

Nantucket Water Commission
Minutes of Thursday, October 14, 2021

A meeting of the Nantucket Water Commission was held on Thursday, October 14, 2021 in the garage at the Wannacomet Water Company, 1 Milestone Road, Nantucket, Massachusetts.

Commissioners present: Commissioners Allen Reinhard, Nonie Slavitz, Nelson Eldridge, Rob Benchley and Curtis Barnes were present. *Absent:* none. *Staff & Guests:* Mark Willett – Director, Shelby Campbell - Business Manager, Linda Roberts – Projects Coordinator. Public: Franci Neeley. Note: Commissioner Barnes excused himself at 8:50 AM.

1. **Meeting Called to Order:** The meeting was called to order by Commissioner Reinhard at 8:00 AM.
2. **Acceptance of Agenda:** Commissioner Barnes motioned to accept the agenda as printed, seconded by Commissioner Benchley all in favor except for Commissioner Slavitz who abstained.
3. **Public Comment:** Franci Neeley was present on behalf of the Monomoy Association. Ms. Neeley was present to be updated of the status of the proposed solar project. The Commission moved the meeting discussion to item 6 d Solar power at Wannacomet Water Company to accommodate Ms. Neeley.
4. **Review of Minutes from September 9, 2021** – After the meeting minutes for September 9, 2021 were reviewed a Motion was made by Commissioner Eldridge, seconded by Commissioner Barnes with all in favor except for Commissioner Slavitz who abstained.
5. **Production and Billing Report:** Director Willett reported that over the past month the highest September ever. The pumps are almost normal for this time of year. We have over 7,000 customers with several having multiple services. Siasconset continues to have more use than a year ago with people staying longer. Rainfall continues to be down however we have had sufficient rainfall to keep us from drought conditions.
6. **Directors review and updates:**
 - a. **Airport PFAS Project:** The airport continues to test area homes and supplying bottled water to those residents. There are eleven houses that have mains in front of their homes and all, but one has agreed to connect. The airport will be paying \$2,500 to cover our material cost for these connections and may provide a one-time \$1,000 credit toward their water bills. The airport has been unable to find a local plumber to take this on and are discussing with homeowners if their plumbers would to the connection to the water and disconnection from the private well. Use of their well for irrigation is still being discussed by the Health Director and Select Board. The solar project has a few snags with the Federal designation of agriculture and finding 20 acres of property to mitigate.
 - b. **Water Mains West of Airport:** The Airport and the Town's PFAS committee continues to work with CDM Smith Consulting sampling the areas to the West.

Robert B. Our was awarded the bid but continues to have a hard time with finding pipe and materials. The prices have gone up significantly. They are willing to honor the contract.

c. Hydrants: The hydrants need a face lift and we have some almost out of commission. Unfortunately, we are unable to get the parts that we need. Sconset uses the Eddy's and they all need replacing. Ideally fire hydrant placement should be ten to fifteen feet off the road.

d. Solar power at Wannacomet Water Company: The Department of Environmental Protection is working with the executive office to work on removing the agriculture designation. Director Willett continues working with the Executive Directors of the Land Bank and Natural Heritage to come up with ideas for the mitigation land. Some have been allowed to pay a fee for mitigation to protect the State. Ms. Neeley expressed her opinion that she felt this was a dangerous path to pay the State when you can't find suitable property for displacing habitat. The Monomoy Association has retained Attorney Dan Bailey. Commissioner Benchley asked Ms. Neeley why the Association has retained an attorney. Ms. Neeley said it was to have a dialog with Town Council as to if Article 97 is a concern and to represent their concerns for no further development on water company property. Chair Reinhard addressed Ms. Neeley's concern stating the Commissions' focus is to protect our resources with stringent controls and testing that is in place and we do not want to be hindered by doing whatever is necessary that supports the company's operation like when the new office was built.

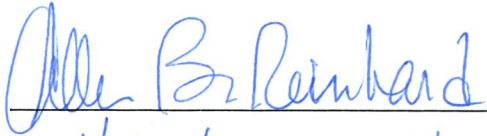
e. Personnel / 43 Polpis Road / School Fields: The personnel shift in Administration with Shelby Campbell as the Business Manager and all the administration staff have stepped up and things are running smoothly. **43 Polpis Road:** The McNeil's have been told that we need the house at 43 Polpis Road for our employees. The school has not found a solution and they continue renting month to month. Discussion about a date certain ensued with Commissioner Slavtiz suggesting the end of the calendar year just after the holidays be that date. **School Fields:** The school fields appropriated 15-18 million dollars to redo the football, field hockey and athletic fields using artificial turf. There have been concerns raised about water runoff, PFAS, and disinfecting. Director Willett has been and will continue to be involved with the school fields group.

North Liberty Street Paving: Director Willett has been communicating with the Acting Public Works Director to find out where they are on the storm water plans. They are working on a design for a bigger pump system for the storm water to fix what's flowing to the storm drain. The firm of Hazen & Sawyer have been working on the draining system which includes Lily Pond, Easton Street down to Children's Beach. Nothing has been finalized.

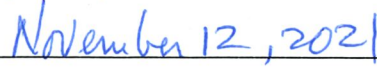
7. **Execution of Contracts of Amendments if any pending:** None pending. Director Willett is authorized to sign all contracts under \$50,000. Contract over that threshold go before the commission for signature.
8. **Commissioner's comments and reserved for unforeseen items for discussion by the Chair:** Commissioners reviewed their calendars and set the next meeting for Friday, November 12, 2021 at 8 AM.

9. **Adjournment:** There being no further business to come before the Commission, Chair Reinhard adjourned the meeting at 9:35 AM.

Approved: _____



Date: _____



Meeting packet included 10/14/21 Agenda, the minutes from 9/9/21; water production billing and rainfall reports.