



TOWN OF LEDYARD

741 Colonel Ledyard Highway
Ledyard, Connecticut 06339

Water Pollution Control Authority Meeting Minutes

Chairman
Ed Lynch

Regular Meeting

Tuesday, October 22, 2024

6:30 PM

Council Chambers - Hybrid

I. CALL TO ORDER

The Regular meeting was called to order by Chairman Lynch at 6:30 p.m.

II. ROLL CALL

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

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

Also in attendance:

Mauricio Duarte, GU General Foreman Water Operations

III. APPOINTMENT OF ALTERNATES

Not needed.

IV. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

V. RESIDENTS & PROPERTY OWNERS COMMENTS

1. Residents and Property Owners.

The estimated rates provided by Tina Daniels, Groton Utilities Customer Service General Manager, for 18 Naomi Drive and 1026 Long Cove Road were discussed briefly. Chairman Lynch said this topic will be discussed further under Old Business.

RESULT: DISCUSSED

VI. REVIEW AND APPROVAL OF MINUTES

1. Motion to APPROVE Regular Meeting minutes from September 24, 2024, as written.

RESULT: APPROVED AND SO DECLARED

MOVER: Edmond Lynch

SECONDER: Sharon Wadecki

AYE 4 Jones Juber Tewfik Lynch

ABSTAIN 1 Wadecki

VII. COMMUNICATIONS AND CORRESPONDENCE

1. Operations Report.

There are some hydrants that need repair. Chairman Lynch told Maurico Duarte, GU General Foreman Water Operations, that he will be asking for an estimate to "gut" or remove all the equipment in the old pump station off Gallup Hill Road, and there are two hydrants that can be reused.

RESULT: DISCUSSED

2. Service Correspondence.

None.

3. Aged Reports/Finance.

No comments.

4. Year to Date Water/Sewer Report.

Chairman Lynch observed that even though it has been a wet year, the water usage is up quite a bit. No comments on the sewer report.

RESULT: DISCUSSED

5. PSR - Steve Banks.

The WPCA is waiting for Gerber Construction to submit revised costs to extend the 6-inch sewer force main from Ledyard High School to Pennywise Lane in the Highlands.

The Lakeside Pump Station upgrade cost would be around \$45,000.00. The upgrade would include two new pumps, two new VFD's, two new controllers and two new level transmitters. The station was installed in October 2005. The generator is still in good shape. There was concern expressed as to whether there is money available in the Capital budget. Mr. Jones noted that the Lakeside pump station requires allocating approximately \$2,500.00 per year in capital funding to be able to maintain the equipment.

Oak Hill Controls is completing the Rotary Drum Thickener panel.

Richard White cleaned out the Lakeside pump station and grit pit at Highlands WWTF mid-October.

Mr. Jones asked how line-item transfers are approved. It was answered that they should be

approved by the Chairman who would then notify the Authority. Chairman Lynch will inquire with the Town Finance Department concerning the process for transfer.

RESULT: DISCUSSED

VIII. OLD BUSINESS

1. Review of Trail/Sewer line continued - progress report.

Trail work is in progress. Ms. Wadecki asked why Phase III is more expensive than Phase I, Chairman Lynch answered because it is a longer pipe run. He added that the cost is \$75.00 a foot. Ms. Wadecki asked who is managing the project, Chairman Lynch answered Steve Masalin, Public Works Director.

RESULT: DISCUSSED

2. Lead Survey Review and Grant Submittal - update.

Chairman Lynch said the lead survey was signed by Mayor Fred Allyn III and submitted. He added that the WPCA is receiving a grant, but the amount is unknown. It can be anywhere from twenty-five to fifty percent. Chairman Lynch will be attending a meeting with Groton Utilities on November 15, 2024, GU is taking the leadership on the survey.

RESULT: DISCUSSED

3. Lakeside Association Agreement.

Update on the Lakeside Association pump replacements.

Ms. Wadecki asked if there is a remedial fix. Chairman Lynch said it was already fixed but the parts are no longer available. The concern is if something fails it can't be replaced.

