

**THE METROPOLITAN DISTRICT COMMISSION**

555 Main Street  
Hartford, Connecticut 06103  
Monday, October 2, 2023

**PRESENT:** Commissioners Kyle Anderson, John Avedisian, Richard Bush, Donald Currey, William A. DiBella, David Drake, Peter Gardow, Joan Gentile, Allen Hoffman, Jean Holloway, Gary Johnson, Byron Lester, Maureen Magnan, Jacqueline Mandyck, Dominic Pane, John Petoskey, David Steuber, Alvin Taylor, Calixto Torres and James Woulfe (20)

**REMOTE ATTENDANCE:** Commissioners Andrew Adil, Dimple Desai, Christian Hoheb and Pasquale J. Salemi (4)

**ABSENT:** Commissioners John Bazzano, Clifford Avery Buell, John Gale, James Healy, Mary LaChance, Diane Lewis, Michael Maniscalco, Bhupen Patel, and New Britain Special Representative Michael Carrier (9)

**ALSO PRESENT:** Citizen Member Linda Russo  
Scott Jellison, Chief Executive Officer  
Christopher Stone, District Counsel  
John S. Mirtle, District Clerk  
Chris Levesque, Chief Operating Officer  
Kelly Shane, Chief Administrative Officer  
Robert Barron, Chief Financial Officer  
Jamie Harlow, Director of Human Services  
Dave Ruty, Director of Operations  
Robert Schwarm, Director of Information Services  
Tom Tyler, Director of Facilities  
Michael Curley, Manager of Technical Services (Remote Attendance)  
Carrie Blardo, Assistant to the Chief Executive Officer  
Julie Price, Executive Assistant  
Dylan Pecego, IT Consultant (Remote Attendance)  
Joseph Szerejko, Independent Consumer Advocate (Remote Attendance)

**CALL TO ORDER**

The meeting was called to order by Chairman DiBella at 5:32 PM

**ROLL CALL AND QUORUM**

The District Clerk called the roll and informed Chairman DiBella that a quorum of the Commission was present, and the meeting was declared a legal meeting of the District Board of The Metropolitan District of Hartford County, Connecticut.

**PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

Those in attendance stood and recited the Pledge of Allegiance.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

*On motion made by Commissioner Woulfe and duly seconded, the meeting minutes of September 6, 2023 were approved.*

**PUBLIC COMMENTS RELATIVE TO AGENDA ITEMS**

No one from the public appeared to be heard.

**ANNOUNCEMENT RE: ANNUAL INDEPENDENT CONSUMER ADVOCATE MEETING ON OCTOBER 11, 2023 AT 5:30 PM AT DISTRICT HEADQUARTERS 555 MAIN ST HARTFORD**

Independent Consumer Advocate Joseph Szerejko spoke regarding the upcoming Annual Independent Consumer Advocate meeting on Wednesday, October 11, 2023.

**REPORT FROM DISTRICT CHAIRMAN**

No report was given.

**REPORT FROM CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER**

Scott Jellison, Chief Executive Officer, updated the District Board on North Hartford projects and Hartford residents working on the projects, as well as the dredging of the North Branch Park River. He also stated that he sent a letter out in response to Commissioners Torres and Holloway's letter from July 19, 2023. He discussed the Raw Water Master Plan, which was presented to Water Bureau and discussed in conjunction with the first budget meeting. Also pertaining to the budget, he informed the Board of the letter sent by Board of Finance Chairman Salemi to the member towns, and that Lisa Remsen, Manager of Budget, retired last week. Lastly, he let the Board know that the MDC will sponsor ice cream trucks in the North Hartford project areas on the afternoon of Halloween.

*Commissioner Adil entered the meeting remotely at 5:48 PM.*

### **REPORT FROM DISTRICT COUNSEL**

Christopher Stone, District Counsel, informed the Board that DPH approved the abandonment permit for the storage area at the Colebrook Reservoir. He also let the Board know that staff is working on the application for a permit from DPH for a conservation easement with Save the Sound. Lastly, he updated the Board on the landfill claims that are pending and the tunnel claim mediation that is occurring this week.

