# Jewett City Department of Public Utilities Board of Commissioners Meeting Minutes July 12, 2023

The regular meeting of the Board of Public Utilities Commissioners was held in the office of the DPU on Wednesday, July 12, 2023, at 4:30 pm.

Chairman Demicco called the meeting to order with Comm. Comfort present and with Comm. Throwe on conference call. Also, in attendance was Jim Barnie and Kenneth Sullivan, Director of Utilities.

# AGENDA #2 APPROVE THE MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING HELD OF JUNE 14, 2023 AND THE SPECIAL MEETING OF JUNE 26, 2023:

Comm. Comfort made the motion to approve the regular meeting minutes held on June 14, 2023 as written and presented prior to the meeting. The motion was seconded with all in favor.

Comm. Comfort made the motion to approve the special meeting minutes held on June 26, 2023 as written and presented prior to the meeting. The motion was seconded with all in favor.

#### **AGENDA #3 READING OF COMMUNICATIONS:**

Director Sullivan stated that a copy of a letter from the State of Connecticut MERS Retirement Services Division was enclosed notifying members that the employer rate for 2023-24 was changed from 19.57% to 15.85%.

# **AGENDA #4 REPORTS OF OTHER COMMISSIONERS:**

Chairman Demicco stated that he attended the Borough of Jewett City monthly meeting and a few CMEEC meetings in the last month.

## **AGENDA #5 SEWER UPDATE:**

Director Sullivan informed the Board that he has been in touch with the State of Connecticut EPA and the DEEP as to possibly claiming bankruptcy of the Wastewater Treatment Division. He stated that they would be going over the facilities plan to fix priorities in a six-to-twelve-month period to complete the plan.

Director Sullivan informed the Commissioner's that the WWTP is running fine at this time, but capital assets are failing at an unprecedented rate.

Director Sullivan stated that the chemical analysis is staying below permit levels.

Director Sullivan also mentioned that a grant may be available but the process may take some time.

Director Sullivan also stated that the private sewer line on Route 201 will be handled by the GWPCA. He stated that the line appears to be good, but may have some minor issues.

## **AGENDA #6 ADDRESS PUBLIC CONCERNS:**

Director Sullivan stated that there were none at the time of preparing the agenda.

James Barnie commented on the WWTP and the rates being low compared to the expenses and depreciation needed to maintain the plant.

Director Sullivan stated that at the present time the WWTP does not have the flow needed to allow the plant to be supported in a financial sense.

Director Sullivan also mentioned that the flood wall will not be funded by DOH because they do not have any extra funds at the State.

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# **AGENDA #7 OTHER BUSINESS:**

James Barnie asked if there were any reports or written information about the Aspinook Apartments when the wastewater division was maintaining the pumps. Director Sullivan suggested calling Kats Pump Service if maintenance was needed. He also stated that he would check with the operator at the WWTP if there is any information available at the plant.

It was agreed by all to pause the meeting at 4:55 pm and wait for Rocco Marciano, of Heritage Benefits, to arrive and speak to the Board regarding the pension plan. The Board also agreed to allow the Secretary to leave the meeting.

The Above is Respectfully submitted,

Debra Bingell

Secretary to the Board

The meeting was brought back into session at 5:06 pm at Rocco Marciano's arrival.

Motion was made by Chairman Demicco to go into Executive Session to talk about personnel as relates to the pension plan. The motion was seconded by Comm. Comfort will all in favor.

No motions were made in Executive Session.

Chairman Demicco announced that we were out of Executive Session at 5:37 pm.

A motion was made by Chairman Demicco to adjourn the Board Meeting at 5:38 pm. Comm. Comfort seconded the motion with all in favor.

Kenneth S. Sullivan

**Acting Secretary**