

FINAL

**THIRD TAXING DISTRICT**  
of the City of Norwalk  
Special Commission Meeting  
June 23, 2025

**ATTENDANCE:** Commissioners: Johnnie Mae Weldon, Chair; Pamela Parkington, Michele Sweeney; Peter Johnson, Rate-Payer Representative

**STAFF:** Kevin Barber, General Manager;  
Ron Scofield, Assistant General Manager/District Clerk

**OTHERS:** No others were present

**CALL TO ORDER**

Commissioner Weldon called the meeting to order at 6:31 p.m. A quorum was present.

**PUBLIC COMMENT**

No public comment.

**MINUTES OF REGULAR MEETING – MAY 27, 2025 – \*A/R**

The Commission reviewed the Minutes of the Regular Meeting of May 27, 2025. No one had any changes.

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**MOTION TO APPROVE MINUTES – REGULAR MEETING**

**\*\* COMMISSIONER PARKINGTON MOVED TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF THE MAY 27, 2025 REGULAR MEETING.**

**\*\* COMMISSIONER SWEENEY SECONDED.**

**\*\* THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

**MINUTES OF SPECIAL MEETING – JUNE 9, 2025 – \*A/R**

The Commission reviewed the Minutes of the Special Meeting of June 9, 2025. No one had any changes.

**MOTION TO APPROVE MINUTES – SPECIAL MEETING**

**\*\* COMMISSIONER SWEENEY MOVED TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF THE JUNE 9, 2025 SPECIAL MEETING.**

**\*\* COMMISSIONER PARKINGTON SECONDED.**

**\*\* THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

**REQUEST FOR DONATION BY THE NORWALK TREE ALLIANCE - \*A/R**

Chairman Weldon handed the meeting over to Mr. Barber to review the Donation Request from The Norwalk Tree Alliance. Mr. Barber explained that this is the same donation request from the Tree Alliance that TTD receives each year. This year they are requesting \$4,000.00, which is consistent with what they have requested in the past. Commissioner Parkington pointed out that last year the request was the same amount, but the Commission elected to give The Tree Alliance \$4,500.00. Commissioner Sweeney asked if the Commission would also like to do that again this year. Commissioner Parkington said that she would like to know how many trees were planted last year by The Tree Alliance. Mr. Barber explained that TTD does a tree lottery, and this is advertised in the TTD newsletter. Commissioner Sweeney asked what the average price of a tree is. Commissioner Parkington said the price is around \$250/\$300 per tree, wholesale. Chairman Weldon agreed that it would be good to know how many trees are planted and also suggested giving the Tree Alliance \$5,000 instead of \$4,000. Mr. Barber said that the trees are for only East Norwalk. Mr. Barber reiterated that last year the Tree Alliance requested \$4,000.00 and TTD gave them \$4,500.00 and he would leave it to the Commission to decide what to give them this year. It was decided to donate

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\$5,000.00 this year. Erica Joyce, Executive Assistant, will find out from the Tree Alliance how many trees are planted because of the donation. Mr. Barber pointed out that on the Application for the Donation of Funds description, the Tree Alliance agrees to plant a minimum of 10 trees to winning contestants but may plant more depending on each person's situation.

**MOTION FOR REQUEST FOR DONATION BY THE NORWALK TREE ALLIANCE**

**COMMISSIONER PARKINGTON MOVED TO APPROVE THE NORWALK TREE ALLIANCE DONATION REQUEST IN THE AMOUNT OF \$4,000.00, INCREASING IT TO THE AMOUNT OF \$5,000.00, TO BE FUNDED OUT OF OTHER DISTRICT SERVICES IN THE DISTRICT BUDGET WHICH WILL BE AWARDED AFTER JULY 1, 2025.**

**\*\* COMMISSIONER SWEENEY SECONDED.**

**\*\* THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

**DISCUSSION/ANALYSIS OF FINANCIAL STATEMENTS/KEY PERFORMANCE INDICATORS**

Mr. Barber reviewed the Financial highlights. From July 2024 – May 2025, all is positive. For the first 11 months there is a total income of \$11,596,022, we had total expenses of \$10,620,690 which leaves us with a net ordinary income of \$975,332. That is quite a bit different from the year before. Other income of \$558,587 and other expenses of \$505,000, that leaves us with net income, before the Rate Stabilization Fund, of \$1,028,919. We added \$89,280 to the Rate Stabilization Fund (RSF) which leaves us with a total net income of \$1,118,199 for the first 11 months. This is just under \$2M better than TTD was last year. Things are going well.