### **REFERRAL OF 2024 BUDGET TO BOARD OF FINANCE**

## **Budget Summary**

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### **Revenue & Expenditure Summary**

The District's Proposed budget for 2024 totals \$213,332,623; a \$8,587,156 or 4.2% increase from the appropriation level adopted in support of 2023 operations and programs. The following table summarizes the Proposed 2024 operating revenues and expenditures for the District's Water and Sewer operations.

	2022 Actual	2023 Adopted	2023 Projected	2024 Proposed
<b><u>Water Revenues</u></b>				
Sale of Water	\$96,968,253	\$91,459,085	\$91,111,226	\$91,388,900
Other Operating Revenue	8,976,481	8,871,900	9,080,329	9,278,912
Subtotal Operating Revenue	105,944,734	100,330,985	100,191,555	100,667,812
Non-Operating Revenues	3,983,938	2,364,497	5,787,896	8,242,422
Contributions from Other Funds	-	4,795,335	4,795,335	1,789,277
Subtotal Non-Operating Revenue	3,983,938	7,159,832	10,583,231	10,031,699
<b>Total Water Revenues</b>	<b>109,928,672</b>	<b>107,490,817</b>	<b>110,774,786</b>	<b>110,699,511</b>
<b><u>Sewer Revenues</u></b>				
Tax on Member Municipalities	\$53,076,600	\$53,076,600	\$53,076,600	\$53,076,600
Revenue for Other Gov't Agencies	10,747,754	11,931,000	12,171,812	12,431,000
Other Sewer Revenues	18,226,560	12,429,321	14,706,170	13,241,677
Sewer User Charge Revenues	13,844,673	11,584,900	12,415,853	12,062,066
Subtotal Operating Revenue	95,895,587	89,021,821	92,370,435	90,811,343
DEEP Contingency	-	1,980,000	1,980,000	1,980,000
Contributions from Other Funds	-	6,252,829	6,252,829	9,841,769
Subtotal Non-Operating Revenue	-	8,232,829	8,232,829	11,821,769
<b>Total Sewer Revenues</b>	<b>95,895,587</b>	<b>97,254,650</b>	<b>100,603,264</b>	<b>102,633,112</b>
<b>Total Water and Sewer Revenues</b>	<b>\$205,824,260</b>	<b>\$204,745,467</b>	<b>\$211,378,050</b>	<b>\$213,332,623</b>
<b><u>Expenditures</u></b>				
District Board	\$467,455	\$525,500	\$522,500	\$542,075
Executive Office	2,465,421	3,222,283	2,666,141	3,286,307
Legal	1,223,720	1,504,634	1,483,334	1,596,601
Administrative Office	780,365	656,660	640,000	783,923
Finance	5,202,781	6,188,714	5,811,000	6,471,325
Information Technology	8,556,239	9,335,328	8,970,000	9,465,630
Engineering and Planning	922,378	1,073,777	912,625	865,618
Water Treatment & Supply	7,201,025	9,292,383	8,765,804	9,143,431
Water Pollution Control	17,228,558	21,537,206	20,489,067	20,362,360
Laboratory Services	1,363,945	1,579,289	1,428,127	1,576,529
Maintenance	10,729,986	12,707,413	11,360,849	12,998,517
Operating Office	679,823	871,442	870,504	513,341
Environment, Health & Safety	769,207	1,013,244	960,475	1,031,899
Command Center	4,557,438	6,059,793	6,059,792	6,645,866
Operations	12,851,659	14,194,647	14,194,647	15,307,418
Patrol	1,268,747	1,453,642	1,271,512	1,336,903
Debt Service	70,362,600	74,427,401	74,427,401	82,338,486
Employee Benefits	36,929,495	26,065,489	26,065,489	25,816,868
General Insurance	6,062,647	2,229,737	2,132,955	2,430,506
Taxes and Fees	3,559,452	3,810,500	3,800,000	3,810,500
Special Agr. and Programs	2,987,009	5,016,385	4,872,597	5,028,520
Contingencies	-	1,980,000	1,980,000	1,980,000
<b>Total Water and Sewer Expenditures</b>	<b>\$196,169,949</b>	<b>\$204,745,467</b>	<b>\$199,684,820</b>	<b>\$213,332,623</b>

The following table summarizes the revenues and expenditures for the District's Sewer operations:

