

TOWN OF LINCOLN
Water Commission Meeting
March 12, 2025

Members Present:

Kenneth Booth, Chair	Peter Dilocenzo, Superintendent
Julie LaBreche, Secretary	Stephen Antonucci, Town Solicitor
Ed Fox	Anna Nascimento, Administrative Assistant
Louis Long	
Edward Sliney	

Call to order: Chairman Kenneth Booth called the meeting to order at 6:03 p.m.

Public Comment: None

Motion to accept the Consent Agenda:

- 1) Minutes of previous meeting:
 - A) February 12, 2025–Regular Meeting*
 - B) November 13, 2024-Executive Session Minutes

A motion was made by Commissioner **Ed Fox** and was seconded by Commissioner **Julie LaBreche** to approve the consent agenda. All in favor.

Superintendent Report of Daily Activity February 2025:

1. **Administrative – Project Management:**

1. Projects:

a. School Street

- i. Shop Drawings are being reviewed, and there is no start date yet.

b. Lead Service Inventory

- i. A program has been implemented to inspect and update records of private-side services.

- ii. A resident Lead sampling program has been implemented; residents can pick up sample bottles and drop them off at our office at no cost to the Resident. State Law mandates this.
- iii. The system currently has 76 known public and private lead services. A Program will be developed next fiscal year to replace these services.

c. Saylesville Project

- i. Notice of Award
- ii. Construction Administration and Inspection Services are part of Pare's Contract.

d. Water Tank Inspection and Cleaning RFP

- i. Tank Inspection and Cleaning to begin March 24, 2025.

e. System Wide Leak Detection RFP

- i. Two bids have been received, we are currently reviewing proposals.

f. Albion Road Pumping Station Replacement Project

- i. Pare is preparing a submission package to RIDOH, which is estimated to be ready in summer 2025.

g. SCADA System Upgrades

- i. LWC is currently investigating the procurement of services for installing a new server room at the main office.

h. RI Ready Program

- i. Preparing an application for the RI Ready Program. This Grant will be used to pay for the source water assessment project that is being advertised. There is a \$1500 fee associated with this grant application.

i. Old River Road Tank Replacement

- i. The Town and LWC have held preliminary discussions on the layout of the proposed Tank. Future talks are planned to address layout issues at the current proposed site.
- ii. An RFP for Engineering Services will be developed to study and develop recommendations for the Tank. This RFP is anticipated to be sent out in FY 2026.

j. Lincoln Water Commission Office Expansion Project

- i. The Town and LWC have discussed an additional buildout of the main office to meet fire code requirements and increase space for a conference room, file storage, and public access away from operations.

k. New River Road 12" DI Culvert Crossing

- i. Culvert has been replaced and the water main has been backfilled.

l. Great Road Bridge Crossings

- i. Pare is investigating two bridge crossings on Great Road. They are investigating the need for the crossings and potential repair options.
- m. **Manville Well Station**
 - 1. Proposals are being solicited to demolish and cap the well station.
- n. **Senator Jack Reed Grant**
 - i. The Lincoln Water Commission and Town of Lincoln prepared and applied for a \$3M grant from Senator Jack Reed. This grant will be used for additional supply development for the System.

2. Administration and Personnel:

- a. **Driving Training**
 - i. Driver's training was performed on March 6, 2025.
- b. **Proposed Positions**
 - i. Request to advertise two Temporary Summer Laborer positions. The costs of these two positions have been included in FY 2026's budget.
 - ii. Request to advertise one Utility Person position. This is to fill a vacancy that has not been filled. The cost for this position has been included in FY 2026's budget.

3. Finance and Investments:

- a. **Citizens and Washington Trust**
 - i. An account has been set up with Washington Trust, and the funds are being transferred from Citizens Bank to Washington Trust.
- b. **Town of Lincoln – Accounting System**
 - i. On 2/27/2025, the Town and LWC met to begin the switchover to the Town's accounting system. The goal is to utilize the Town's accounting system starting July 1, 2025.

4. Billing/Meters:

- a. **Neptune**
 - i. LWC is investigating moving towards an AMI (fixed network) or cellular network system for meters to replace the current radio read system.
- b. **CUSI**
 - ii. We have begun the process of switching to UB4, this is an upgrade from the current CUSI software. The goal is to use both systems together to confirm before performing the switch over to the new system.

