



TOWN OF LEDYARD

741 Colonel Ledyard Highway
Ledyard, Connecticut 06339

Water Pollution Control Authority Meeting Minutes

Chairman
Ed Lynch

Regular Meeting

Tuesday, June 27, 2023

7:00 PM

Council Chambers - Hybrid

I. CALL TO ORDER

Chairman Lynch called the Regular Meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

II. ROLL CALL

Present Board Member Monir Twefik
Board Member Terry Jones
Board Member Stanley Juber
Board Member Edmond Lynch
Alternate Member James A. Ball

Excused Board Member Sharon Wadecki

Non-voting Alternate Member Tony Capon
Alternate Member Jeremy Norris

Also present:
Bill Saums, Town Council Liaison
Maurice Duarte, Groton Utilities

III. APPOINTMENT OF ALTERNATES

Jim Ball was appointed as a voting member in place of Sharon Wadecki.

IV. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

V. RESIDENTS AND PROPERTY OWNERS

None.

VI. REVIEW AND APPROVAL OF MINUTES

1. Motion to APPROVE the Regular Meeting Minutes from May 23, 2023, as written.

RESULT: APPROVED AND SO DECLARED

MOVER: Edmond Lynch

SECONDER: Terry Jones

AYE 5 Twefik Jones Juber Lynch Ball

EXCUSED 1 Wadecki

VII. COMMUNICATIONS AND CORRESPONENCE

1. Operations Report.

Mr. Jones asked if this was the transitional 6-week report. Mr. Duarte said no but they're working on it for next month.

The contractor painting the Ledyard Center tank has not begun the work. In addition, the painter has not responded to repeated attempts to contact them. Mr. Duarte would like to look for another contractor. Councilor Saums suggested that Mr. Duarte notify the original contractor that he is in default. Mr. Juber asked if there was a specified time period in the contract, it was answered no.

ACTION ITEM - During the July meeting WPCA will discuss the proposal to inspect the Holmberg tank per DPH. Mr. Duarte will send the proposal to the Authority.

Groton Utilities will be replacing the meter on the Thames River interconnection at no cost to Ledyard.

RESULT: DISCUSSED

2. Service Correspondence.

WPCA discussed assessing a connection fee and credit check. Chairman Lynch asked if charging a connection fee would have to go to Town Council since it is not a rate increase. Mr. Jones said that in the WPCA manual there are provisions that allow for a connection fee.

Mr. Jones read the Customer Rules and regulations policy:
Section 2.2

A new account fee may be charged to each customer collecting water or sewer services this charge applies all rate classifications and helps to pay the cost of setting up a new account, reading the meter and/or connecting to water services, possibly turning on the meter.

Mr. Jones added that he believes that relating the fee to the efforts required in setting up a new account (ex - 1 or 2 labor hours) collections is better than just having an arbitrary fee.

Councilor Saums said since adding a new account fee would not be a change to the existing policy it would not be necessary to go to the Town Council.

ACTION ITEM - Ms. Juber asked Chairman Lynch to find out what the cost for a credit check and what the actual cost to the Authority would be for the efforts of opening a new account. Chairman Lynch said he would ask Ms. Daniels for a copy of GU's policy and cost for new accounts.

It was stated that standard practice for utility companies is to run a credit check and require a security deposit if the customer's credit score is low.

Mr. Jones asked Mr. Duarte if the Authority could receive a copy of Groton Utilities' current practices on opening a new account.

RESULT: DISCUSSED

3. Aged Reports/Finance.

No report this month.

4. Year to Date Water/Sewer Report.

It appears that more water is being used.

More tie-ins are being put in than budgeted for, which is a positive impact on the budget.

Nothing to note in the sewer budget.

Chairman Lynch said Peter Gardner is thinking of putting up a large subdivision (thirty homes) at the end of Seabury Avenue. Chairman Lynch said he wants to find out if a water connection would fall under SCWA or the WPCA responsibility. Mr. Jones researched and answered that it is not a SCWA service area.

RESULT: DISCUSSED

5. PSR - Steve Banks.

The Smith & Loveless skid mounted sewer pump system is up and running. Chairman Lynch said it was successful cost savings project. If the WPCA hired an Engineering firm, it would have cost \$400,000.00. Although it was a bit over budget due to extra electrical work (final cost will be approximately \$175,000), it still will save the Town around \$225,000.

The Solar company went to the facility on June 16, 2023. They inspected the equipment, mowed the lawn, and ordered new panels. There is a long lead time on solar panels and other related parts.

RESULT: DISCUSSED

VIII. OLD BUSINESS

1. Rules and Regulation review and possible changes.

Recommendation to name the updated policy manual the "Customer handbook" and to combine the rules and regulations and the policies into one handbook.

