

REGULAR MEETING

WATERTOWN FIRE DISTRICT DISTRICT COMMISSION

DATE: August 10, 2026
TIME: 7:00 p.m.
PLACE: District Office
24 DeForest Street
Watertown, CT 06795

BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

Steve Ouellette, Chairman	Present
James Lehner	Present
Anthony Martone	Absent
Robert Yerger	Present
Pedro Soares	Present
Carl Minicucci, 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, Lehner, Yerger and Soares. Commissioner Martone and Alternate Commissioners Minicucci and Perugini were absent.

ALSO PRESENT:

Watertown Fire District Superintendent Michael Tanuis, Watertown Fire District Employees Vincent Tanuis, Heather Edwards, and Jessica Redondo, and 10 members of the public.

3. Public Commentary

Johna Domizio, 29 Catherine Street, requested an adjustment to her sewer fee due to a leaking hot water heater during the winter quarter.

Nicos Michael, 599-601 Main Street, requested an adjustment to his bill. There were toilets leaking at his property and the tenants did not tell him. He is working with a plumber and plans to replace the toilets.

Dorothy Thompson, 140 Middlebury Road, requested an adjustment to her sewer fee. She had a tub faucet leaking and the leak has been repaired.

Pietro D'Abate, 404 Neill Drive, requested an adjustment to his sewer fee. He had visitors during the winter quarter and water consumption was higher than normal.

Daniel Julian, 57 Jason Avenue, requested an adjustment to his sewer fee because he had a toilet and an outside spigot leaking during the winter quarter.

Renea Tirrell, 68 Northfield Road, requested an adjustment to her sewer fee due to a leaking toilet during the winter quarter.

Edwin Altamirano, 545 Main Street, requested an adjustment to the sewer fee due to a leaking sprinkler system during the winter quarter.

Paul Chadha, 587 Main Street, requested an adjustment to the sewer fee due to a leaking toilet during the winter quarter.

MOTION: By Mr. James Lehner and seconded by Mr. Pedro Soares to close public commentary.

Motion passes unanimously.

MOTION: By Mr. Pedro Soares and seconded by Mr. Robert Yerger to add Agenda Item #4A – Discussion and Possible Approval of a Sewer Fee Adjustment for 29 Catherine Street.

Motion passes unanimously.

MOTION: By Mr. Pedro Soares and seconded by Mr. Robert Yerger to add Agenda Item #4B – Discussion and Possible Approval of a Sewer Fee Adjustment for 599 Main Street

Motion passes unanimously.

MOTION: By Mr. Pedro Soares and seconded by Mr. Robert Yerger to add Agenda Item #4C – Discussion and Possible Approval of a Sewer Fee Adjustment for 140 Middlebury Road.

Motion passes unanimously.

MOTION: By Mr. Pedro Soares and seconded by Mr. Robert Yerger to add Agenda Item #4D – Discussion and Possible Approval of a Sewer Fee Adjustment for 404 Neill Drive.

Motion passes unanimously.

MOTION: By Mr. Pedro Soares and seconded by Mr. Robert Yerger to add Agenda Item #4E – Discussion and Possible Approval of a Sewer Fee Adjustment for 57 Jason Avenue.

Motion passes unanimously.

MOTION: By Mr. Pedro Soares and seconded by Mr. Robert Yerger to add Agenda Item #4F – Discussion and Possible Approval of a Sewer Fee Adjustment for 68 Northfield Road.

Motion passes unanimously.

MOTION: By Mr. Pedro Soares and seconded by Mr. Robert Yerger to add Agenda Item #4G – Discussion and Possible Approval of a Sewer Fee Adjustment for 545 Main Street.

Motion passes unanimously.

MOTION: By Mr. Pedro Soares and seconded by Mr. Robert Yerger to add Agenda Item #4H – Discussion and Possible Approval of a Sewer Fee Adjustment for 587 Main Street.

Motion passes unanimously.

MOTION: By Mr. Pedro Soares and seconded by Mr. Robert Yerger to add Agenda Item #4I – Discussion and Possible Approval of a Billing Adjustment for 117 Middlebury Road.

Motion passes unanimously.

4. Approval of Minutes

MOTION: By Mr. James Lehner and seconded by Mr. Robert Yerger to approve the minutes from the Monday, July 13, 2026 Regular Meeting as presented.

Motion passes unanimously.

4A. Discussion and Possible Approval of a Sewer Fee Adjustment for 29 Catherine Street

The Board reviewed the water consumption for 29 Catherine Street and discussed a sewer fee adjustment due to a leaking hot water heater during the winter quarter. The leak has been repaired and receipts for the repair have been provided.

MOTION: By Mr. James Lehner and seconded by Mr. Pedro Soares to approve a sewer fee adjustment for 29 Catherine Street from \$129.65 per month to \$52.06 per month effective with the 7/24/2026 bill.

Motion passes unanimously.

