

REGULAR MEETING

**WATERTOWN FIRE DISTRICT
DISTRICT COMMISSION**

DATE: August 11, 2025
TIME: 7:00 p.m.
PLACE: District Office
24 DeForest Street
Watertown, CT 06795

BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

Steve Ouellette, Chairman	Present
James Lehner	Absent
Anthony Martone	Absent
Robert Yerger	Present
Pedro Soares	Present
Carl Minicucci, Alternate	Absent
Mark Crane, Alternate	Absent
Nicolas Perugini, Alternate	Absent

1. Call meeting to order

Meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m.

2. Roll Call

Present were Commissioners Ouellette, Yerger and Soares. Commissioners Lehner and Martone and Alternate Commissioners Minicucci, Crane and Perugini were absent.

ALSO PRESENT:

Watertown Fire District Superintendent Michael Tanuis, Watertown Fire District Employees Vincent Tanuis and Heather Edwards, and several members of the public.

3. Public Commentary

Russell Harrigan of 28 Edge Road addressed the board and requested an adjustment to his sewer fee.

Assistant Superintendent Vincent Tanuis spoke on behalf of the owners of 195 Main Street and 86 Hamilton Avenue requesting adjustments to their sewer fees.

Barbara Zulkeski of 17 Mallory Road addressed the board with questions regarding the Waterbury vs. Watertown lawsuit and the effect it will have on residents of the Fire District. There are no final numbers at this time. When numbers are received, the Fire District will proceed accordingly.

MOTION: By Mr. Pedro Soares and seconded by Mr. Robert Yerger to close public commentary.

Motion passes unanimously.

MOTION: By Mr. Robert Yerger and seconded by Mr. Pedro Soares to add Agenda Item #4A – Discussion and Possible Approval of a Sewer Fee Adjustment for 28 Edge Road.

Motion passes unanimously.

MOTION: By Mr. Robert Yerger and seconded by Mr. Pedro Soares to add Agenda Item #4B – Discussion and Possible Approval of a Sewer Fee Adjustment for 195 Main Street.

Motion passes unanimously.

MOTION: By Mr. Robert Yerger and seconded by Mr. Pedro Soares to add Agenda Item #4C – Discussion and Possible Approval of a Sewer Fee Adjustment for 86 Hamilton Avenue.

Motion passes unanimously.

4. Approval of Minutes

MOTION: By Mr. Robert Yerger and seconded by Mr. Pedro Soares to approve the minutes from the Monday, July 14, 2025 Regular Meeting as presented.

Motion passes unanimously.

4A. Discussion and possible approval of a Sewer Fee Adjustment for 28 Edge Road

Russell Harrigan of 28 Edge Road requested an adjustment to his sewer fee. Due to medical circumstances during the January through April 2025 timeframe, the water consumption during the winter quarter was higher than the average consumption. The Board discussed and reviewed the usage at 28 Edge Road and agreed to adjust the sewer fee from \$117.73 a month to \$86.57 a month beginning with the 8/24/25 bill.

MOTION: By Mr. Robert Yerger and seconded by Mr. Pedro Soares to approve a sewer fee adjustment for 28 Edge Road as presented beginning with the 8/24/25 bill.

Motion passes unanimously.

4B. Discussion and possible approval of a Sewer Fee Adjustment for 195 Main Street

Assistant Superintendent Vincent Tanuis spoke on behalf of Hickcox Funeral Home of 195 Main Street. There was a hose left outside during the January 2025 timeframe that split and leaked. The leak caused consumption beyond what is typically used. The Board discussed and reviewed the usage at 195 Main Street and agreed to adjust the sewer fee from \$198.94 a month to \$86.92 a month beginning with the 7/24/25 bill.

MOTION: By Mr. Pedro Soares and seconded by Mr. Robert Yerger to approve a sewer fee adjustment for 195 Main Street as presented beginning with the 7/24/25 bill.

Motion passes unanimously.

4C. Discussion and possible approval of a Sewer Fee Adjustment for 86 Hamilton Avenue

Assistant Superintendent Vincent Tanuis spoke on behalf of Lei Chen of 86 Hamilton Avenue. There was a pipe leaking in the garage during the January 2025 timeframe. The leak caused consumption beyond what is typically used. The Board discussed and reviewed the usage at 86 Hamilton Avenue and agreed to adjust the sewer fee from \$141.78 a month to \$31.52 a month beginning with the 7/24/25 bill.

MOTION: By Mr. Pedro Soares and seconded by Mr. Robert Yerger to approve a sewer fee adjustment as presented beginning with the 7/24/25 bill.

Motion passes unanimously.

5. Superintendent's Report

Mr Tanuis reported:

- Relining on Hamilton Avenue is wrapping up and went well. We will also be relocating a hydrant on Hamilton Avenue.
- Progress is being made on the new well at the Wellfield.

6. Chairman's Report

The Chairman had nothing to report.

7. Adjournment

MOTION: By Mr. Robert Yerger and seconded by Mr. Pedro Soares to adjourn the Regular Meeting of Monday, August 11, 2025 at 7:20 p.m.

Motion passes unanimously.

Steve Ouellette, Chairman