RESULT: CONTINUE

- 2. Ledyard Center Trail and Sewer Line Project status proceeding to a spring construction start continued.

All parties agree on the final drawings. The district gave approval. Weston & Samson is working on paperwork and going out for bids shortly.

RESULT: DISCUSSED

- 3. Residents and Property owners (1 Rosemarie Court).

The Authority estimated that the new billing invoice would be approximately \$400.00 but it was only \$236.90. Chairman Lynch asked for a vote to approve this amount for the final bill.

Mr. Juber noticed a typo in the billing invoice and asked Groton Utilities to change:

Usage from 12/13 @ 13:01 p.m. to 12/21/2023

to

Usage from 12/13 @ 13:01 p.m. to 12/21/2022

Motion to APPROVE the Groton Utilities calculation of the charges for the water usage at 1 Rosemarie Court in the amount of \$236.90.

RESULT: APPROVED AND SO DECLARED

MOVER: Terry Jones

SECONDER: Stanley Juber

AYE 5 Twefik Jones Juber Lynch Ball

EXCUSED 1 Wadecki

- 4. Waste Treatment pump installation update.

The pump is operating as expected.

RESULT: DISCUSSED

- 5. Route 12/Baldwin Hill Road hydrant relocation.

The owner of the Baldwin Hill Road property has been able to get water from a neighbor. The owner of the earth materials operation at 1340 Baldwin Hill Road is willing to run a road so that a drilling rig can get in. He is also willing to pay for the fracking of the well. There is still an issue with what would happen if other wells fail.

The WPCA is continuing to evaluate options. One option is a new water main from Route 12 to supply the homes along that road. The Town Planner is also involved in connection with a blasting permit requested for a nearby property.

RESULT: DISCUSSED

- 6. Retirement of Chlorination Station on Route 12.

A formal request has been made and approved by DPH to inactivate the chlorination station on Route 12 since more water passes through the system now than when it was built, making the station unnecessary to current or future operation.

Chairman Lynch asked if the station needs to be torn down. Mr. Duarte answered no, because it is still being used as a sample site for GU to monitor chlorine.

RESULT: DISCUSSED

7. Any Other Old Business to come before the Authority.

ACTION ITEM - Councilor Saums asked about the quote cost of service re-design. Mr. Daurte said it was sent. Chairman Lynch said he will put it on next month's agenda.

RESULT: DISCUSSED

IX. NEW BUSINESS

1. Motion to APPROVE Groton Utilities invoice #23451, dated May 31, 2023, in the amount of \$468.08, for LS/LR Inventory Labor.

RESULT: APPROVED AND SO DECLARED

MOVER: Terry Jones

SECONDER: Stanley Juber

AYE 5 Twefik Jones Juber Lynch Ball

EXCUSED 1 Wadecki

2. Proposal from Groton Utilities - service charge and background check discussion.

Discussed above under Service Correspondence.

RESULT: DISCUSSED

3. Any Other New Business to come before the Authority.

Motion to APPROVE Hach quote #100897536v1, dated March 30, 2023, for replacement sensor for CLF10 sc, SS tip/pHD, PPS for C/10sc, for a total amount of \$3,290.00 and \$453.00 for recommended accessories and services making the grand total \$3,743.00.

Mr. Duarte explained that this quote is for the Ledyard Center tank to enable monitoring of the pH and chlorine in the water. Chairman Lynch said he will tell Ian Stammel, Finance Assistant that this will need to be taken out of capital.

It was asked why it is referred to as a "replacement sensor" on the quote. Note to state the sensor is new not a replacement.

RESULT: APPROVED AND SO DECLARED

MOVER: Edmond Lynch

SECONDER: Stanley Juber

AYE 5 Twefik Jones Juber Lynch Ball

EXCUSED 1 Wadecki

Motion to APPROVE Ti-Sales quote #QTE0063368, dated June 14, 2023, for a total amount of \$6,660.00, for Neptune T-10 Meter and Neptune RF R900 Endpoint.

Mr. Duarte asked if the Authority wants to approve quotes or just the invoices. Chairman Lynch said just the invoices would do.

RESULT: APPROVED AND SO DECLARED

MOVER: Edmond Lynch

SECONDER: Stanley Juber

AYE 5 Twefik Jones Juber Lynch Ball

EXCUSED 1 Wadecki

X. ADJOURNMENT

Motion to ADJOURN the Regular Meeting at 8:17 p.m.

RESULT: APPROVED AND SO DECLARED

MOVER: Edmond Lynch

SECONDER: Stanley Juber

AYE 5 Twefik Jones Juber Lynch Ball

EXCUSED 1 Wadecki

DISCLAIMER: Although we try to be timely and accurate these are not official records of the Town.