

**TOWN OF LINCOLN**  
**Water Commission Meeting**  
**May 14, 2025**

**Members Present:**

|                                  |                                                  |
|----------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------|
| <b>Kenneth Booth, Chair</b>      | <b>Peter Dilorenzo, Superintendent</b>           |
| <b>Julie LaBreche, Secretary</b> | <b>Stephen Antonucci, Town Solicitor</b>         |
| <b>Ed Fox</b>                    | <b>Anna Nascimento, Administrative Assistant</b> |
| <b>Louis Long</b>                |                                                  |
| <b>Edward Sliney</b>             |                                                  |

**Call to order:** Chairman Kenneth Booth called the meeting to order at 6:02 p.m.

**Public Comment:** None

**Motion to accept the Consent Agenda:**

- 1) Minutes of previous meeting:
  - a. April 3, 2025 – Water Commission Special Meeting\*
  - b. April 9, 2025 – Regular Meeting \*
  - c. **March 12, 2025 - Executive Session Minutes (Tabled until next meeting)**
  - d. **April 9, 2025 - Executive Session Minutes (Tabled until next meeting)**

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

**Superintendent Report of Daily Activity April 2025:**

1. **Administrative – Project Management:**

**Capital Program**

**1. Distribution**

- a. School Street
  - i. Temporary Water Bypass is continuing; the current schedule has the temporary bypass completed by mid-May.

b. Saylesville Project

- i. RIDOH has approved the Project
- ii. RIIB has approved the \$5M loan.
- iii. The pre-construction conference was held on 5/2/2025.
- iv. Construction is slated to begin at the end of May.

c. Leak Detection

- i. Contract has been awarded to EJP.
- ii. Start date is May 2025.

d. Water Main Replacement Project

- i. None

e. 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, as State Law mandates.
- iii. The system currently has 76 known public and private lead services. A Program will be developed next fiscal year to replace these services.
- iv. Currently developing a proposal for Engineering Services to begin the Lead Service replacement program.

f. Manville Water Main Replacement Project

- i. A project to upgrade the water mains in the Manville Area of Lincoln is in the planning stages right now.

g. Lonsdale Water Main Replacement Project

- i. A project to upgrade the water main in the Lonsdale Area of Lincoln is in the planning stages right now.

h. Lincoln Meadows Drive

- i. Service to 12 Lincoln Meadows Drive was evacuated and replaced with Plastic. Corrosion was seen throughout the interior of the copper service pipe.

i. In-House Water Main Replacement

- i. A project to replace approximately 500 feet of water mains per year with in-house personnel and equipment is in the planning stages at this moment.

j. Great Road Bridge Crossings

- i. Pare Corporation is investing in the need for current crossings and developing repair options if RIDOT replaces the bridges.

## **2. 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 it.

### **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, which is in the planning stages right now, will involve installing a new pump, replacing piping, and upgrading electrical systems to bring the current Pawtucket Interconnection back online.

## **3. Storage**

### **a. Old River Road Tank**

- i. An RFP will be developed for engineering services for the tank's replacement. Based on discussions with PARE as part of the source water assessment project, we are holding off on advertising an Engineering Services RFP until we have a better idea of our direction.
- ii. The tank was cleaned and inspected at the end of March. HydraDiveTech delivered the report and video documentation. The report identified several issues, and a recommendation to paint the tank was provided.

### **b. Westwood Road Tank**

- i. The tank was cleaned and inspected at the end of March. HydraDiveTech delivered the report and video documentation. The report identified several issues, and it recommended rehabbing the exterior and spot painting the interior of the tank.

### **c. Manville Tank**

- i. Cleaning and tank inspection was completed at the end of March. HydraDiveTech delivered the report and video documentation. Several issues were identified in the report, and a recommendation was made to spot paint the exterior and perform a complete secondary overcoat of the exterior.