	2022 Actual	2023 Adopted	2023 Projected	2024 Proposed
<b><u>REVENUES</u></b>				
Tax on Member Municipalities	\$53,076,600	\$53,076,600	\$53,076,600	\$53,076,600
Revenue for Other Gov't Agencies	10,747,754	11,931,000	12,171,812	12,431,000
Other Sewer Revenues	18,226,560	12,429,321	14,706,170	13,241,677
Sewer User Charge Revenues	13,844,673	11,584,900	12,415,853	12,062,066
<b>Subtotal</b>	<b>95,895,587</b>	<b>89,021,821</b>	<b>92,370,435</b>	<b>90,811,343</b>
DEEP Contingency	-	1,980,000	1,980,000	1,980,000
Contributions from Other Funds	-	6,252,829	6,252,829	9,841,769
<b>Subtotal</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>8,232,829</b>	<b>8,232,829</b>	<b>11,821,769</b>
<b>Total Revenues</b>	<b>\$95,895,587</b>	<b>\$97,254,650</b>	<b>\$100,603,264</b>	<b>\$102,633,112</b>
<b><u>EXPENDITURES</u></b>				
District Board	\$229,100	\$257,500	\$256,000	\$265,600
Executive Office	1,208,100	1,578,900	1,306,400	1,610,300
Legal	599,600	737,300	726,800	782,300
Administrative Office	382,400	321,800	313,600	384,100
Finance	2,549,300	3,032,400	2,847,300	3,170,900
Information Technology	2,823,600	3,080,600	2,960,100	3,123,700
Engineering and Planning	452,000	526,100	447,200	424,200
Water Pollution Control	17,228,558	21,537,206	20,489,067	20,362,360
Laboratory Services	654,700	758,000	685,500	756,800
Maintenance	5,257,800	6,226,600	5,566,800	6,369,200
Operating Office	333,100	427,000	426,500	251,500
Environment, Health & Safety	376,900	496,400	470,700	505,600
Command Center	1,549,500	2,060,300	2,060,300	2,259,600
Operations	3,212,900	3,548,700	3,548,700	3,826,800
Debt Service	34,772,147	36,248,080	36,248,080	41,919,835
Employee Benefits	16,618,300	11,729,500	11,729,500	11,617,600
General Insurance	2,425,100	891,900	853,200	972,200
Special Agr. and Programs	1,151,921	1,816,364	1,816,364	2,050,517
Contingencies	-	1,980,000	1,980,000	1,980,000
<b>Total Expenditures</b>	<b>\$91,825,026</b>	<b>\$97,254,650</b>	<b>\$94,732,111</b>	<b>\$102,633,112</b>

The following table summarizes the revenues and expenditures for the District's Water operations.

	2022 Actual	2023 Adopted	2023 Projected	2024 Proposed
<b><u>REVENUES</u></b>				
Sale of Water	\$96,968,253	\$91,459,085	\$91,111,226	\$91,388,900
Other Operating Revenues	8,976,481	8,871,900	9,080,329	9,278,912
<b>Subtotal</b>	<b>105,944,734</b>	<b>100,330,985</b>	<b>100,191,555</b>	<b>100,667,812</b>
Non-Operating Revenues	3,983,938	2,364,497	5,787,896	8,242,422
Contributions from Other Funds	-	4,795,335	4,795,335	1,789,277
<b>Total Revenues</b>	<b>\$109,928,672</b>	<b>\$107,490,817</b>	<b>\$110,774,786</b>	<b>\$110,699,511</b>
<b><u>EXPENDITURES</u></b>				
District Board	\$238,355	\$268,000	\$266,500	\$276,475
Executive Office	1,257,321	1,643,383	1,359,741	1,676,007
Legal	624,120	767,334	756,534	814,301
Administrative Office	397,965	334,860	326,400	399,823
Finance	2,653,481	3,156,314	2,963,700	3,300,425
Information Technology	5,732,639	6,254,728	6,009,900	6,341,930
Engineering and Planning	470,378	547,677	465,425	441,418
Water Treatment & Supply	7,201,025	9,292,383	8,765,804	9,143,431
Laboratory Services	709,245	821,289	742,627	819,729
Maintenance	5,472,186	6,480,813	5,794,049	6,629,317
Operating Office	346,723	444,442	444,004	261,841
Environment, Health & Safety	392,307	516,844	489,775	526,299
Command Center	3,007,938	3,999,493	3,999,492	4,386,266
Operations	9,638,759	10,645,947	10,645,947	11,480,618
Patrol	1,268,747	1,453,642	1,271,512	1,336,903
Debt Service	35,590,453	38,179,321	38,179,321	40,418,651
Employee Benefits	20,311,195	14,335,989	14,335,989	14,199,268
General Insurance	3,637,547	1,337,837	1,279,755	1,458,306
Taxes and Fees	3,559,452	3,810,500	3,800,000	3,810,500
Special Agr. and Programs	1,835,088	3,200,021	3,056,233	2,978,003
<b>Total Expenditures</b>	<b>\$104,344,924</b>	<b>\$107,490,817</b>	<b>104,952,709</b>	<b>110,699,511</b>