Cash Balances:

- Operating Accounts	\$1,647,844
- Savings	\$3,990,729
- Capital Improvements Fund	<u>\$2,824,971</u>
<b>Total:</b>	<b>\$8,463,544</b>

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Funds held at CMEEC include:

- Rate Stabilization Fund (RSF)	\$4,188,861
- Municipal Competitive Trust	<u>\$2,285,886</u>
<b>Total:</b>	<b>\$6,474,747</b>
- Economic Development Fund	\$ 164,561
- Conservation & Load Management	\$ 657,576
- Regional Greenhouse Gas Initiative	<u>\$ 329,274</u>
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$ 1,012,432</b>
- Total outstanding Principal Bal. w/ CMEEC	\$2,481,121
- Current Fiscal Year Capital Assets	\$ 674,223

Mr. Barber went on to review the Electric Budget to Actual. TTD's current monthly revenue is \$59,000 ahead of the budget. The only negative is small commercial, and that is because of the rate redesign and restructuring of accounts and that is why small commercials are off budget year-over-year. Large commercial sales are up compared to year-over-year. the Purchase power adjustment is also lower because during the rate change it was lowered. Purchase Power is doing okay. We are slightly under budget for what we purchased for our residential customers and the Power we purchased for the data center is over budget by about \$18,000 but the revenue is also over budget by \$26,000. While we go over on what we need to purchase it's usually because we are selling more. All the operating expense accounts are all in good shape with the exception of the customer service accounts, which are slightly over budget for the current month and the year. Otherwise, all the other month-to-date on expenses and other income and expenses are all normal.

Mr. Barber asked if anyone had any questions. There were no questions.

Mr. Barber then reviewed the District Budget. The District is doing okay. The current month is over budget in the Parks and Cemetery due to the time of the year when we incur more expenses due to landscaping costs. The Cemetery year to date is over budget but we also needed to remove one or two trees. The Library property maintenance needed to have an oil tank removed last month. That came back clean and was less expensive than we expected. The Library is over budget by \$8,900 because it was painted downstairs last year.

Mr. Barber asked if anyone had any questions. Commissioner Parkington asked if there was any word from the Library on what was discussed regarding its future. Mr. Barber said no, but he did receive the By Laws which forwarded to the Commission along with a quick analysis.

Mr. Barber reviewed the KPI pages. All is in order.

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Mr. Barber pointed out on the graph the current status of the billable rate and the Rate Stabilization Fund (RSF). We are still on an upward trend. The current balance is \$4,188,861. We are forecasting, with the current rates, the balance will peak at just under \$6M. Quite a bit higher than the target.

Mr. Barber reviewed aged receivables, which are hovering around the same amount, some aging buckets are doing better than previous months. Some are doing worse. Greater than 90 days balance is \$46,320.00. Up slightly from last month but it's always in the \$45,000/\$46,000 range.

Mr. Barber discussed a rate payer that had a medical letter which prohibited TTD from turning off the electric. Mr. Barber explained to the Commission that there are certain conditions that qualify individuals to receive moratorium protection. One scenario that provides moratorium protection is a medical condition in which a doctor would need to sign a letter that states the individual either has a "serious" or life-threatening medical condition. Under the "serious" designation, TTD can't turn off the rate payer during the moratorium and for the "life-threatening" designation TTD can't turn them off for a year, which is the highest level of protection.