### **d. High Service Tank**

- i. Cleaning and tank inspection was completed at the end of March. HydraDiveTech delivered report and video documentation. Recommendation of an out-of-service chemical cleaning (not possible at this time) and minor spot coating of the tank.
- e. Albion Tank
  - i. The tank was cleaned and inspected at the end of March. HydraDiveTech delivered the report and video documentation. Several minor recommendations were provided, including an out-of-service chemical wash and pressure washing the exterior. The paint appears to be mostly intact.

#### **4. Pumping**

- a. Providence Connector
  - i. Pump #3 is at Industrial Pump and Valve for repairs. We are currently working with RPI to remove the can for Pump #3 and repair it due to a leak found when preparing to install the rehabilitated Pump #3.
- 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.  
*All three pumps need to be replaced approximately \$25,000 each. Stainless steel/installation would be approximately an additional 25,000 each.*

#### **5. Treatment**

- a. Source Water Assessment
  - i. Pare Corporation was awarded the project. Work is ongoing.
  - ii. A \$200K grant is being applied for through the RI Ready Program. A letter or support is included in the board agenda and a \$1500 application fee is required.
- 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 temporarily increase the chlorine residual in the system. Pare's Cost will be approximately \$20K. Pare is preparing a proposal for this work along with developing a flushing program.
- ii. RPI is purchasing the chlorination equipment, and Lincoln Water Personnel will install the system. The System Cost is approximately \$15K. The system will be installed at the Providence Connection to start with.
- iii. Public notification will be made in the Valley Breeze before activation of the system.

**6. Facilities**

**a. Garage and Office Upgrades**

- i. This project is currently in the planning phase, pending funding. Accordingly, an RFP for upgrades to the Office and Garage will be developed.

**b. Server Room Upgrades**

- i. In FY 2026, a bid package will be developed to upgrade the server room with a new room and HVAC controls.

**7. Software**

**a. GIS and CAD**

- i. We will continue to maintain our GIS and CAD software system, potentially increasing the number of licenses for additional personnel.

**b. Hydraulic Model**

- i. We maintain our Hydraulic Model software on an ongoing basis. This software models 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 asset maintenance and work history and create a digital work order system.
- ii. LWC visited BCWA to investigate their Asset Management System, and we are exploring that system with a Demo.

d. GPS and Survey Equipment

- i. An RFP has been developed to procure a new GPS system for mapping water system assets. We are currently holding off on advertising to investigate an alternative open-source setup that BCWA is considering.

**8. Vehicles**

- a. The new utility truck is still being built; we should have it by the End of Spring. *Expecting late June.*
- b. A vehicle replacement schedule is developed and included in the Capital Plan.
- c. Budget for FY 2026 includes one new F-150 and one new F550 Dump Truck

**9. 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 depends on funding.
- c. Initial purchase of 1/15 or 500 meters is planned for delivery this year. This is in the current capital budget for water meters.

**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. A new Utility Worker has been hired; his start date was May 5, 2025.

**Finance and Investments:**

**1. Washington Trust**

- 1.1. An account has been established with Washington Trust, and the funds have been 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 investigating various meter options, including leak detection and AMI.
- 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. The service line was excavated and replaced with plastic. The copper service line showed interior corrosion throughout.

#### **2. Whipple Cullen Farm**

- a. The Whipple Cullen Farm development has received complaints regarding water quality. At the end of March, a flushing program was performed, 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.
- c. One resident continues to complain, but it appears to be related to their on-demand hot water heater and scale forming in the heater.

#### **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.
- 1.2.LWC personnel are in the process of installing the new chlorination system at the Providence connection.

**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

*Sandblasting and painting these four tanks would likely cost more than replacement. Westwood tank to be demolished and replaced. Potential for Pawtucket connection for new source of water assessment.*

**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 the RIPUC.  
*Hydraulic model is being done for water availability to new development to be placed on June meeting agenda.*
- 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. The Water Availability letter has been submitted; a decision is not possible until the Source Water Study is Complete.
- b. Roger's Plant—Thirty-four four-bedroom houses are proposed on Cobble Hill Road adjacent to Francis Avenue. The Water Availability letter has been submitted; a decision is not possible until the Source Water Study is Complete.
- c. Carrington Street – 204 Residential Apartments of various sizes are being proposed. LWC is getting pricing from APEX to assist with the Water Availability letter; the cost for the study will be passed on to the developer.
- d. Dexter Rock Road—Ten residential Units are proposed. A preliminary meeting was held; no formal submission has been made to the Commission.
- e. 250-Unit Apartment Complex north of Residence Inn near Lincoln Mall—A preliminary meeting was held; no formal submission has been made to the Commission.

