

TOWN OF LINCOLN
Water Commission Meeting
April 9, 2025

Members Present:

Kenneth Booth, Chair	Peter Dilorenzo, 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 6:00 p.m.

Public Comment: None

Motion to accept the Consent Agenda:

- 1) Minutes of previous meeting:
 - a. March 12, 2025–Regular Meeting
 - b. March 12, 2025–Executive Session Minutes (Tabled until next meeting)

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

Superintendent Report of Daily Activity March 2025:

1. **Administrative – Project Management:**

Capital Program

1. Distribution

- a. School Street
 - i. The shop drawings are being reviewed, and the Temporary Water Bypass is scheduled to begin in May 2025.
- a. Saylesville Project
 - i. Notice of award issued, and contract has been executed.
 - ii. RIDOH approval scheduled for mid-April.

- b. Leak Detection
 - i. Requesting Approval to Award the Contract to the Lowest Qualified Bidder, EJ Prescott.
 - ii. The tentative start date is May 2025.
- c. Water Main Replacement Project
 - i. None
- d. Lead Service Line Replacement Project
 - i. A program has been implemented to inspect and update records of private-side services.
 - ii. A resident sampling program has been implemented, allowing residents to collect sample bottles and return them to our office at no cost. 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.
- e. Manville Water Main Replacement Project
 - i. The project is being developed to upgrade the water mains in the Manville Area of Lincoln. The project is scheduled to commence in fiscal year 2029.
- f. Lonsdale Water Main Replacement Project
 - i. The project is being developed to upgrade the water main in the Lonsdale Area of Lincoln. The project is scheduled to commence in fiscal year 2027.
- g. Lincoln Meadows Drive
 - i. Service to 12 Lincoln Meadows Drive is being further investigated to pinpoint the area of the service being corroded.
 - ii. Pare Corporation performed an additional water quality sampling of the system. Results have not been indicative of the source of the blue water.
- h. In-House Water Main Replacement
 - i. A project is being developed to replace approximately 500 feet of water mains per year with in-house personnel and equipment.
- i. Great Road Bridge Crossings
 - i. Pare Corporation is investing in the need for current crossings and developing repair options if RIDOT replaces the bridges.

j. Transmission

- a. Source Water Interconnection
- i. A project for additional source capacity is being developed; this project serves as a placeholder for transmission upgrade work necessary to support the additional source capacity.
- b. Woonsocket Interconnection
 - i. A project to upgrade the Woonsocket Interconnection is being developed.
- c. Pawtucket Interconnection
 - i. A project to upgrade the Pawtucket Interconnection is being developed. This project will involve necessary work, including the installation of a new pump, replacement of piping, and upgrading of electrical systems, to bring the current Pawtucket Interconnection back online. This project is scheduled to begin in fiscal year 2026.

k. Storage

- a. Old River Road Tank
- i. RFP to be developed for engineering services for the replacement of the Tank. The RFP is anticipated to be released in FY 2026, pending approval of the capital plan.
 - ii. Cleaning and Inspection of the tank was completed at the end of March. Hydra Dive Tech is preparing a report.
- b. Westwood Road Tank
 - i. Cleaning and Inspection of the tank was completed at the end of March. Hydra Dive Tech is preparing a report.
- c. Manville Tank
 - i. Cleaning and Inspection of the tank was completed at the end of March. Hydra Dive Tech is preparing a report.
- d. High Service Tank
 - i. Cleaning and Inspection of the tank was completed at the end of March. Hydra Dive Tech is preparing a report.
- e. Albion Tank
 - i. Cleaning and Inspection of the tank was completed at the end of March. Hydra Dive Tech is preparing a report.

l. Pumping

a. Providence Connector

- i. Pump #3 is at Industrial Pump and Valve for repairs. The installation of the pump is expected to occur within the next few weeks.

b. Albion Road

- i. Pare Corporation is preparing a design package for the station upgrades. The design package will be submitted to RIDOH this Summer.

c. Old Pike

- i. Station is offline; the proposed plan is to develop a chlorination facility at this location.