RESULT: DISCUSSED

4. Discuss Leak Rates Proposal.

Chairman Lynch said the question on the table is, should an addendum be put in place to charge a flat fee if there is a leak? Mr. Ball suggested an amendment; if a residential customer has a leak with very large water usage they would be billed at the commercial flat rate once the commercial rate is reached, this will prevent the customer from reaching the high residential rate. There would be no benefit for commercial customers since they are billed at the commercial flat rate from the beginning. This amendment would be a short-term solution, the long-term solution would be to change the rate structure. Mr. Ball suggested having an action item to review the current rate structure.

ACTION ITEM: Review the current rate structure.

Motion to APPROVE amendment to the Policy for Ledyard WPCA Water Leak Investigations so that for excess usage due to a leak, a residential customer can use the commercial rate once

the commercial rate is reached. The leak must be repaired. This change is effective October 22, 2024.

RESULT: APPROVED AND SO DECLARED

MOVER: Edmond Lynch

SECONDER: Stanley Juber

AYE 4 Jones Juber Tewfik Lynch

NAY 1 Wadecki

5. Department of Public Health Grant.

No comments.

6. Any Other Old Business to Come Before the Commission.

Mark Lopez, 1026 Long Cove Road addressed the WPCA regarding the leak rate proposal motion. He asked if there was a resolution for his complaint. Chairman Lynch said the change would not affect him since there will be no change for commercial rate customers. Mr. Jones read a portion of the customer service handbook "the customer may request in writing a further investigation and hearing by the State of Connecticut Public Utilities Regulatory Authority (PURA)". Mr. Duarte said that PURA doesn't regulate municipalities, only private companies and that the handbook needs updating. Mr. Jones told Mr. Lopez that he believed that PURA would still speak to him. Mr. Lopez thanked the WPCA before leaving the meeting. Chairman Lynch said the handbook needs to be updated.

RESULT: DISCUSSED

IX. NEW BUSINESS

1. Motion to APPROVE the WPCA 2025 meeting date calendar as written.

The Commissioners discussed keeping the time at 6:30 vs. changing the time back to 7:00 p.m. Mr. Norris said it is hard with his work schedule to arrive at meeting right at 6:30 p.m. It was agreed to keep the meeting time at 6:30 p.m. and for Mr. Norris to be a few minutes late when need be.

Dates as follows:

January 28

February 25

March 25

April 22

May 27

June 24

July 22

August 26

September 23

October 28

November 25

December 16

January 27, 2026

RESULT: APPROVED AND SO DECLARED

MOVER: Edmond Lynch

SECONDER: Sharon Wadecki

AYE 5 Jones Juber Tewfik Wadecki Lynch

2. Cashman Blasting Impact study on 16-inch water main on Route 12.

Mr. Capon recused from this item since he is the Chairman of the Planning and Zoning Commission.

The impact study has been reviewed by Groton Utilities. Although it is technically sound and no major impacts have been found, both GU and the WPCA want leak tests performed. There should be an initial test, and then a post-blast test. The leak test request will be conveyed to Liz Burdick, Planning Director.

Mr. Duarte suggested having a meter pit installed, which would be beneficial to Cashman as well. He added a suggestion that Cashman is asked to either pay the entire amount or at least half of the amount. Mr. Duarte will give Chairman Lynch the full quote for the meter pit.

RESULT: DISCUSSED

3. Ledyard Planning and Zoning request for development.

Mr. Capon recused from this item since he is the Chairman of the Planning and Zoning Commission.

Proposed 15 Stoddards Wharf Road - Chairman Lynch said the total is 106 units, 219 bedrooms and 12 commercial spaces that will include 24 bathrooms. Using a calculation of ninety gallons per day the estimate would equate to roughly 21,000 gallons per day. Chairman Lynch said the WPCA license is for 170,000 gallons per day. The proposed Stoddards Wharf and Habitat for Humanity developments would require a total of approximately 25,000 gallons per day therefore the WPCA has sufficient water capacity. This will also be conveyed to Liz Burdick, Planning Director. The WPCA will need to decide the details of how much capacity will be committed to and how long the commitment is for. Once determined a commitment in writing would then be drafted between the developer and the WPCA.

RESULT: DISCUSSED

4. Any Other New Business to Come Before the Commission.

None.

X. ADJOURNMENT

Motion to ADJOURN the Regular Meeting at 8:00 pm.

RESULT: APPROVED AND SO DECLARED

MOVER: Edmond Lynch

SECONDER: Sharon Wadecki

AYE 5 Jones Juber Tewfik Wadecki Lynch

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