

Plainfield Water/WasteWater Commission Meeting Minutes for February 11, 2026

Present In Meeting: Scott Stewart, Carol Smith, Mary Lane, Tristan Macgregor-Stewart, Tim Phillips

5:18 Meeting called to order

Executive Session

Entered Executive Session at 5:18PM.

Exited Executive Session at 5:39PM

The discussion was around hiring to replace Scott Franks who has resigned with a 4 month notice.

Tristan will do an Indeed listing for a new person. Scott Stewart will help Tristan with this process. Tristan suggested not posting in the newspaper as there were only two applicants from this source in the last hiring. Tristan would like to get something posted by next week on Indeed. His hope is to get someone quickly so there is a month or two overlap with Scott Franks still being on the staff.

Tristan thinks the system will need to pay more as a base rate to get a good candidate. Barre is currently advertising \$31.25 for an Assistant Operator. Tristan is thinking \$25 an hour for someone without qualifications with an expectation that they will go up to \$30ish once certified. So an advertised pay-range of \$25-\$30 based upon experience.

There was discussion of Scott Franks potentially needing to repay for classes he took as part of his professional licenses. Scott's personal file needs to be examined to determine if he has an obligation. Tristan will do this. There was discussion of the need to have a clearer methodology for a new employee who needs certification where the system is paying with an expectation that the employee will stay for a specified length of time.

Review/approve agenda

Agenda approved.

Clerk's financial report

Carol said the Creative Campus at Goddard has not paid the Impact Fees for the extra allocations they want to reach 89 allocations. Tristan will send a reminder email. Scott suggested that the reminder include a deadline for payment since Goddard is already making modifications that require the extra allocations. Tristan agreed this made sense and will pick a deadline just after the next scheduled Commission meeting so they can speak with the Commission if they have problems. Tristan will include a reminder that their mid-March billings will be last ones on the old system and future billings will include a decent late-fee if they are not timely with payments.

Chief Facility Operator's report

The informational meeting for the Bond Vote was Monday (2/9/2026). Tristan thinks this is good to go. They are trying to figure out the easements for the School Street project. The state is looking for a permanent easement for any work paid for under the DWSRF funding used by this project. This causes problems with the objective to separate some conjoined lines as that means the town ends up owning the repaired lines which is at odds with the normal town ordinance about private ownership of lines from the house to the curbstop. Tristan suggested paying for these specific pieces of work using either a different loan or other system resources so they are not covered by the DWRF work. There are 5 properties that appear to be impacted by this issue. The estimated cost is \$40,000 to fix these. The Commission agreed to use money from the capital fund to handle these modifications so they don't have to be part of the DWSRF process.

Tristan is meeting with folks from FEMA on replacing the Mill Street and Brook Road bridges. Tristan is trying to figure out if the permanent fixes for the water/sewer lines damaged during the flood around these bridges could be part of the FEMA payments.

There was discussion about how to properly deal with Josh and his potential future as a Commissioner. Mary will check in with Josh to see if he has a plan.

Review/adopt minutes

Approved minutes for last meetings as written

Approve warrants

Warrant approval was tabled to a future meeting.

Other business

none

The next meeting is scheduled for March 24th at 5:15PM as a hybrid in person/Zoom meeting. The meeting adjourned at 6:53PM

Submitted by Tim Phillips