Mr. Scofield explained that every medical letter needs to be renewed once a year. Giovanna Trani, TTD's Customer Service Representative oversees sending letters to the rate payers regarding medical letter update/renewal each year. There was a situation with a rate payer that had the 1<sup>st</sup> floor and 2<sup>nd</sup> floor electric accounts, and her medical letter was for a "serious medical condition" which means they are only protected until May 1<sup>st</sup>. Mr. Scofield spoke with the rate payer who insisted that her medical condition should be classified as "life threatening" not "serious". Mr. Scofield told her that if her doctor signed a letter stating such, TTD would agree to go along with that. The rate payer took no further action. Mr. Barber asked what the balance on her account was and Mr. Scofield said it was about \$2,000.00. Mr. Scofield said she never got back to TTD regarding the medical letter. So, he had the electric shut off. Ultimately, the rate payer came into the office and paid the entire balance on her account, over \$2,500.00. Mr. Barber explained this appears to be an example of a rate payer taking advantage of the "system". Chairperson Weldon asked how long this issue had been going on with this account and Mr. Scofield said it went on for about a year. Mr. Barber said State Law requires TTD to give moratorium protection for rate payers that meet certain criteria.

Mr. Barber asked if there were any questions. There were no questions.

**CMEEC BILLABLE RATE CHANGE**

Mr. Barber followed up to last month's budget discussion. During the Budget process there are a few assumptions applied in the budget. One being the billable rate. TTD tells CMEEC what to bill for purchased power. If the cost of power goes up, TTD may have CMEEC charge them more than they usually do. If TTD is paying \$90MWh and power comes in at \$80MWh, the \$10 difference goes to the RSF. Currently, the RSF is \$4.1M with a forecast to go up to \$6M. Mr. Barber directed the Commission to turn to Page 24, the Rate Stabilization Graph. If TTD leaves the billable rate the same, the balance will end up at \$6M over the next four years. Mr. Barber recommended lowering the billable rate from \$90MWh to \$75MWh. Leave it there until we need to change it again. Instead of the RSF continuing to go up over the next four years, it will now be on a downward trend and at the end of the third year it will be at \$2.9M, which is the target for TTD and at the end of the fourth year it will be at \$2.3M, which is below the target. Lowering it to \$75MWh, for this fiscal year possibly the second, will start to get the desired trend on track. Commissioner Sweeney asked if, prior to her being on the Commission, was the RSF ever in the "sweet spot" TTD would like it to be in. Commissioner Parkington said not since she has been here, and she has been a Commissioner for 7 years. Mr. Barber said if the trend looks like it's going too low, it can be adjusted. Mr. Barber said the highest billable rate was \$110MWh and then it was moved down to \$100MWh/\$90MWh. CMEEC has done a very good job procuring power, but the RSF has never been in the "sweet spot". Commissioner Parkington asked if the customer rates were ever adjusted. Mr. Scofield said no, the PCA was adjusted though. Mr. Barber said that in either July or August TTD will deal with the PCA component, which is the other half of the Budget. Mr. Barber said he forecasted lowering the PCA in September and then again in March, which would mean lowering it sooner than the consultants recommended because the over collection is doing well. The issue is to set the billable rate now so Mr. Barber can notify CMEEC.

**MOTION TO APPROVE CMEEC BILLABLE RATE CHANGE**

**COMMISSIONER PARKINGTON MOVED TO APPROVE A DECREASE IN THE CMEEC BILLABLE RATE FROM \$90.00/MWh TO \$75.00/MWh PER THE RECOMMENDATION OF THE GENERAL MANAGER, KEVIN BARBER EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2025.**

**\*\* COMMISSIONER SWEENEY SECONDED.**

**\*\* THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY**

Mr. Barber had nothing else to report unless the Commission had any questions. Commissioner Parkington asked when the summer concerts started and that she saw a post on the community Face Book page but didn't see TTD's concerts listed. Mr. Scofield said the concerts start July 20<sup>th</sup> and that the concert announcement is in our newsletter to ratepayers and TTD also puts

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signs up and an announcement in the newspaper. Mr. Scofield gave the Commission a copy of the newsletter TTD sends out to ratepayers. Chairperson Weldon commented that the variety in bands from previous years was a good.

**\*\* COMMISSIONER PARKINGTON MOVED TO ADJOURN.**

**\*\* COMMISSIONER SWEENEY SECONDED.**

**\*\* THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

The meeting adjourned at 7:15 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Erica Joyce  
Executive Assistant  
Third Taxing District