



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

February 24, 2026

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The Regular Meeting of the Norwich Board of Public Utilities' Commissioners and the Sewer Authority of the City of Norwich was held on Tuesday, February 24, 2026, by Teams and in the 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor Board Room of Norwich Public Utilities (NPU), 16 South Golden Street, Norwich.

Item 1. The Board Meeting was called to order at 6:04 p.m. by Chairman Ashon Avent.

Present: Chairman Ashon Avent, Vice Chairman William Warzecha, Secretary Stewart Peil, Commissioner Gerald Martin and Commissioner Robert Staley.

NPU staff in attendance were General Manager Jeff Brining, Steve Sinko, Mary Lou Rychling, Laura Huren, Larry Sullivan, Brenton Terry, Matt Hross, Barry Ellison, Shayleen Alfieri, Chris Golas, Chris Riley and Simone Oliva. NPU staff joining through Teams were John Covey, Michele Addobbo-Ware, and Dave Poore.

Also in attendance were Dan Drainville of The Day and Melinda Cruanes from CLA (CliftonLarsonAllen LLP).

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

Item 3. Approval of the Minutes of the Special Board of Public Utilities' Commissioners Meeting and Sewer Authority of the City of Norwich, held on January 27, 2026. Secretary Warzecha made a motion to approve the minutes, Seconded by Commissioner Staley. Unanimously approved.

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

Financials: Brief discussion, Informative.

Leadership Team Update: Brief discussion, Informative.

Customer Service Dashboard: No comments.

Item 5. Strategic Presentations

Auditors Report – Melinda Cruanes presented the results of the 2025 audit of NPU by CliftonLarsonAllen which reflected an 'unmodified' opinion, also known as a 'clean audit.' Discussion followed; informative.

Natural Gas Production and LNG Plant Operations – Update provided by Chris Golas on the operations and maintenance of NPU's gas production and LNG plant. Discussion followed. Informative.

Impact of winter weather – Brenton Terry provided a presentation on the impact of recent weather conditions and its impact on natural gas consumption. Discussion followed. Informative.

Bean Hill Substation – Steve Sinko provided an update on the proposed project. The initial findings indicate that relocating the station outside of the flood plain is the preferred alternative. Discussion followed. Informative.

WWTP / Shipping Street Pump Station Update – Matt Hross provided a brief update on the continued progress with construction at the wastewater treatment plant. He also discussed plans for the Shipping Street Pump Station. Discussion followed. Informative.

Item 6. Actions.

A motion was made by Vice Chairman Warzecha and seconded by Secretary Peil to appoint Jeff Brining as a member of the CMEEC Board of Directors and as the NPU Member Delegate to CMEEC. Unanimously approved.

The Board agreed to hold a special meeting to discuss the ratemaking process to be held on Tuesday, March 17, 2026, at 1:30 PM at the NPU Administration Building.

Item 7. 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.

Vice Chairman Warzecha, Seconded by Commissioner Martin, made a motion to go into Executive Session at 7:42 pm. Unanimously approved. General Manager Brining asked Steve Sinko, Mary Lou Rychling, Laura Huren, and Larry Sullivan to stay for the Executive Session.

The Board came out of Executive Session at 8:04 p.m. No votes were taken.

Item 8. Other Business – none.

Motion made by Vice Chairman Warzecha seconded by Commissioner Staley, to adjourn the meeting at 8:05 p.m. Unanimously approved.

The next Regular Meeting is scheduled to be held on Tuesday, March 24, 2026.

Attest:

Stewart Peil  
Secretary