



NORWICH BOARD OF PUBLIC UTILITIES' COMMISSIONERS  
&  
SEWER AUTHORITY OF THE CITY OF NORWICH

REGULAR MEETINGS  
January 26, 2021

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The Regular January Meeting of the Norwich Board of Public Utilities' Commissioners and the Sewer Authority of the City of Norwich was held on Tuesday, January 26, 2021 by Webex.

Item 1. The Meeting was called to order at 6:01 p.m. by Chairman Robert Staley.

Present via Webex: Chairman Robert Staley, Vice Chairman Stewart Peil, Secretary Steven Becker. Commissioner William Warzecha joined the meeting at 6:14 p.m. Commissioner Michael Goldblatt joined the meeting at 6:32 p.m. Also in attendance were General Manager Chris LaRose, Steve Sinko, Kerri Kemp, Jeff Brining, Michele Addabbo, Laura Huren, John Covey, Chris Riley, Eric McDermott, Mary Lou Rychling, Ruth Swift, Larry Sullivan, Mark Decker, Dave Poore, Barry Ellison and Jeff Lortie.

Item 2. Fifteen-Minute Public Comment Period. Evan Courtney of Norwich spoke to the Board regarding municipal broadband. Discussion followed. Jason Morris of Norwich spoke to the Board regarding municipal broadband and solar. Discussion followed.

Item 3. Minutes of the Regular Board of Public Utilities' Commissioners Meetings, held on Tuesday, November 24, 2020 and December 23, 2020. Commissioner Warzecha, seconded by Vice Chairman Peil moved to approve the minutes. Unanimously approved.

Item 4. Neighborhood Assistance Act Awards. General Manager LaRose spoke to the Board regarding the Neighborhood Assistance Act Awards. Each of the three recipients provided a brief overview of their projects and thanked NPU for their ongoing commitment to the NAA program.

Item 5. Yale University Covid-19 Testing Update. Dr. Jordan Peccia, Yale University, presented the Board with information regarding Covid-19 wastewater monitoring in Norwich. Dave Poore then provided information on the data used for NPU's daily operations during the Covid pandemic. Discussion followed.

Item 6. Information and Updates Provided to the Board in advance of the meeting.

- Leadership Team Update
- Retirement Update
- 4Q Strategic Plan Update

Item 7. CMEEC Update. Vice Chairman Peil gave an update to the Board regarding the December 17, 2020 CMEEC meeting. Informative.

Item 8. NCDC Update. Chairman Staley gave an update to the Board regarding NCDC. Discussion followed.

Item 9. Financial Report. Laura Huren updated the Board on the financial forecast and Covid-19 impacts, along with information on FY22 budget schedule. Discussion followed.

Item 10. Strategic Presentations. Sewer Collection System Operations. Larry Sullivan updated the Board on the sewer collections system and operational changes to improve system reliability. Discussion followed.

2020 Accomplishments. General Manager LaRose provided the Board with summary of NPU highlights for 2020. Discussion followed.

Item 11. 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 CT General Statutes. Commissioner Warzecha, seconded by Commissioner Goldblatt moved to enter into Executive Session at 7:30 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 7:52 p.m.

Vice Chairman Peil, seconded by Commissioner Goldblatt moved to approve the AFSCME Memorandum of Agreement 20-12, appointing Larry Sullivan as Acting Water Integrity Manager. Unanimously approved.

Vice Chairman Peil, seconded by Commissioner Goldblatt moved to adjourn the meetings at 7:53 p.m. Unanimously approved.

The next Regular Meetings are scheduled to be held on Tuesday, February 23, 2021.

Attest:

Steven Becker  
Secretary