5. Water Quality

a. Lincoln Meadows Drive

- i. Additional sampling has been performed in the system to determine the cause of the corrosion in the Lincoln Meadows Drive area. Pare Corporation is assisting with the sampling and analysis to investigate the source of the corrosion.

b. Whipple Cullen Farm

- i. Whipple Cullen Farm development has received water quality complaints. The LWC is working with the development to develop a hydrant flushing program for its private water system to remedy the issues it is experiencing.

b. Stone Creek

- i. Residents are experiencing sediment in their aerators, LWC performed flushing of their onsite hydrants and hydrants on Breakneck Hill Road.

c. Providence Connection and Albion Pumping Stations – Online Water Quality Analyzers

- (a) Online chlorine and pH analyzers are currently being considered. This initiative will provide LWC real-time water quality data at its two pumping stations. Having access to real-time data will allow LWC to enhance state reporting and take a proactive approach to managing water quality within the system.

6. Vehicles/Garage

- a. The delivery date for the new utility truck is in the works and is anticipated to be several months away.
- b. A bid has been received for a new F150 to replace the current Foreman's vehicle, approximately \$50,000. The existing Forman's vehicle will be kept as a spare vehicle. I would like to include this purchase in FY 2026's budget.

7. Operations and Maintenance: Pumping Stations

a. Providence Connection

- i. Industrial Pump and Valve pulled pump #3 on February 7, 2025. Pump #3's delivery date is in March; we await a final date from Industrial Pump.
- ii. Painting of internal piping has begun at the pump station.

b. Albion Road Pumping Station

- i. No Operational Issues to Report.

- ii. Painting of internal piping at the pumping station has been scheduled.
- c. **Old Pike Pumping Station**
 - i. Offline, the final use will be determined as part of the Albion Road Pumping Station Project.
- d. **Woonsocket Connection**
 - ii. LWC has investigated the status of the Woonsocket Connection and found it to be in working order. Further Testing will be performed in the coming months, and minor repairs will be performed to ensure the Pumping Station and connection continue to be operational as an emergency interconnection.
- e. **Pawtucket Connection**
 - iii. LWC has begun investigating the status of the Pawtucket Connection. It is currently not in working order. Work is planned to ensure its operability so it may be used as an emergency interconnection.

8. **Operations and Maintenance: Water Storage Tanks**

- a. **Old River Road Tank**
 - i. VHB is developing a remedial action work plan to remediate the contaminated soil on the property.
 - ii. Tank is scheduled to be inspected and cleaned at the end of March.
 - iii. An RFP is being developed to study the tank's replacement. The RFP is anticipated to be sent out in FY 2026.
- b. **Manville Tank**
 - i. VHB is developing a response to comments based on RIDEM's response to the submitted remedial action work plan.
 - ii. Tank is scheduled to be inspected and cleaned at the end of March. Pricing is being obtained on rehab versus tank replacement to determine the next steps.
- c. **Albion Road Tank**
 - i. Tank is scheduled to be inspected and cleaned at the end of March. Pricing is being obtained on rehab versus tank replacement to determine the next steps.
- d. **Westwood Tank**
 - i. Tank Cleaning and Inspection is scheduled for the end of March.
- e. **High Service Tank**
 - ii. Tank Cleaning and Inspection scheduled for the end of March.

9. RIPUC – Providence Water rate filing

- a. LWC has submitted its intervenor status and is working on developing testimony to submit to the RIPUC.
- b. LWC is working with GWD and SWSB to develop our testimony regarding the rate filing.
30% rate increase has been mentioned, working with attorney to fight increase.

10. Proposed Developments

- a. Lonsdale Main Place – Nine, three-bedroom condominiums are being proposed on Lonsdale Main Street.
- b. Roger’s Plant – Thirty-four, four-bedroom houses are proposed on Cobble Hill Road adjacent to Francis Avenue.
- c. Carrington Street – 204 Residential Apartments of various sizes are being proposed.

Superintendent Report of Daily Activity – February 2025:

Motion to accept by Commissioner **Julie LaBreche**, seconded by Commissioner **Louis Long**. All in favor.

