

**Jewett City Department of Public Utilities
Board of Commissioners
Meeting Minutes
February 10, 2021**

The regular meeting of the Board of Public Utilities Commissioners was held in the office of the DPU on Wednesday, February 10, 2021, at 4:30 pm.

Due to COVID-19 requirements this meeting was held via telephone conference. Comm. Demicco called the meeting to order and a roll call was taken with Comm. Throwe and Comfort present. Also, in attendance by phone was Timothy Sharkey, Borough Warden; with Kenneth S. Sullivan, Director of Utilities and the secretary to the board in the office.

AGENDA #2 APPROVE THE MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MONTHLY BOARD MEETING HELD ON JANUARY 13, 2021:

Comm. Comfort made the motion to approve and accept the minutes of the regular board meeting held on January 13, 2021, as written and distributed prior to the meeting. The motion was seconded with all in favor.

AGENDA #3 READING OF COMMUNICATIONS:

Enclosed for the Commissioners information was the Talcott Resolution quarterly statement.

AGENDA #4 REPORTS OF OTHER COMMISSIONERS:

Chairman Demicco stated that he attended six CMEEC meetings via ZOOM which included Compensation Committee. Director Sullivan stated that he, being past chairman of the Board, was asked to supply input for the Compensation Committee, which he stated he emailed to the Chairman of the Compensation Committee.

AGENDA #5 DISCUSS AND TAKE APPROPRIATE ACTION ON ANNUAL NEPPA RENEWAL:

Director Sullivan informed the Commissioners that he had enclosed a copy of this fiscal year's invoice for NEPPA Utility Dues in the amount of \$2,693.00. He stated that it shows an increase of \$34.00 from last year. Director Sullivan mentioned that NEPPA has many good programs and support staff and recommended paying the utility dues for calendar year 2021. After some discussion, Chairman Demicco made the motion to approve and pay the NEPPA Utility Dues for 2021 in the amount of \$2,693.00. The motion was seconded with all in favor.

AGENDA #6 SEWER UPDATE:

Director Sullivan mentioned to the Board that the financial statements are continually showing a deficit.

Director Sullivan informed the Commissioners that RT Engineering would be repairing the VFD drives at the WWTP plant and the repairs have been costly. He also stated that the daily and monthly reports have been showing good numbers.

Director Sullivan informed the Commissioners that a desk audit was done by DEEP and we passed.

AGENDA #7 OTHER BUSINESS:

Director Sullivan explained the solar incentives and reviewed last year's costs. He stated that each year he does a review. He suggests that for calendar year 2021 the cost be \$.33/watt up to 10 KW, \$.19/watt for systems greater than 10 KW but less than 15 KW, and zero for systems larger than 15 KW or greater. After some discussion, Comm. Thrope made the motion to accept the solar incentives as stated and discussed. The motion was seconded with all in favor.

AGENDA #8 ADDRESS PUBLIC CONCERNS:

Director Sullivan stated he received a phone call from a customer regarding a sewer line backup at 119 Ashland Street. It was stated to Director Sullivan that they had a plumber come in and snake the line and the plumber thought that the lines may have been crushed after two maple trees were felled in the area six or seven weeks ago. Director Sullivan stated that they could camera that sewer line to see if there is a root problem, which would be the owner's responsibility. He stated that if it was crushed by trees falling, it would show itself within a week not six or seven weeks. He stated he was waiting to hear of the results.

Warden Tim Sharkey asked if the Director has heard anything regarding 127 North Main Street regarding a sewer problem. Director Sullivan stated that he had not.

Warden Sharkey stated that the Jewett City Water Company received approval for an increase in rates. He stated that the Borough attorney could fight this but the Jewett City Water Company would try to increase them again next year. He stated that Jewett City Water Company had reduced the original 40% rate increase down to 27.8% rate increase.

With no further business to come before the Board, Chairman Demicco made the motion to adjourn the meeting at 4:47 pm. The motion was seconded with all in favor.

Respectfully submitted,

Debra L. Bingell
Secretary to the Board