

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

### October 22, 2024

The Regular Meeting of the Norwich Board of Public Utilities' Commissioners and the Sewer Authority of the City of Norwich was held on Tuesday, October 22, 2024, by Teams and in the 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor Board Room of NPU's Administrative Offices at 16 South Golden Street, Norwich.

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

Present: Chairman Stewart Peil, Secretary William Warzecha and Commissioner Robert Staley. Vice Chairman Ashon Avent joined the meeting remotely at 6:03pm.

NPU staff in attendance were General Manager Chris LaRose, Steve Sinko, Jeff Brining, Laura Huren, Shayleen Alfieri, Chris Riley, Mary Lou Rychling, Alisa Morrison, Eric McDermott, Tony Rizzi, Scott Smith, Kramer Sullivan, Tom Holmes, Jeff Burgess and Simone Oliva. NPU staff John Covey, Michele Addabbo, Ryan LaRose, and Barry Ellison joined the meeting remotely.

Hugh Murray from McCarter and English was also present.

Item 2. Fifteen Minute Public Comment Period. No public comments.

Item 3. Approval of the Minutes of the Regular Board of Public Utilities' Commissioners Meeting and Sewer Authority of the City of Norwich held on September 24, 2024.

• Motion to approve the minutes was made by Secretary Warzecha, seconded by Commissioner Staley. Unanimously approved.

Item 4. Information and Updates provided to the Board in advance of the meeting

- Financial Update. No discussion.
- Leadership Team Update. Secretary Warzecha asked a question regarding the size of the NPU workforce. Discussion followed. Informative.
- 2025 Board Meeting Schedule. Chris LaRose provided an overview of the proposed schedule of meetings for 2025. Informative.

## Item 5. CMEEC Update

• Chairman Peil provided an update. Discussion followed. Informative.

# Item 6. Strategic Discussions

- 2025 Board Meeting Schedule. No comments.
- Strategic Plan Next Steps. Chris LaRose provided an update on the process moving forward. Brief comments. Informative.

• Natural Gas Grant Construction Schedule. Barry Ellison provided an update on the construction mobilization and schedule. Discussion followed. Informative.

# Item 7. Presentations

- Helene/Milton Mutual Aid. Eric McDermott provided an update along with Scott Smith, Tony Rizzi, Kramer Sullivan, Tom Holmes and Jeff Burgess on NPU's recent mutual aid efforts in Georgia, South Carolina, and Florida. Informative.
- Winter Moratorium Overview. Shayleen Alfieri provided a presentation on NPU customer service programs and services Brief discussion followed. Informative.
- Lead and Copper Assessments. Alisa Morrison provided an update on the project and the information that was recently submitted to the State of Connecticut. Discussion followed. Informative.
- Wastewater Plant Upgrade. Larry Sullivan provided an update on construction progress at the wastewater treatment plant. Discussion followed. Informative.

## Item 8. Executive Session:

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.

- Secretary Warzecha, seconded by Commissioner Staley moved to enter Executive Session at 7:00 p.m. Unanimously approved. General Manager LaRose, Steve Sinko, Jeff Brining, Chris Riley, and Hugh Murray were asked to stay for the Executive Session.
- No votes taken.
- Commissioner Staley seconded by Secretary Warzecha moved to adjourn the session at 8:00 p.m. Unanimously approved. The Board came out of Executive Session at 8:00 p.m.

Commissioner Staley seconded by Secretary Warzecha moved to adjourn the meeting at 8:02 p.m. Unanimously approved.

The next Regular Meetings are scheduled to be held on Tuesday, November 19, 2024.

Attest:

William Warzecha Secretary