Balance Sheet - Expenditure and Revenue Report – February 2025

Motion to accept by Commissioner **Ed Sliney**, seconded by Commissioner **Louis Long**. All in favor.

a. Financial Report to Town Acting Finance Director – February 2025:

Motion to accept by Commissioner **Julie LaBreche**, seconded by Commissioner **Ed Fox**. All in favor.

Account Balance Report –February 2025:

Motion to accept by Commissioner **Julie LaBreche**, seconded by Commissioner **Louis Long**. All in favor.

Capitol Accounts –February 2025*

Direct Payment and Payables – February 2025:

Motion to accept by Commissioner **Julie LaBreche**, seconded by Commissioner **Ed Sliney**. All in favor.

Abatelements:

- a. None

Account Transaction Report –February 2025*

Correspondence:*

- a. None

10. Unfinished Business:

a. Commission for Water Rates

The rate consultant is reviewing Providence Water’s proposed rate increase and how it affects the LWC’s rates. Rates have been developed, and a workshop with the Commission will be held in the coming weeks.

*Superintendent hopes to meet with consultant before next LWC meeting.
Rate resolution needs to be finalized before budgets can be set.*

b. Lincoln Meadows Drive

Report from the Corrosion Consultant has been completed. Pare has performed additional water quality testing on the system to investigate the issue. *Results are still inconclusive; Superintendent will meet with homeowners.*

11. New Business:

a. Request the Board vote to approve the Moratorium on Water Availability Resolution. This is being requested due to the lack of available supply during summer.

b. Request the Board vote to approve several changes to the regulations. The changes are requested to provide leniency on water shutoffs during winter months and clarify billing based on usage per account rather than usage per unit.

Motion to accept by Commissioner **Ed Sliney**, seconded by Commissioner **Louis Long**. All in favor.

c. Request approval to advertise an RFP titled “GPS Survey Equipment”.

Motion to accept by Commissioner **Julie LaBreche**, seconded by Commissioner **Louis Long**. All in favor.

d. Request approval to advertise two temporary summer positions per the requirements of the attached Job Description.

Motion to accept by Commissioner **Julie LaBreche**, seconded by Commissioner **Louis Long**. All in favor.

e. Request approval to advertise one Utility Worker position per the requirements of the attached Job Description.

Motion to accept by Commissioner **Julie LaBreche**, seconded by Commissioner **Ed Sliney**. All in favor.

12. Claims:

a. None

13. News Articles - *

a. None

Public Comment:

-Town Administrator Philip Gould asking to review what's on the Town agenda for the meeting on Monday night (3/17/25). Spoke to have the Board available for the homeowners meeting. Town Administrator Gould wants to make sure the Town won't be liable for any suits.

-Resident Marion Dale of Wilbur Rd., questioned the paving cost to residents for tying into the town water.

14. Seek to adjourn to Executive Session According to Seek to adjourn to Executive Session According to R.I.G.L. 42-46-5(a)(1), R.I. Gen Laws § 42-46 5(a)(4) Any investigative proceedings regarding allegations of misconduct, either civil or criminal.

Start at 7:10 p.m.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Motion to go into Executive Session (ES/LL)

Roll Call: Commissioner Louis Long– yes, Commissioner Ed Sliney – yes, Commissioner Julie LaBreche- yes, Commissioner Ed Fox– yes, Commissioner Ken Booth – yes.

Motion to come out of Executive Session (ES/LL)

Motion to seal the minutes of Executive Session According to Executive Session According to R.I.G.L. 42-46-5(a)(1), R.I. Gen Laws § 42-46 5(a)(4) (LL/ES)

Close Executive Session at 8:24 p.m.

Motion to adjourn Executive Session: Commissioner Ed

Fox, Commissioner Ed Sliney: Seconds motion.

All in favor

Motion to have Superintendent Peter Dilorenzo and Steve Antonucci Town Solicitor act on what was discussed in Executive Session.

Motion to approve made by Commissioner **Ed Sliney**, seconded by Commissioner **Louis Long**. All in favor.

Motion to adjourn: Commissioner Ed Fox, Commissioner

Louis Long second's the motion.

All in favor

Meeting adjourned at 8:25 p.m.