

TOWN OF LINCOLN
Water Commission Meeting
June 11, 2025

Members Present:

Kenneth Booth, Chair	Peter Dilozenzo, Superintendent
Julie LaBreche, Secretary	Mark Hartmann, Town Solicitor
Ed Fox	Anna Nascimento, Administrative Assistant
Louis Long	
Edward Sliney	

Call to order: Chairman Kenneth Booth called the meeting to order at 6:01 p.m.

Public Comment: None

Motion to accept the Consent Agenda:

- 1) Minutes of previous meeting:
 - a. May 7, 2025 – Water Commission Special Meeting*
 - b. May 14, 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 **Louis Long** to approve the consent agenda. All in favor.

Superintendent Report of Daily Activity May 2025:

1. **Administrative – Project Management:**

Capital Program

1. **Distribution**
 - a. School Street

- i. The temporary water bypass is continuing; the bypass has been chlorinated, and we are awaiting the results. Sewer Work Is Scheduled to begin once the bypass is online.
- ii. RIIB has approved the \$1M loan.
- 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. Temporary bypass is scheduled to begin installation on Cabot Street this week.
- c. Leak Detection
 - i. Contract has been awarded to EJP.
 - ii. Waiting on a start date from EJP, which was scheduled for the end of May.
- 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. This will be presented to the board for advertisement.
- 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. Front Street Cleaning and Lining Project.
 - i. The town is planning to perform a streetscape project of Front Street. The goal is to either get in there before the Town to clean and line Front Street or to get in there before the RIDOT paves Front Street.
 - ii. Received East Providence's bid tab. Walsh has agreed to hold this pricing for us on the project. The project is estimated to come in under \$1,000,000. This is included in the proposed budget for the next fiscal year.
- 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 rehabilitate the Woonsocket Interconnection is being developed.
- c. Pawtucket Interconnection
 - i. This project is on hold pending recommendations from the Source Water Interconnection Project.

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.
 - iii. Rehab work related to the inspection findings is on hold, will be re-evaluated as part of the capital project.
- 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.

- ii. Rehab work related to the inspection findings is on hold, will be re-evaluated as part of the capital project.
- 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.
 - ii. Rehab work related to the inspection findings is on hold, will be re-evaluated as part of the capital project.
- d. High Service Tank
 - i. Cleaning and tank inspection was completed at the end of March. HydraDiveTech delivered the report and video documentation. Recommendation of an out-of-service chemical cleaning (not possible at this time) and minor spot coating of the tank.
 - ii. Rehab work related to the inspection findings is on hold, will be re-evaluated as part of the capital project.
- 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.
 - ii. Rehab work related to the inspection findings is on hold, will be re-evaluated as part of the capital project.

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.
 - 1. New Can installed for Pump #3 on Wednesday 6/4/2025.
 - 2. Pump #3 is being scheduled for installation.
- b. Albion Road
 - i. Pare Corporation is preparing a design package for the station upgrades. The design package will be submitted to RIDOH this Fall.
- c. Old Pike
 - i. Station is offline; the proposed plan is to develop a chlorination facility at this location.

5. Treatment

a. Source Water Assessment

- i. Pare Corporation was awarded the project. Work is ongoing.
- ii. A \$200K grant has been applied for through the RI Ready Program. The \$1500 application fee has been paid.

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. Waiting on feedback from Senator Reed.

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 temporarily. 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.

- ii. Added one additional AutoCAD license for the Superintendent.
- 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.
 - ii. We are receiving a quote from APEX to perform a calibration of the hydraulic model to improve accuracy to AWWA M32 Standards. This is required if we use the model to determine the capital upgrades for our system, and if we require developers to pay for those upgrades.
- 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, as well as creates 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 advertised to procure a new GPS for mapping water system assets.

8. 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.
- 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.
- 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. This purchase plan is renewed annually and is part of the Capital Plan.

Administration and Personnel:

1. Proposed Positions

- 1.1. We have hired two temporary summer laborers; both of whom are Lincoln High School Graduates.
 - 1.1.1. Temporary summer laborers are currently working on the landscape maintenance of our facilities.
 - 1.1.2. Plan to perform hydrant painting this summer as well.

2. Equipment

- 2.1. Two new iPads and one Android Tablet have been ordered. iPads are used for both field personnel and the office, while the Android Tablet is specifically designed for meter reading equipment.

Finance and Investments:

1. Washington Trust

- 1.1. Planning to invest in this account every year, if possible, to save money for future capital projects.

