



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

REGULAR MEETINGS
March 23, 2021

The Regular March Meeting of the Norwich Board of Public Utilities' Commissioners and the Sewer Authority of the City of Norwich was held on Tuesday, March 23, 2021 by Webex.

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

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

Item 2. Fifteen-Minute Public Comment Period. Paula Licitra, Norwich Woods, spoke to the Board regarding bill identifiers. Evan Courtney, 247 Harland Road, spoke to the Board regarding broadband internet.

Item 3. Minutes of the Regular Board of Public Utilities' Commissioners Meeting and Sewer Authority of the City of Norwich, held on Tuesday, February 23, 2021. Commissioner Warzecha, seconded by Secretary Becker moved to approve the minutes. Unanimously approved.

Item 4. Board Appointments. Secretary Becker, seconded by Commissioner Warzecha moved to approve the following Board and Sewer Authority appointments. Unanimously approved. Chairman: Robert Staley, Vice Chairman: Stewart Peil, Secretary: Michael Goldblatt.

Commissioner Becker, seconded by Vice Chairman Peil moved to approve the reappointment of the current members to the following committees. Unanimously approved.

Finance & Audit Subcommittee: Secretary Goldblatt and Commissioner Warzecha
Economic Development Subcommittee: Chairman Staley and Commissioner Becker
NCDC: Chairman Staley
CMEEC: Vice Chairman Peil, Chairman Staley, alternate

Item 5. Information and Updates Provided to the Board in advance of the meeting.

- Leadership Team Update. Discussion of water billing process. Informative.
- Retirement Update
- 4Q Strategic Plan Update

Item 6. CMEEC Update. Vice Chairman Peil gave an update to the Board regarding CMEEC activity. Discussion followed.

Item 7. Finance & Audit Subcommittee Update. Secretary Goldblatt gave an update to the Board. Informative.

Item 8. Financial Report. 2022 Budget Presentation. Laura Huren gave an overview of the FY22 proposed budget. Discussion followed. Vice Chairman Peil, seconded by Commissioner Warzecha moved to approve the Norwich Board of Public Utilities' Commissioners and Sewer Authority of the City of Norwich FY2022 budget as presented. Unanimously approved.

Item 9. Strategic Presentations. Sewer Assessment Process. General Manager LaRose, Steve Sinko, Attorney Joe Szerejko from Murtha Cullina and Attorney Mike Driscoll from Brown Jacobsen presented the Board with information on the sewer assessment process. Discussion followed.

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 CT General Statutes.

Commissioner Warzecha, seconded by Commissioner Becker moved to enter into Executive Session at 7:35 p.m. Unanimously approved. General Manager LaRose, Steve Sinko, Jeff Brining, Ruth Swift, Kerri Kemp and Chris Riley were asked to stay for Executive Session.

The Board came out of Executive Session at 8:18 p.m.

Commissioner Becker, seconded by Secretary Goldblatt moved to approve the one-year extension of the United Steelworkers union contract from 07-01-21 to 06-30-22 with a 2.25% wage increase. Unanimously approved. Secretary Goldblatt, seconded by Commissioner Warzecha moved to approve the one-year extension of the AFSCME union contract from 07-01-21 to 06-30-22 with a 2.25% wage increase. Unanimously approved. Commissioner Warzecha, seconded by Secretary Goldblatt moved to increase General Manager LaRose's salary by 2% and a \$5,000 bonus retroactive to 01-01-21. Unanimously approved.

Secretary Goldblatt, seconded by Commissioner Warzecha moved to adjourn the meetings at 8:23 p.m. Unanimously approved.

The next Regular Meetings are scheduled to be held on Tuesday, April 27, 2021.

Attest:

Robert Staley
Authorized Board Representative