Proposed water and sewer revenues for 2024 total \$213,332,623, an increase of \$8,587,156 or 4.2% from the adopted 2023 level. The sewer revenues have increased by \$5,378,462 and the water revenues increased by \$3,208,694.

	2022 Actual	2023 Adopted	2023 Projected	2024 Proposed
<b><u>WATER REVENUES</u></b>				
Sale of Water	\$96,968,253	\$91,459,085	\$91,111,226	91,388,900
Other Operating Revenues	8,976,481	8,871,900	9,080,329	9,278,912
<b>Total Operating Revenues</b>	<b>105,944,734</b>	<b>100,330,985</b>	<b>100,191,555</b>	<b>100,667,812</b>
Non-Operating Revenues	3,983,938	2,364,497	5,787,896	8,242,422
Contributions from Other Funds	-	4,795,335	4,795,335	1,789,277
<b>Total Other Revenues</b>	<b>3,983,938</b>	<b>7,159,832</b>	<b>10,583,231</b>	<b>10,031,699</b>
<b>Total Water Revenues</b>	<b>\$109,928,672</b>	<b>\$107,490,817</b>	<b>\$110,774,786</b>	<b>\$110,699,511</b>
<b><u>SEWER REVENUES</u></b>				
Tax on Member Municipalities	\$53,076,600	\$53,076,600	\$53,076,600	\$53,076,600
Revenue from Other Govt. Agencies	10,747,754	11,931,000	12,171,812	12,431,000
Other Sewer Revenues	18,226,560	12,429,321	14,706,170	13,241,677
Sewer User Revenues	13,844,673	11,584,900	12,415,853	12,062,066
<b>Total Operating Revenues</b>	<b>95,895,587</b>	<b>89,021,821</b>	<b>92,370,435</b>	<b>90,811,343</b>
DEEP Contingency	-	1,980,000	1,980,000	1,980,000
Contributions from Other Funds	-	6,252,829	6,252,829	9,841,769
<b>Total Other Revenues</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>8,232,829</b>	<b>8,232,829</b>	<b>11,821,769</b>
<b>Total Sewer Revenues</b>	<b>\$95,895,587</b>	<b>\$97,254,650</b>	<b>\$100,603,264</b>	<b>\$102,633,112</b>
<b>Total Water and Sewer Revenues</b>	<b>\$205,824,260</b>	<b>\$204,745,467</b>	<b>\$211,378,050</b>	<b>\$213,332,623</b>

**Member Municipalities Tax History**

	2020 Adopted	2021 Adopted	2022 Adopted	2023 Adopted	2024 Proposed
<b>Ad Valorem Budget</b>					
Hartford	\$13,035,400	\$13,169,100	\$14,067,500	\$13,923,310	\$13,923,310
East Hartford	\$6,089,300	6,015,200	6,264,400	6,227,300	6,227,300
Newington	\$4,623,100	4,681,000	4,799,100	4,776,720	4,776,720
Wethersfield	\$4,240,800	4,214,100	4,252,500	4,266,270	4,266,270
Windsor	\$4,611,600	4,551,500	4,698,600	4,712,920	4,712,920
Bloomfield	\$3,879,300	3,808,100	3,868,400	3,831,630	3,831,630
Rocky Hill	\$3,144,100	3,171,200	3,206,800	3,294,640	3,294,640
West Hartford	\$11,852,100	11,865,500	11,919,300	12,043,810	12,043,810
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$51,475,700</b>	<b>\$51,475,700</b>	<b>\$53,076,600</b>	<b>\$53,076,600</b>	<b>\$53,076,600</b>

