



N O R W I C H
BOARD OF PUBLIC UTILITIES' COMMISSIONERS
REGULAR MEETING

April 28, 2009

The Regular March Meeting of the Norwich Board of Public Utilities' Commissioners was held on Tuesday, April 28, 2009 in the Training Room at the NPU's office located at 16 South Golden Street, Norwich.

Item 1. The Meeting was called to order at 6:02 P.M. by Chairman James Sullivan.

Present: Chairman James Sullivan, Vice Chairman Diana Boisclair and Commissioners Alan Remondi and Frank Demicco. Commissioner Stanley Israelite was present by conference phone. Also in attendance were: General Manager John Bilda; NPU Staff Members Steve Sinko, Chris LaRose, Jeanne Kurasz, Melissa Young and Michele Addabbo.

a. Appoint Officers. Commissioner Remondi, seconded by Commissioner Israelite moved to reappoint the current slate of officers. Voted unanimously.

Item 2. Fifteen-Minute Public Comment Period. Chairman Sullivan called for public comment.

Patricia Adamik, 16 East Avenue – Asked for an update on the Newton Street Sewer Project. General Manager Bilda responded by telling the residents that in response to requests made to the Board of Commissioners, engineers had taken a second look at the project and redesigned the project area. The new project will result in a lower project cost and a lower assessment for the property owners. The new project will require the process to start at the beginning, with public hearings and approvals by the City Council and the Sewer Authority.

Ellen Wilson, 34 Will Road – Thanked General Manager Bilda for his efforts with the East West Sewer Project, and asked for a timeline of the Newton Street project, should it be approved. General Manager Bilda estimated approximately four months for the approval process, and if approved construction could start next spring.

Bob Diaz, 34 Will Road – Asked about Stanton School's interest in the project. General Manager Bilda replied that Stanton School is the only school in the entire school system that is not tied into the City sewer system, and that they would like to tie in.

Norm Perkins, 30 Will Road - Asked if communication was sent to those who were undecided about the project. General Manager Bilda stated that extensive resources were used to communicate to all residents involved in the project area

Hearing no further comment, Chairman Sullivan concluded the Public Comment Period by acknowledging that the Board understands this problem is not going away, and thanked the residents for attending.

Item 3. Minutes of the Regular March Meeting, which was held on Tuesday, March 24, 2009. Vice Chairman Boisclair seconded by Commissioner Remondi moved to approve the Minutes of the Regular March Meeting, which was held on Tuesday, March 24, 2009. Unanimously approved.

Item 4. Action Items.

a. Approval of Budget Fiscal Year 2010. Commissioner Remondi, seconded by Commissioner Demicco, moved to approve the Fiscal Year 2010 Gas, Water, and Electric Budgets as presented. Unanimously approved.

Item 5. Performance Reports. The following performance reports were provided to the Commissioners for their review:

- a) Financial Reports: The March 2009 financial statements were provided to the Board for their information.
- b) Collections Reports: General Manager Bilda complimented the staff involved in the management of collection efforts and improving internal efficiencies.
- c) Customer Satisfaction Indicators: Informative.

Item 6. NPU Tactical Information. The following tactical reports were provided to the Commissioners for their review:

- a) Operations & Construction Report. Chairman Sullivan requested information regarding the outlook of natural gas storage. General Manager Bilda replied that the expectation is that gas prices will drop in the future.
 - Chris LaRose presented information on the current water heater rental program and Field Service rates. The Board recommended discontinuing the water heater rental program, and transitioning into the efficiency program. Commissioner Demicco expressed concern about the proposed Field Service rates. Chairman Sullivan requested the staff take this concern into consideration and develop a fair and reasonable cost schedule.
- b) Water Division Report. Informative. Chris LaRose provided the Board with a summary of problems experienced by the MDC in Hartford, and assured the Board that NPU is taking all precautions that nothing similar happens to NPU's water supply.
 - Correspondence regarding Regional Water Supply. General Manager Bilda informed the Commissioners that there has been no response from the Southeastern Connecticut Water Authority concerning the issue of supplying water at wholesale to serve a proposed development on Route 32 in Franklin.
 - Water Capital Efficiency Plan. General Manager Bilda provided the Board with a copy of Water Capital Efficiency Plan Executive Summary.
- c) Communications Calendar. Informative.
- d) Energy Efficiency Initiatives. Informative.
- e) Construction Project Status Report. Informative.

- f) PGA/PPA. There are no changes to the PGA or PPA this month.
- g) ARRA Stimulus Grants. General Manager Bilda informed the Board that NPU is submitting grant applications for the Waste Water Treatment Plant Digester Project, a Co-Generation Project to be located in the business park, and a city-wide broadband system. He asked that the Board be prepared to participate as required if funding becomes available.
- h) Other
 - 350th Celebration. General Manager Bilda informed the Board that Friday, June 26 has been set for a community picnic sponsored by NPU.
 - Citizen of the Year. Informative.
 - Boy Scouts Award. On Tuesday, June 16th, NPU will be the recipient of the Community Service Award presented by the Boy Scouts of America.
 - 50 in 5 CMEEC Project. General Manager Bilda informed the Board that the Siting Council has approved plans for the construction of generators necessary for distributed generation.

Commissioner Remondi seconded by Secretary Demicco motioned to recess the meeting at 7:24 p.m. and enter into the Sewer Authority Meeting.

The Board Meeting resumed at 7:32 p.m.

Item 7. Executive Session Commissioner Remondi seconded by Vice Chair Boisclair moved to enter into Executive Session at 7:33 p.m. 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. Unanimously approved. General Manager Bilda, Chris LaRose, Steve Sinko, Jeanne Kurasz and Michele Addabbo were asked by the Board to stay for the purpose of providing proprietary information.

The Board arose from Executive Session at 7:39 p.m.

There were no votes taken during Executive Session.

Item 8. Other Business. In light of recent international events, Chris LaRose informed the Board that NPU's Pandemic Business Continuity Plan is in place.

Item 9. The next Regular Meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, April 28, 2009.

Commissioner Remondi, seconded by Vice Chairman Boisclair, seconded by moved to adjourn the Meeting at 7:40 p.m. Unanimously approved.

Attest:

Frank Demicco
Secretary