2. Town of Lincoln – Accounting System

- 2.1. LWC and the Town are working towards integrating our financial systems.

Billing/Meters:

a. Meters

- a. Ongoing Meter Replacements as failures occur.
- b. We plan to conduct a test of an AMI system with Neptune next year. This is in the capital budget.

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.

c. Bills

- a. New back-of-the-bill information has been developed and will be distributed with the July 1st bills.

Water Quality

1. Lincoln Meadows Drive

- a. The service line was excavated and replaced with plastic. The copper service line showed interior corrosion throughout.

2. Whipple Cullen Farm

- a. Additional flushing of the system performed on 6/5/2025.

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 is ongoing.
- 1.2. LWC personnel are currently installing the new chlorination system at the Providence connection.
- 1.3. Pump #3 Can sleeve installed on 6/4. Pump #3 is scheduled for installation shortly.

2. Albion Road Pumping Station

- 2.1. No Operational Issues to Report.
- 2.2. Painting of internal piping at the pumping station is ongoing.

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. Due to the condition of the Pawtucket Connection, reactivation would be costly. We are holding off repairs to this connection until the Source Water Assessment study is complete.

Operations and Maintenance: Water Storage Tanks

a. Old River Road Tank

- a. No operational issues have been reported.

b. Manville Tank

- a. Tank Level Sensor has failed, working with Harbor Controls to repair.

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 the RIPUC.
- b. Our consultant submitted testimony on our behalf. Hearing is scheduled for 6/23/2025

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.
- f. 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 – May 2025:

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

Balance Sheet - Expenditure and Revenue Report – May 2025

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

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

Motion to accept by Commissioner **Ed Fox**, seconded by Commissioner **Ted Sliney**. All in favor.

Account Balance Report –May 2025:

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

Capitol Accounts –May 2025*

Direct Payment and Payables – May 2025:

Motion to accept by Commissioner **Ed Fox**, seconded by Commissioner **Ted Sliney**. All in favor.

Abatelements:

a. Regular Monthly Abatelements

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

Account Transaction Report –May 2025*

Correspondence: *

a. Liuna! National (Industrial) Pension Fund

b. Communication from Richard Bradbury

10. Unfinished Business:

1. Unfinished Business

- a. Water Availability—Pare Corporation has been awarded the Source Water Assessment project. Pare Corporation to present on work performed to date. A presentation was provided by Lisa Goyer, P.E., and Shane P. Driscoll, P.E., both of Pare Corp.

11. New Business

- a. Request a vote by the Commission to approve the attached Budget for FY 2026. Motion to approve the attached budget for FY 2026 by, Commissioner **Ted Sliney** seconded by Commissioner **Louis Long**. All in favor.
- b. Discussion on Water Rates for FY 2026, 2027, and 2028.

- c. Request a vote by the Commission to approve the Superintendent to execute the attached proposal from APEX for Hydraulic Model Calibration, the developer of Carrington Drive, will be responsible for a portion of the proposal as indicated. Motion to approve the Superintendent to execute the attached proposal, by Commissioner **Ed Fox**, seconded by Commissioner **Louis Long**. All in favor.
- d. Request a vote by the Commission to authorize the Superintendent to advertise for Engineering Services for the Lead Service Replacement Program as required by the State to have a plan in place no later than November of 2027. Motion to approve the Superintendent to advertise for Engineering Services by, Commissioner **Ted Sliney**, seconded by Commissioner **Louis Long**. All in favor.
- e. Request a vote by the Commission to authorize the Superintendent to execute the attached contract with Vertikal6 for IT support services, dependent on Vertikal6 obtaining a state of RI MPA. Motion to authorize the Superintendent to execute attached Vertikal6 contract, by Commissioner **Julie LaBreche**, seconded by Commissioner **Ted Sliney**. All in favor.
- f. Request a vote by the Commission to authorize the Superintendent to piggyback the State's Contract with 120Water and to execute the attached proposal. Motion to table until July 2025 meeting by Commissioner **Ed Fox**, seconded by Commissioner **Louis Long**. All in favor.
- g. Discussion on the Front Street Cleaning and Lining Project. Great Rd. to Lonsdale Ave., Superintendent Dilorenzo budgeted \$1,000,000 may use \$500,000 to our capital account. Project scheduled to start on April 1, 2026.

12. Claims:

- a. None

13. News Articles - *

a. None

Public Comment - Resident David Frost stated his concern on newly approved water rates.

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 Julie Labreche,

Commissioner Ed Fox seconds the motion.

All in favor

Meeting adjourned at 7:27 p.m.