m. Treatment

a. Source Water Assessment

- i. Proposals were received from three qualified firms: Pare, APEX, and Wright-Pierce. We are currently reviewing the proposals, with pricings ranging from \$195,000 to \$280,000. This is within the proposed budget in the Capital Plan.
- ii. A \$200K grant is being applied for through the RI Ready Program. There will be a \$1,500 application fee.

b. Source Water Upgrades

- i. This project will be developed after the Assessment phase of the project
- ii. A \$3M grant through Senator Reed was submitted.

c. Wells

i. Manville Well

- 1. Pricing is being solicited from firms from the State MPA to cut and cap the Manville Well and demolish the building.

d. New Chlorination System

- i. Pare is designing a new temporary chlorination system to meet RIDOH requirements. This will be used to increase the chlorine residual in the system as needed temporarily.

n. Facilities

a. Garage and Office Upgrades

- i. This project is currently in the planning phase, pending the availability of funding. An RFP for upgrades to the Office and Garage will be developed accordingly.
 - b. Server Room Upgrades
 - i. A bid package will be developed in FY 2026 to upgrade the server room with a new room and HVAC controls.
- o. **Software**
 - a. GIS and CAD
 - i. Ongoing maintenance of our GIS and CAD software system. Potentially increases the number of licenses for additional personnel.
 - b. Hydraulic Model
 - i. Ongoing maintenance of our Hydraulic Model software, which is used to model developments as they arise and supports capital planning.
 - c. Asset Management and Work Order Software
 - i. A project is planned to develop a new Asset Management system that tracks the maintenance and work history of assets, as well as to create a digital work order system.
 - d. GPS and Survey Equipment
 - i. An RFP has been developed for the procurement of a new GPS system for mapping water system assets.
- p. **Vehicles**
 - a. The new utility truck is still being built; we should have it by the End of Spring.
 - b. A vehicle replacement schedule is developed and included in the Capital Plan.
- q. **Meters**
 - a. Capital Plan is budgeting a 15-year replacement cycle for meters.
 - b. The new AMI system is included in the Capital Plan, which is dependent on funding.

Administration and Personnel:

1. Proposed Positions

- 1.1. We are currently advertising two Temporary Summer Laborer positions. The costs of these two positions have been included in FY 2026's budget.

- 1.2. We are currently seeking a Utility Worker. The cost for this position has been included in FY 2026's budget.

Finance and Investments:

1. Citizens and Washington Trust

- 1.1. An account has been established with Washington Trust, and the funds are being transferred from Citizens Bank to this new account.

2. Town of Lincoln – Accounting System

- 2.1. On February 27, 2025, the Town and LWC met to initiate the switchover to the Town's accounting system. The goal is to utilize the Town's accounting system starting July 1, 2025.

Billing/Meters:

a. Meters

- a. Ongoing Meter Replacements as failures occur.
- b. We are currently investigating various meter options, including leak detection.

b. CUSI

- a. We have initiated the process of upgrading to UB4, which is an enhancement of the current CUSI software. The goal is to use both systems together to confirm before switching over to the new system.

Water Quality

1. Lincoln Meadows Drive

- a. 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. Further investigation of the service line to one of the servicers is proposed to identify the location of the corrosion in the service line.

2. Whipple Cullen Farm

- a. The Whipple Cullen Farm development has received complaints regarding water quality. A flushing program was performed at the end of March, followed by water quality testing. Testing has shown significant improvements in their system post-flushing.

3. Stone Creek

- a. Residents are experiencing sediment in their aerators. LWC performed flushing of their onsite hydrants and hydrants on Breakneck Hill Road.
 - b. LWC removed the strainer at the meter on April 4 to investigate whether sediment is coming from the main on Breakneck Hill Road.
4. **Providence Connection and Albion Pumping Stations – Online Water Quality Analyzers**
- (a) Online chlorine and pH analyzers are currently being considered for use. This initiative will provide LWC with 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.

