may be made liable (collectively, "Claims"), to the extent that such Claims are caused by Grantee's operations hereunder, excluding all losses, damages, claims, demands and suits resulting from the negligence or malicious acts or omissions of Grantors, its agents, employees or representatives.

Grantee, and its duly authorized agents, contractors and consultants, shall have access to Grantor's property to carry out the foregoing activities as needed, and upon giving advance notice to Norwich Public Utilities 24-hour control room (tel. no. 860-887-2555), of intended entry by telephone, email or other acceptable means.

The above-referenced consideration is full compensation for all damages on the above described Temporary Access Area resulting from Grantee's use thereof. Grantee shall leave the Temporary Access Area in a neat and orderly condition upon completion of Grantee's activities.

#### **RESOLUTION**

**BE IT RESOLVED** that Christopher LaRose, Acting General Manager of the City of Norwich Department of Public Utilities, is duly authorized by the City of Norwich Board of Public Utilities Commissioners to execute Temporary Access Permit with Eversource Energy. Said Permit grants Eversource Energy, its agents, employees and contractors the right to pass and repass with vehicles and equipment over and across a temporary access area on property located on Meadowbrook Drive, Norwich, CT as defined in the Temporary Access Permit.

Item 7. Financial Report. FY20 Budget Presentation. Acting General Manager LaRose, Laura Huren, Steve Sinko, Jeff Brining, Barry Ellison, Eric McDermott, Mark Decker and Larry Sullivan presented the Board with the FY20 Budget. Discussion followed. The Board thanked NPU staff for their hard work on the budget.

Item 8. General Business. None.

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 public disclosure, pursuant to Public Act No. 98-212; and,

To Discuss Personnel Matters of an Employee(s) and/or Public Official pursuant to Chapter 14, Section 1-200(6)(A) of the Connecticut General Statutes.

Chairman Staley, seconded by Secretary Becker moved to enter into Executive Session at 8:19 p.m. Unanimously approved. Acting General Manager LaRose, Steve Sinko, Kerri Kemp, Jeff Brining and Chris Riley were asked to stay for Executive Session.

The Board came out of Executive Session at 9:50 p.m. No votes were taken.

Item 10. Other Business. None.

The next Regular Meeting is scheduled to be held on Tuesday, April 16, 2019.

Secretary Becker, seconded by Chairman Staley moved to adjourn the Meeting at 9:50 p.m.

Attest:

Steven Becker  
Secretary