### **Superintendent Report of Daily Activity – April 2025:**

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

### **Balance Sheet - Expenditure and Revenue Report – April 2025**

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

#### **a. Financial Report to Town Acting Finance Director – April 2025:**

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

### **Account Balance Report –April 2025:**

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

### **Capitol Accounts –April 2025\***

#### **Direct Payment and Payables – April 2025:**

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

#### **Abatelements:**

##### **a. Regular Monthly Abatelements**

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

### **Account Transaction Report –April 2025\***

#### **Correspondence: \***

##### **a. None**

### **10. Unfinished Business:**

#### **a. Commission for Water Rates**

Public Hearing was held on May 7, 2025. Requesting a vote from the Commission to adopt the rate structure as provided in the attached document. Proposed rates will become effective on July 1, 2025. All water bills issued after July 1, 2025, will be based on the proposed rates; water usage before July 1, 2025, but included on a bill after July 1, 2025, will be assessed at the proposed rates.

Motion to approve new rate structure #4: Commissioner Ted Sliney, Commissioner Louis Long, Chairman Kenneth Booth, Commissioner Ed Fox. Commissioner Julie LaBreche, excluded herself from voting.

Motion to approve charges for fees and service lines Commissioner Ted Sliney, second by Commissioner Louis Long.

##### **b. Lincoln Meadows Drive**

A service was excavated for inspection and replaced with plastic tubing.

**c. Water Availability**

Pare Corporation has been awarded the Source Water Assessment project.

11. New Business:

**a. Draft Preliminary Budget FY 2026**

A public meeting has been scheduled for June 4, 2025, at 5:30p.m.

b. Request a vote by the Commission to authorize the Superintendent to enter into an agreement between the Narragansett Bay Commission and the Lincoln Water Commission per the attached Memorandum of Understanding.

Motion to authorize Superintendent to enter into agreement with Narragansett Bay Commission, Commissioner **Ted Sliney**, seconded by Commissioner **Louis Long**. All in favor.

c. Request a vote by the Commission to approve the attached letter of support for the RI Ready Program and to authorize an inspection fee for \$1,500 to be paid to the Quonset Development Corporation.

Motion to approve attached letter of support to submit RI Ready application by Commissioner **Ed Fox**, seconded by Commissioner **Louis Long**. All in favor.

d. LWC is installing a temporary chlorination system at the Providence Connection, which RIDOH has required us to install. Pare Corporation is designing the system and assisting with implementation at an approximate cost of \$20,000. The materials were purchased through RPI for \$15,000. LWC personnel are installing and operating the system. It will be brought online in May.

12. Claims:

a. None

13. News Articles - \*

a. None

Public Comment: Resident David Hart questioned if Providence Water would likely be raising rates again in 2028. Also, questioned why Commission wasn't raising rates as Providence Water was raising their rates over several years.

Superintendent Dilorenzo responded that PW has a 2-year increase and will likely increase in 2028. PUC oversees PW rate increases. We are at a point where we need to decide if we want to continue using PW, maybe produce our own water or consider Pawtucket water for future needs.

Chairman Booth stated PW has a window of time to approach PUC for rate increases, it's unlikely PUC would approve another 30% increase.

Chairman Booth stated we did not respond to PW increases from 2010 thru 2023 by passing increases on to residents.

Resident Jean Gagnon asked if the 3-year increase was binding? Chairman Booth responded that the Commission does have the ability to revise rates as needed.

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.

**Motion to adjourn: Commissioner Ted Sliney,**

**Commissioner Ed Fox second's the motion.**

**All in favor**

**Meeting adjourned at 7:44 p.m.**