	2020 Adopted	2021 Adopted	2022 Adopted	2023 Adopted	2024 Proposed
<b>Tax % (3yr avg.)</b>					
Hartford	25.32%	25.58%	26.50%	26.23%	26.23%
East Hartford	11.83%	11.69%	11.80%	11.73%	11.73%
Newington	8.98%	9.09%	9.04%	9.00%	9.00%
Wethersfield	8.24%	8.19%	8.01%	8.04%	8.04%
Windsor	8.96%	8.84%	8.85%	8.88%	8.88%
Bloomfield	7.54%	7.40%	7.29%	7.22%	7.22%
Rocky Hill	6.11%	6.16%	6.04%	6.21%	6.21%
West Hartford	23.02%	23.05%	22.47%	22.69%	22.69%
<b>Total</b>	<b>100.00%</b>	<b>100.00%</b>	<b>100.00%</b>	<b>100.00%</b>	<b>100.00%</b>

## 2024 Installment Schedule

Installment Date	1/18/2024	4/19/2024	7/19/2024	10/18/2024	Total
Hartford	\$3,480,828	\$3,480,828	\$3,480,827	\$3,480,827	\$13,923,310
East Hartford	1,556,825	1,556,825	1,556,825	1,556,825	6,227,300
Newington	1,194,180	1,194,180	1,194,180	1,194,180	4,776,720
Wethersfield	1,066,568	1,066,568	1,066,567	1,066,567	4,266,270
Windsor	1,178,230	1,178,230	1,178,230	1,178,230	4,712,920
Bloomfield	957,908	957,908	957,907	957,907	3,831,630
Rocky Hill	823,660	823,660	823,660	823,660	3,294,640
West Hartford	3,010,953	3,010,953	3,010,952	3,010,952	12,043,810
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$13,269,152</b>	<b>\$13,269,152</b>	<b>\$13,269,148</b>	<b>\$13,269,148</b>	<b>\$53,076,600</b>

**Note:** These allocations are based on 3-year average tax receipts from each town. A weighted average is used to allocate the total Ad Valorem to be collected. Rocky Hill, Wethersfield and Windsor have not provided tax abatement information for 2021, 2022, 2023 as a result, the above allocation charts are preliminary.

Respectfully Submitted,



John S. Mirtle, Esq.  
District Clerk

***On motion made by Commissioner Hoffman and duly seconded, the budget estimates for Fiscal Year 2024 were received and referred to the Board of Finance in accordance with Section 3-2 of the District Charter.***

**PERSONNEL, PENSION & INSURANCE COMMITTEE  
JUNETEENTH APPROVAL AS AN OFFICIAL MDC HOLIDAY**

***Commissioner Currey moved to add Juneteenth to the holiday schedule contingent upon approval by the unions.***

***The motion was duly seconded and passed by majority vote of those present. Commissioners Avedesian, Drake, Mandyck, and Pane opposed the motion.***



**WATER BUREAU  
POTENTIAL PURCHASE OF REAL ESTATE IN NEW HARTFORD**

No action was taken on this item at the Water Bureau meeting held on September 27, 2023. District Counsel Christopher Stone delivered a summary on the potential purchase of real estate in New Hartford.

**OPPORTUNITY FOR GENERAL PUBLIC COMMENTS**

Judy Allen stated that with the difficulty in meeting minority and Hartford resident requirements in hiring that hopefully the information that Commissioner Taylor had mentioned at the last PP&I meeting will be helpful in meeting those quotas.

**COMMISSIONER REQUESTS FOR FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS**

Commissioner Bush would like to have a future discussion regarding stormwater in the Linbrook Road area of West Hartford. He stated that during the last storm event there were two manholes surcharging that he was aware of. There are 700 homes that discharge into the one trunk sewer and there needs to be some outreach to those homes to disconnect inflow, about the backwater valve program and about sump pumps.

**ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting was adjourned at 6:46 PM

ATTEST:

John S. Mirtle, Esq.  
District Clerk

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Date of Approval