

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE
REPRESENTATIVE POLICY BOARD
OCTOBER 16, 2024
MEETING TRANSCRIPTION

Bob:

I think we can start the meeting. Executive Committee of the RPB. Safety Moment is fire safety awareness. Dear to my heart, but plan for escape plans so you can get out of wherever you are. Smoke alarms, make sure you have them near your bedrooms. Don't steal the batteries out of them. Candles and incense may be very nice, but don't leave them unattended and cooking. Always watch what you're cooking and never leave it unattended.

Okay, our minutes from our July meeting on the 17th are in the packet. I don't know if anyone's had a chance to read them. Hopefully we can approve them if they're being presented.

Vin:

So moved.

Bob:

Do we have a second?

Steven:

I'll second it.

Bob:

Any discussion? Yes, we can accept them as they've been presented.

We have Rochelle here and also Sunny. I guess we could go or have a vote to go into executive session so that we can discuss some matters. Can I have a motion for that, please?

Vin:

So moved.

Bob:

I have Vin. Do I have a second?

Jamie:

Second.

Bob:

Thank you very much. All those in favor of going into executive session with everyone that's here, please say, aye.

Committee members:

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Aye.

Bob:

Any opposed? Great. We'll be in executive session.

[EXECUTIVE SESSION FROM 5:02 P.M. TO 5:11 P.M.]

Bob:

Okay. Next on our agenda is The fiscal year 2025 application schedule and update. I know it was in the packet. I hope you all have it. Sunny, were you going to talk about this, or...

Sunny:

I certainly can walk through this. These are the applications that we have at this point of time, given the higher threshold of 3.5 million dollars. These are the ones that is going to come through in the next, say, 12 months. They're in various stages. Right now, some of them are going through the New Haven Council. We kind of got the approval from the Board of Ed for the Route 80 throttling valve. The next one is the Board of Alders. Once it passes through, that should come through at some point of time. The number three on that list the Saltonstall and Gaillard treatment plans, 90% design is almost complete. We are still waiting for UI to make some more modifications and give their input. So once that's done, we should be finalizing that design.

The North Branford, again, the second hearing is scheduled to happen in another two to three weeks. We had the first hearing done October 4th, the Hamden Skiff Street. We are preparing the application. That should come through pretty quick. The commercial transaction is tentative at this point of time, given there could be a few that we are chasing at this time. If they materialize, that might come through.

The Whitney Dam certainly is almost the next big one that's going to come through. If we go through the final, I would say designed to be done and 90% design almost is done right now. We are being kind of having conversations with the Connecticut DEEP Dam Safety and all that. Once those commons are incorporated, we should bring the application through. So these are the ones that we are expecting to come in the next 12 to 14 months. The order might change a little bit, but significantly those are the six projects. I think I kind of did not change the numbers after four, so I may have to give a revised one to Jennifer because I see after four it goes back to three and four. Sorry, Jennifer on that.

Jamie:

Sunny, this is Jamie. Are you expecting or have you been hearing any rumblings from people about the Whitney Dam project? Is there any public disagreement with that project or are we so far good to go?

Sunny:

So far, we have had good interactions. There is one or two who has been asking some questions. They were involved earlier with the Whitney treatment plant as well in early 2000s. But I think even their reservations and concerns or more pertaining to how much details you can share about the project. But overall, we've had interactions maybe three or four so far, and all of them have been pretty benign interactions.

Stephen:

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Sunny, this is Steve. Did we finally resolve that legal issue with the property line to have the Skiff Street application go through?

Sunny:

That is the one that we are resolving right now, Steve. John is working with Jodi and the town. Once that is over, we should be able to get the application ready.

Stephen:

Yeah. That's amazing. It's really embarrassing. I'll tell you. Yeah. It's been a long time to deal with that, so if I can help in any way, let me know.

Sunny:

Sure. Sure. Any other questions on the applications?

Bob:

I guess not. Thank you, Sunny.

Sunny:

Thank you.

Bob:

Next on the agenda is the RPB committee agendas and issues. Don't know if there's any where...

Stephen:

I have a question, Bob. Are the Wednesday meetings all the third Wednesdays of the month?

Bob:

You're talking about the calendar for the Executive Committee?

Stephen:

Yeah. Is that what we're discussing?

