



TOWN OF LEDYARD

741 Colonel Ledyard Highway
Ledyard, Connecticut 06339

Water Pollution Control Authority Meeting Minutes

Chairman
Ed Lynch

Regular Meeting

Tuesday, May 23, 2023

7:00 PM

Council Chambers - Hybrid

I. CALL TO ORDER

Chairman Lynch called the meeting to order at 7:01 p.m.

II. ROLL CALL

Present Board Member Monir Twefik
Board Member Sharon Wadecki
Board Member Terry Jones
Board Member Stanley Juber
Board Member Edmond Lynch

Excused Alternate Member Jeremy Norris

Non-voting Alternate Member Tony Capon
Alternate Member James A. Ball

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

III. APPOINTMENT OF ALTERNATES

Not needed.

IV. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

V. RESIDENTS & PROPERTY OWNERS COMMENTS

Cindy Sturgis, 1 Rosemarie Court was present. Ms. Sturgis asked the WPCA to please reconsider the charges. She reiterated that the WPCA had knowledge of this leak and said they should have been more diligent. She presented a letter she received from Groton Utilities on May 8, 2023. The letter was dated April 24, 2023. Ms. Sturgis said the letter contained very strong language. Chairman Lynch confirmed that it was a shut-off notice. Ms. Wadecki said she specifically asked during the last meeting if the shut-off agreement would affect Ms. Sturgis and was told that it would not. The Authority determined that the letter must have been an oversight. Chairman Lynch said Ms. Sturgis's case is on the agenda and her concerns will be addressed later in the meeting.

VI. REVIEW AND APPROVAL OF MINUTES

1. Motion to APPROVE the Public Hearing Meeting Minutes from April 25, 2023 as written.

RESULT: APPROVED AND SO DECLARED

MOVER: Edmond Lynch

SECONDER: Sharon Wadecki

AYE 5 Twefik Wadecki Jones Juber Lynch

EXCUSED 1 Norris

2. Motion to APPROVE the Regular Meeting Minutes from April 25, 2023 as written.

Approved the minutes as amended:

Old Business # 2 (Rules and Regulation review and possible changes) -

Replace the last sentence with "Chairman Lynch agreed to draft a policy on the handling of leaks that would serve as a starting point for WPCA discussion".

RESULT: APPROVED AS AMENDED

MOVER: Terry Jones

SECONDER: Sharon Wadecki

AYE 5 Twefik Wadecki Jones Juber Lynch

EXCUSED 1 Norris

VII. COMMUNICATIONS AND CORRESPONDENCE

1. Operations Report.

Report format change request

Chairman Lynch brought up the question raised during the April meeting regarding changing the timing of the monthly GU reports. Mr. Duarte said that GU could accommodate the request to have next month's report cover six weeks after which the reports could run from the 15th of the month to the 15th of the following month in order to have the data more current for the WPCA meetings.

Chairman Lynch asked if painting of the Fairway tower has started yet. Mr. Duarte said he reached out last week to the contractor but hadn't heard back yet.

DPH suggested an inspection of Gales Ferry (Holmberg tank). Sediment in the Ledyard Center tank (Fairway) needs to be removed and the interior should be re-coated. The re-coating will be a large undertaking which will require taking the tank out of service and using a temporary pump system. These maintenance items will need to be completed before the next DPH inspection. Ms. Wadecki asked how often inspections are completed, Mr. Duarte replied every 3-5 years.

GU provided a proposal from CorrTech for washout, spot coating and ROV inspection of the Fairway Drive Hydropillar. The WPCA will vote on the proposal during the June meeting.

RESULT: RECOMMENDED FOR APPROVAL

2. Service Correspondence.

None.

3. Aged Reports/Finance.

Chairman Lynch asked if Groton Utilities is flushing hydrants in Ledyard yet. Mr. Duarte replied no; that GU is currently flushing in the Groton area.

RESULT: DISCUSSED

4. Year to Date Water/Sewer Report.

Mr. Jones commented that the Water year to date report shows that the power purchased line is at 140%. He asked if that means that more water is being sold and pumped or have the rates increased and it wasn't anticipated, or possibly both? Also, was this added to next year's planned budget? Mr. Saums said to ask Ian Stammel, Assistant Finance Director "when the Town contracted with a more cost-effective supplier for electricity was the WPCA was included". Chairman Lynch will ask Mr. Stammel the above-mentioned questions.