4B. Discussion and Possible Approval of a Sewer Fee Adjustment for 599 Main Street

The Board reviewed the water consumption for 599 Main Street and discussed a sewer fee adjustment. The owner is working on fixing the leaking toilets and is planning on attending the meeting in September to revisit this issue.

MOTION: By Mr. James Lehner and seconded by Mr. Pedro Soares to keep the bill for 599 Main Street as is.

Motion passes unanimously.

4C. Discussion and Possible Approval of a Sewer Fee Adjustment for 140 Middlebury Road

The Board reviewed the water consumption for 140 Middlebury Road and discussed a sewer fee adjustment due to a leaking bathtub faucet during the winter quarter. The leak has been repaired and receipts for the repair have been provided.

MOTION: By Mr. Pedro Soares and seconded by Robert Yerger to approve a sewer fee adjustment for 140 Middlebury Road from \$200.15 per month to \$140.72 per month effective with the 7/24/2026 bill.

Motion passes unanimously.

4D. Discussion and Possible Approval of a Sewer Fee Adjustment for 404 Neill Drive

The Board reviewed the water consumption for 404 Neill Drive and discussed a sewer fee

adjustment due to guests visiting during the winter quarter.

MOTION: By Mr. James Lehner and seconded by Mr. Robert Yerger to approve a sewer fee adjustment for 404 Neill Drive from \$122.01 per month to \$111.24 per month effective with the 7/24/2026 bill.

Motion passes unanimously.

4E. Discussion and Possible Approval of a Sewer Fee Adjustment for 57 Jason Avenue

The Board reviewed the water consumption for 57 Jason Ave and discussed a sewer fee adjustment due to an outside spigot and a toilet leak during the winter quarter. The leaks have been repaired and receipts for the repair have been provided.

MOTION: By Mr. Robert Yerger and seconded by Mr. Pedro Soares to keep the bill for 57 Jason Avenue as is.

Motion passes unanimously.

4F. Discussion and Possible Approval of a Sewer Fee Adjustment for 68 Northfield Road

The Board reviewed the water consumption for 68 Northfield Road and discussed a sewer fee adjustment due to a leaking toilet during the winter quarter. The leak has been repaired and receipts for the repair have been provided.

MOTION: By Mr. James Lehner and seconded by Mr. Pedro Soares to approve a sewer fee adjustment for 68 Northfield Road from \$650.09 per month to \$278.41 per month effective with the 7/24/2026 bill.

Motion passes unanimously.

4G. Discussion and Possible Approval of a Sewer Fee Adjustment for 545 Main Street

The Board reviewed the water consumption for 545 Main Street and discussed a sewer fee adjustment due to an issue with the sprinkler system during the winter quarter. The leak has been repaired and receipts for the repair have been provided.

MOTION: By Mr. Pedro Soares and seconded by Robert Yerger to approve a sewer fee adjustment for 545 Main Street from \$368.49 per month to \$162.41 per month effective with the 7/24/2026 bill.

Motion passes unanimously

4H. Discussion and Possible Approval of a Sewer Fee Adjustment for 587 Main Street

The Board reviewed the water consumption for 587 Main Street and discussed a sewer fee adjustment due to a leaking toilet during the winter quarter. The leak has been repaired.

MOTION: By Mr. James Lehner and seconded by Mr. Pedro Soares to approve a sewer fee adjustment for 597 Main Street from \$244.26 per month to \$217.47 per month effective with the 7/24/2026 bill.

Motion passes unanimously.

4I. Discussion and Possible Approval of a Billing Adjustment for 117 Middlebury Road

The Board reviewed the account history for 117 Middlebury Road and discussed a billing adjustment. The property was inherited in 2019. Watertown Fire District was never contacted to remove the meter, so service remained active and the billing continued.

MOTION: By Mr. James Lehner and seconded by Mr. Pedro Soares to approve removal of late fees of \$285.00 for 117 Middlebury Road.

Motion passes unanimously.

5. Superintendent's Report

Mr Tanuis had nothing to report.

6. Chairman's Report

The Chairman had nothing to report.

7. Executive Session – Sewer Billing

MOTION: By Mr. James Lehner and seconded by Mr. Pedro Soares to go into Executive Session at 7:55 p.m. to discuss Sewer Billing.

Motion passes unanimously.

Invited into Executive Session along with the board members were Michael Tanuis, Vincent Tanuis, Heather Edwards, and Jessica Redondo.

MOTION: By Mr. Robert Yerger and seconded by Mr. Pedro Soares to exit Executive Session.

Motion passes unanimously.

All those in Executive Session are now out and no votes were taken. Executive session ended at 8:15 p.m.

8. Adjournment

MOTION: By Mr. James Lehner and seconded by Mr. Pedro Soares to adjourn the Regular Meeting of Monday, August 10, 2026 at 8:15 p.m.

Motion passes unanimously.

Steve Ouellette, Chairman