



NORWICH BOARD OF PUBLIC UTILITIES' COMMISSIONERS
REGULAR MEETING
April 28, 2020

The Regular April Meeting of the Norwich Board of Public Utilities' Commissioners was held on Tuesday, April 28, 2020, by webinar.

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

Present: Chairman Robert Staley, Vice Chairman Stewart Peil, Secretary Steven Becker, Commissioner Michael Goldblatt and Commissioner William Warzecha. Also in attendance General Manager Chris LaRose, and NPU staff members Steve Sinko, Kerri Kemp, Jeff Brining, Michele Addabbo, Laura Huren, Eric McDermott, Larry Sullivan, Mark Decker, Ruth Swift, Fawn Walker, Marylou Rychling, Chris Riley, Barry Ellison, Tom Finn, Jeff Lortie and Randy Black.

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

Item 3. Minutes of the Regular March Meeting, held on Tuesday, March 24, 2020. Commissioner Warzecha, seconded by Secretary Becker moved to approve the Minutes of the Regular March Meeting held on Tuesday, March 24, 2020. Unanimously approved.

Item 4. Financial Report. Discussion of the Financial Report in COVID-19 Presentation.

Item 5. CMEEC Update. Vice Chairman Peil gave an update to the Board. Discussion followed.

Item 6. Action Item. Resolution NBPUC 20-01 - Authorizing the Implementation of Supplemental Measures to Mitigate the Financial Impact of COVID-19-Related Economic Effects on Customers of Norwich Public Utilities. Commissioner Warzecha, seconded by Commissioner Goldblatt moved to approve the following Resolution. Unanimously approved.

**NORWICH BOARD OF PUBLIC UTILITIES' COMMISSIONERS
RESOLUTION NBPUC 20-01**

RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE IMPLEMENTATION OF SUPPLEMENTAL MEASURES TO MITIGATE THE FINANCIAL IMPACT OF COVID-19-RELATED ECONOMIC EFFECTS ON CUSTOMERS OF NORWICH PUBLIC UTILITIES

WHEREAS, the COVID-19 pandemic has required the Governor to implement numerous executive orders to minimize social contact including the closure of many businesses;

WHEREAS, such closures impact the ability of some customers to timely meet their financial obligations;

WHEREAS, the Governor's Executive Order No. 7S requires municipalities to elect either a deferral program or a lower interest rate program or both applicable to municipal electricity and water charges;

WHEREAS, the Norwich City Council on April 20, 2020 elected to adopt the lower interest rate program pursuant to Executive Order No. 7S; and

WHEREAS the Norwich Board of Public Utilities' Commissioners desires to 1) extend the lower interest rate program to gas customers and 2) extend the period of time during which the lower rate interest program will be in effect for unpaid arrearage balances arising on or after March 12, 2020 until September 30, 2020;

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the City of Norwich Board of Public Utilities' Commissioners (the "Board") hereby authorizes, approves and ratifies:

1. That electricity, gas and water bills rendered between March 12, 2020 and April 30, 2020, shall accrue interest on overdue balances at the rate of zero (0) percent per annum.
2. That electricity, gas and water bills rendered between May 1, 2020 and September 30, 2020, shall accrue interest on overdue balances at the rate of three (3) percent per annum.
3. That electricity, gas and water bills rendered on and after October 1, 2020, shall accrue interest on overdue balances at the rate of eighteen (18) percent per annum as provided in tariffs previously approved by the Board.
4. That the General Manager is authorized to take any necessary or appropriate action to implement the forgoing interest rates.

Item 7. COVID-19 Actions and Plan Presentation. General Manager LaRose and Laura Huren presented the Board with information on the impact of COVID-19 to NPU. Discussion followed.

Item 8. Shovel Ready Infrastructure Project Discussion. General Manager LaRose discussed NPU's shovel ready projects with the Board. Discussion followed.

Vice Chairman Peil, seconded by Commissioner Warzecha moved to enter into the Sewer Authority Meeting at 6:37 p.m. Unanimously approved.

The Board meeting resumed at 6:40 p.m.

Item 9. General Business. None.

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 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 Statutes.

Vice Chairman Peil, seconded by Commissioner Warzecha moved to enter into Executive Session at 6:41 p.m. Unanimously approved. General Manager LaRose, Steve Sinko, Jeff Brining and Kerri Kemp were asked to stay for Executive Session.

The Board came out of Executive Session at 8:29 p.m.

No votes were taken in Executive Session.

Item 11. Other Business. None.

The next Regular Meeting is scheduled to be held on Tuesday, May 26, 2020.

Vice Chairman Peil, seconded by Commissioner Warzecha moved to adjourn the Meeting at 8:31 p.m.

Attest:

Steve Becker
Secretary