ACTION ITEM

No comments on sewer.

RESULT: DISCUSSED

5. PSR - Steve Banks.

No report this month.

VIII. OLD BUSINESS

1. Rules and Regulation review and possible changes.

Chairman Lynch wrote a draft WPCA policy on handling leaks which he will share with the Authority for review.

RESULT: NO ACTION

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

The WPCA agreed that Groton Utilities's suggestions should be followed by the Ledyard Center Trail and Sewer Line Project.

Motion to require the Ledyard Center Trail and Sewer Line Project to adhere to the conditions agreed upon by Groton Utilities on May 12, 2023.

RESULT: APPROVED AND SO DECLARED

MOVER: Terry Jones

SECONDER: Sharon Wadecki

AYE 5 Twefik Wadecki Jones Juber Lynch

EXCUSED 1 Norris

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

Chairman Lynch read an email from Maurice Duarte, Groton Utilities:

"Regarding 1 Rosemarie Court, there was no previous meter, and it had been vacant for several years. We took the straight pipe to install our meter, our procedure is to wait for the meter to stop running before we leave the job site, and we did not do that. There was usage on that meter since we installed it; we didn't find the leak till the next read cycle since we read monthly.

When we lowered the piping for the meter, everything was inside the pit; therefore, we had to take the top frame out and cut the copper to reduce it. We wouldn't need to disturb either side of the water line. The same meter we installed after taking the straight pipe out is the same one that is currently there".

The WPCA found two main issues with how Groton Utilities handled 1 Rosemarie Court. The first issue was the policy to wait for the meter to stop running before leaving the site was not followed. The second issue is the time it took GU to visit the site after excessive water usage was reported (from November 23, 2022, to December 12, 2023).

Motion to APPROVE changing the billing charges for Cindy Sturgis, 1 Rosemarie Court as follows:

From 11/7/22 to 12/12/22, Ms. Sturgis will be billed for nominal usage.

From 12/12/22 to 12/21/22, Ms. Sturgis will be billed for actual usage.

RESULT: APPROVED AND SO DECLARED

MOVER: Terry Jones

SECONDER: Sharon Wadecki

AYE 5 Twefik Wadecki Jones Juber Lynch

EXCUSED 1 Norris

4. Waste Treatment pump installation update.

The pump installation has been delayed in order to obtain and install a 208-volt transformer to replace the 240-volt transformer. Using a 240-volt transformer might risk voiding the warranty.

RESULT: DISCUSSED

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

None.

IX. NEW BUSINESS**1. New Application for blasting - Baldwin Hill Road.**

A new permit for the blasting on Baldwin Hill Road will be required. Chairman Lynch will attend the next Planning and Zoning Commission meeting on June 8, 2023, to discuss the possibility of an impact the blasting had on the aquifer on Baldwin Hill Road. Chairman Lynch will recommend that a study is completed to measure the possible impact.

RESULT: DISCUSSED

2. Motion to APPROVE payment of Groton Utilities invoice #0023295, dated February 28, 2023, in the amount of \$3327.61, for Ledyard Emergency services and materials through February 19, 2023.

RESULT: APPROVED AND SO DECLARED

MOVER: Edmond Lynch

SECONDER: Sharon Wadecki

AYE 5 Twefik Wadecki Jones Juber Lynch

EXCUSED 1 Norris

3. Motion to APPROVE payment of Groton Utilities invoice #0023391, dated April 30, 2023, in the amount of \$1551.06, for Ledyard Emergency Labor through April 23, 2023.

RESULT: APPROVED AND SO DECLARED

MOVER: Edmond Lynch

SECONDER: Sharon Wadecki

AYE 5 Twefik Wadecki Jones Juber Lynch

EXCUSED 1 Norris

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

Groton Utilities provided an estimate for the cost of moving the hydrant at the corner of Route 12 and Baldwin Hill Road. Maurice Duarte, Groton Utilities commented that every year the hydrant gets damaged from a vehicle hit-and-run at least twice. He suggested moving the hydrant to where the island is. The estimate to move the hydrant is \$5683.80.

RESULT: DISCUSSED

X. ADJOURNMENT

Motion to ADJOURN the Regular Meeting at 8:42 p.m.

RESULT: APPROVED AND SO DECLARED

MOVER: Sharon Wadecki

SECONDER: Edmond Lynch

AYE 5 Twefik Wadecki Jones Juber Lynch

EXCUSED 1 Norris

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