

Plainfield Water/WasteWater Commission Meeting Minutes for September 16, 2025

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

5:18PM Meeting called to order

Review/approve agenda

Agenda approved

Review/adopt minutes

Approval of minutes for 7/22/25, 7/25/25, 8/5/25 and 8/13/25 was tabled until the next meeting.

Discussion/Decision of user's overage charge

Michael Billingsley had a water leak that he didn't immediately catch. He ended up with an overage fee. Once Carol informed him he had used a lot more water than normal, he corrected the issue. Michael is hoping the commission will waive the overage fee he received.

The Commission in the past has required that folks in these situations pay the overage fee. For consistency with standard practices, Michael's request for a waiver was denied.

Members of the Commission offered suggestions to Michael of places he could receive financial assistance to deal with the overage fee. Michael appreciated the information, understood the Commission's actions and departed the meeting at this point.

Clerk's financial report

The Water Department is running a bit low on funds, but payments are coming in, just a little late.

Everything is balanced as of last month in both water and waste water.

Green Mountain Ice

The owner doesn't want to pay the water bill since he isn't using all his units. He also is not paying the waste water billings...where he has a single unit. He maintains he is being charged for too many units.

The duty is on the consumer to give up the units if he doesn't need them anymore.

The owner was scheduled to appear at the meeting, but did not.

A letter will be sent to the owner.

NOTE: The following paragraph is background information provided post meeting to make sure all the Commissioners were up to date with this issue.

After the 2023 flood the owner decided to not use the ice plant to make ice but did not convey that information to the commission so we continued to bill him for all units. Carol went

well out of her way to try to help inform them that they needed to present something to the commission to give up the allocation, which eventually happened. He has not paid those bills for water or sewer and wants some or all of those bills waived despite him not coming to the commission to relinquish them and Carol trying to help them do that for over a year or so.

Municipal Ethics Code

There is a revised code of ethics in the municipal bylaws (Act 171 Effective June 10, 2024) that need to be followed, Scott Stewart is aware of the potential for a conflict of interest with his son Tristan being the chief operator and will recuse himself when appropriate.

Chief Facility Operator's report

Tristan would like that a notice be posted asking folks to conserve water. The springs are not flowing very strongly and the wells are running a lot. The system is also losing 10-15,000 gallons a day somewhere that the operators can not yet isolate.

Goddard is pulling more than normal, but their service is metered and Tristan can see that the leak is not on that side of the system.

The Tank Inspection for the Reservoir is this Friday. Tristan intends to swap a couple of valves at the reservoir at the same time since it will be possible with the preparations for the inspection occurring anyway.

The operators got back clean total coliform samples for the Perry spring so that can be reconnected to the system.

The state is requiring that the operators get distribution licenses. Tristan and Scott Franks are working on obtaining that certification now rather than waiting until the actual deadline.

Approve warrants

Warrants for 7/21/25 to 9/15/25 were approved

Other business

The Commission is going to revisit the process used for delinquencies with an intention to discuss it at the next meeting.

The next meeting is scheduled for October 21st, 2025 at 5:15PM as a hybrid in person/Zoom meeting.

The meeting adjourned 6:35PM

Submitted by Tim Phillips