Bob:

No, we're on the RPB committee agendas.

Stephen:

Oh, I'm sorry.

Bob:

Okay.

Stephen:

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I'll hold my question.

Bob:

Okay. I've sat in on most of the committee meetings and everything seems to be going fairly smooth, we are missing Naomi and Mark for their input, but I hope it's the same.

Stephen:

I just want to put in a good word for Naomi. I think she's doing a great job first time around and she's got a number of issues set up for meetings, so she's on it and she calls me once in a while, asks me this or that, but I think she's doing a very good job.

Bob:

Okay. Good. Good to hear.

Okay. I don't know if there's anything else concerning the RPB and other committees, agendas, or other issues? If not, we'll move on to number six, which is the calendar year 2025 regular meeting dates for the Executive Committee-

Vin:

Move to accept.

Bob:

We have a motion to accept the dates as they've been presented here. I don't know if you had a comment, Steve.

Stephen:

My question was... maybe Jennifer knows, are the meetings all third Wednesday of the month?

Bob:

Except for October.

Stephen:

Because I have another commitment for the second Wednesday, but if they're all third Wednesdays, I'm fine with this.

Jennifer:

They are because the second Wednesday is Land Use.

Bob:

Yes.

Jennifer:

Generally, so... Yes, these are third.

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Stephen:

Okay. Thank you.

Bob:

Is there any other discussion I know Vin has proposed adopting these dates. I don't know if there was a second.

Jamie:

Second.

Bob:

Is that Jamie? Okay. Is there any discussion or we can accept them as they're presented here? Sounds like we accept them as they are. Our next regular meeting, as you see from the top of the list here, is going to be on January 15th of 2025, 5:00 PM. Is there any new business anyone wants to discuss or bring up?

Jamie:

I wanted to ask that maybe we have Prem give us kind of an update on what happened to American Water when they got hacked and if there's just sort of to give us a very high level explanation about what happened and address any concerns we might have about our water system, what we're doing to make sure. I know he's working hard on cybersecurity, but just to give us an update maybe.

Rochelle:

I do know Jamie, there's not a lot that's been released about the particulars of that. I do know that Prem is on it, trying to find out what he can, but it's not all public.

Bob:

Yeah. I don't know if you want that just to the Executive Committee or do you want share that with the whole board.

Jamie:

Well, it might be that gives us till January to kind of get an update for him to pull together some information to see where we are, and then we can decide from there if we want a full update or maybe there's not enough there to update the whole board. I don't know.

Bob:

Let me see what I can discuss. And some of it may not want to be shared as such, but I can probably assure you that they are doing everything right.

Jamie:

I accept that.

Stephen:

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Hey Bob, I agree with you. I was going to make the same comment that they probably don't want to discuss their vulnerability, but maybe they could at least talk with Prem as another water company executive confidentially, and he could get the information and then we'd know that at least we did what we could to try to find out.

Bob:

Yeah. It's a very good thing to want to talk about, but I think at the present time it might be best probably not to because we really can't go into any particulars of it. I imagine Prem and his group are diligently working if they know that they've seen or heard from any issues. And I imagine those doors are being closed if they were even open. But we can... Let me see if what I can get from Prem. I'm not sure if you'd be willing to share anything at this time. Is there anything else under new? Okay. I guess I have something.

For the United Way a couple of years ago, and Jennifer reminded me of this. We tried to get some money so that a basket could be made for their auction. I don't know if we want to bring that to the committees or just have Jennifer send something out to the RPB to everyone. See if they'd be willing to contribute to having a basket made that'd be bid on.

Stephen:

I think that's a good idea Bob for Jennifer to just send a request to the RPB.

Bob:

Okay. I wanted to get your opinions before we went out seeking funds to do that. Is there going to be a recommended donation?

Jennifer:

No, I think that's going to be whatever the board members want to contribute.

Bob:

Yeah.

Jennifer:

Any ideas for a basket? We could do lottery tickets or something like that.

Bob:

Okay. Any other Thoughts on it? Any other new business people would like to discuss?

Vin:

I move we adjourn.

Bob:

Okay. I guess We have a motion to adjourn.

Stephen:

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I'll second it.

Bob:

Okay. Any discussion regarding adjourning or not adjourning? I guess we're going to adjourn, and the time is 5:24. Thank you very much everyone.