

Stonington Water Company
Minutes December 15, 2025

PRESENT: Evelyn Duncan, John Robbins, Travis Fifield, Joe Rackliff, Donna Brewer
PUBLIC: Kathleen Billings, Annaleis Hafford, Gay Atkinson, Matt Betts, reporter

Minutes: Tabled till next meeting

Warrants: Moved Robbins second Duncan to accept warrants Vote 5-0

Operators report: **Hafford** reported that the standpipe is almost full, but are still using summer wells to keep up. After turning off the Billings Diesel seasonal service there was a sudden drop in use. Line will be checked before turning on water in spring. Leak was discovered on Indian Point Road. owner must fix before water is turned back on in spring. Leak in Greenhead due to frozen line between buildings, also spring fix. **Softwear** experts are coming to calibrate new meter system. **Fire** plugs have been drained to prevent freezing. **Sevee & Maher** have submitted a bid to see if well 304 can be put in service \$23,900. Moved Robbins second Brewer to accept Vote 5-0
A surveyor has been contacted to survey a town property to see if it can be used as a possible new well site.
The design for the second standpipe is 90% complete. Hafford has asked for a month extension to finish design

School Street: **Hafford** would like to go out to bid again for the School Street Line. She feels this is possible because:
The water company was offered an additional \$1,000,000 in funding with a new project offer 2023-68 on March 28, 2025 making the total offer \$2,249,000. This offer included the following:
Loan amount including Principal Forgiveness \$1,491,950 of which \$992,150 will be forgiven, as well as an additional ARPA grant of \$757,050. The Stonington Water Company discussed these funds and has agreed unanimously to accept this offer from the DWPSRF program and understands that rates will need to be raised to support this additional loan amount after forgiveness of \$499,800.
Moved Brewer second Robbins Vote 5-0
Billings brought to Board that they had approved \$30,000 to be used if needed for the tank project on Main Street. It was not needed. Does the Board want to use the money for the School Street project?
Moved Rackliff second Brewer to use funds for School Street Vote 5-0
Following the above it was moved Brewer second Robbins to have Hafford send out bids for School Street Vote 5-0

Budget 2026: **Hafford** presented a draft budget for water company. She went over estimates line for line. She has included the purchase of water and a contingency line as two new items. It was noted that a few changes have to be made and she will bring it back to the Board.

Hafford presented several options for a rate case. Realizing that the District will have to raise rates to meet Bond Bank requirements for School Street loan, that the District has to pay back the town, and that we may have to purchase water again next year it was moved Robbins second Rackliff to have Hafford submit plan 4 to the PUC. Vote 5-0

Note this rate case changes minimum usage to 900 from 1200 cubic

Meeting adjourned 8:30PM