Operations and Maintenance: Pumping Stations

- 1. **Providence Connection**
 - 1.1. Painting of internal piping has begun at the pump station.
- 2. **Albion Road Pumping Station**
 - 2.1. No Operational Issues to Report.
 - 2.2. Painting of internal piping at the pumping station has been scheduled.
- 3. **Old Pike Pumping Station**
 - 3.1. Offline, the final use will be determined as part of the Albion Road Pumping Station Project.
- 4. **Woonsocket Connection**
 - 4.1. 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.
- 5. **Pawtucket Connection**
 - 5.1. LWC has initiated an investigation into 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.

Operations and Maintenance: Water Storage Tanks

- a. **Old River Road Tank**
 - a. No operational issues have been reported.
- b. **Manville Tank**
 - a. No operational issues have been reported.

- c. **Albion Road Tank**
 - a. No operational issues have been reported.
- d. **Westwood Tank**
 - a. No operational issues have been reported
- e. **High Service Tank**
 - a. No operational issues have been reported

RIPUC – Providence Water rate filing

- a. LWC has submitted its intervenor status and is working on developing testimony to submit to RIPUC.
- b. LWC is working with GWD and SWSB to develop our testimony regarding the rate filing.

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.
- d. Dexter Rock Road – 10 Residential Units are Proposed.

Superintendent Report of Daily Activity – March 2025:

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

Balance Sheet - Expenditure and Revenue Report – March 2025

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

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

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

Account Balance Report –March 2025:

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

Capitol Accounts –March 2025*

Direct Payment and Payables – March 2025:

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

Abatements:

b. None

Account Transaction Report –March 2025*

Correspondence: *

a. None

10. Unfinished Business:

a. Commission for Water Rates

The rate study workshop was held on April 3, 2025. *Dave Bebyn's (B&E Consulting, LLC) came in with 3 rates, at the 4/3/25 workshop held. Superintendent Dilorenzo met with Dave Bebyn's, post workshop, a fourth rate is now being discussed.*

b. Lincoln Meadows Drive

An additional investigation of the service(s) is being scheduled to determine the location of the corrosion in the service(s). *Second testing is planned with R.I. Analytical.*

c. Water Availability

Proposals have been received from engineering firms to study additional sources of supply. LWC is reviewing proposals and awarded them in mid-April.

Commissioner Fox asked how current requests for new services were being handled. *Superintendent Dilorenzo stated we are awaiting determination of new rates/assessments and once completed, new services will be handled on a case-by-case basis.*

11. New Business:

a. Award of the Leak Detection Project to the lowest qualified bidder, EJ Prescott. *EJ Prescott came in at \$37,600.00.*

b. Request a vote by the Board to approve the attached resolution regarding the sale of up to 5 million in revenue-backed bonds.

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

c. Request a vote by the Board to approve the attached Anchor Auto Memorandum of Understanding.

Motion to approve the attached Anchor Auto Memorandum of Understanding by Commissioner **Ted Sliney**, seconded by Commissioner **Louis Long**. All in favor.

c. Service Fees

Service fees tend to vary based on certain criteria. Service fees can sometimes change daily.

Motion to approve by Commissioner **Louis Long**, seconded by Commissioner **Ed Fox**.

e. Source Water Assessment Recommendation for Award

Received three proposals, Apex came in at approximately \$195,800.00, Pare Engineering came in at \$232,400.00 and Wright Pierce came in at \$280,750. Superintendent Peter Dilozenzo is leaning towards Pare Engineering as we have worked well with their firm on other projects. Also, Apex did not rank the highest score. There is at least one dedicated workshop scheduled to educate the Board.

Motion to accept by Commissioner **Ted Sliney**, seconded by Commissioner **Ed Sliney**. Commissioner **Julie LaBreche** abstained on this vote. All others in favor.

12. Claims:

a. None

13. News Articles - *

a. None

Public Comment: None

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 6:38 p.m.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Motion to go into Executive Session (EF/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 (EF/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) (EF/TS)

Come out of Executive Session at 7:08 p.m.

Motion to adjourn Executive Session: Commissioner Ed

Fox, Commissioner Louis Long: Seconds motion.

All in favor

Motion to have Superintendent Peter Dilorenzo and Town Solicitor Steve Antonucci to 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 7:10 p.m.