

Nantucket Water Commission
Minutes of Thursday, July 14, 2022

A meeting of the Nantucket Water Commission was held on Thursday, July 14, 2022 in the conference room at the Wannacomet Water Company facilities at 1 Milestone Road, Nantucket, Massachusetts.

Commissioners Present: Commissioners Allen Reinhard, Curtis Barnes, Rob Benchley, Nelson Eldridge and John Pearl were present. *Absent:* none. *Staff & Guests:* Mark Willett – and Linda Roberts – Project Coordinator. *Public:* None.

1. **Meeting Called to Order:** The meeting was called to order by Commissioner Reinhard at 8:00 AM.
2. **Acceptance of Agenda:** Motion was made to accept the agenda as presented by Commissioner Eldridge, seconded by Commissioner Benchley, and unanimously accepted.

Whereas this was the first meeting of the board for the new fiscal year, Commissioner Reinhard asked for nomination for a chair and vice-chair. Commissioner Barnes nominated Commissioner Reinhard as the chair. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Pearl and unanimously approved. Commissioner Eldridge nominated Commissioner Benchley to serve as vice-chair. Commissioner Pearl seconded the motion, and it was unanimously approved.

3. **Public Comment:** None.
4. **Review of Minutes June 9, 2022:** Motion was made by Commissioner Barnes, seconded by Commissioner Eldridge to approve the minutes of the May meetings, as presented. The motion was unanimously consent.
5. **Production, Billing and Rainfall Reports:** Director Willett reported that production and billing continues to be up for past few months for Siasconset. Director Willett continues to monitor the wells and in touch with other water companies in Massachusetts. Rainfall is up for May and June and is higher for the first six months of 2022 over 2021.

Discussion regarding the shortage of meters took place. Meters are still unavailable and hopeful we get them in 8 to 9 months. No date given for MXU's. EJ Prescott is the only supplier for the iPerl meters. The factory and warehouses are making them on demand and not ahead due to lack of work force and budgetary constraints. There are 400 open building permits. Some are remodeling not all are going to require new connections. Last year there were 16 new connections in Siasconset and 155 for Wannacomet Water. There are new services pending for the Richmond area and 9 or 10 on Maple Lane and 150 in the Surfside Crossing area. We have not sold any irrigation or metered sewer meters since last year. A letter was read dated 6/21/22 from Abigail Reardon sent by email to the Commissioners through our water email for her home at 31 Shimmo Pond Road. She also sent this letter to the Select Board and the Sewer Director. She paid her bill under protest and asked that her bill be adjusted as well as all customers' bills. The Commissioners unanimously authorized Director Willett to correspond to Ms. Reardon.

6. **Director's review and update:**
 - a. **More PFAS updates** – Director Willett shared a PFAS health advisory was issued by the DEP with a threshold of 70 parts per trillion, which no lab can measure. They hope that technology will catch up and will do public outreach.

- b. **Solar Project** – Director Willett has completed the paperwork for merging the lots into one. Construction plans are being updated. Town Council is reviewing the solar contract for the board to sign. Nick Shuler from the DEP will do the review in October. Power fluctuations continue to impact the pumps.
 - c. **New Well Project and Water Supply – Fire Rescue** – Director Willett updated the Commissioners on the new well progress. The well drillers will be back in the fall. Draft hydrants from the Harbor will improve firefighting and conserve our water. Discussion about FY 2021 – 2033 Ten Year Capital Plan took place. Future needs include: Distribution System Improvements to water main upgrades and extensions, Lead Service Replacement Program, water towers, recoating storage tanks, new pump station, hydrants, employee housing, survey equipment, storage building for Wyers Valley to get items undercover and retained earnings took place.
 - d. **Water Resources Department** – Town Administration would like to have the Water, Sewer, and Storm Water Departments under one person to manage the three entities. Director Willett has met with Deputy Town Manager Rick Sears who is the second Assistant to the Town Manager. Discussions have included the storm drains and other concerns. The next meeting will include the Town Manager and is scheduled for August 19. Director Willett discussed storm water. The Departments could share the Storm Water Management. A funding source or enterprise account is needed to purchase big vac trucks and other equipment. Regulations or enforcement are not in place for storm water collection and run off.
 - e. **Field Trip to North Pasture** - The Commissioners will meet visit the Sconset station another time.
6. **Execution of Contracts or Amendments if any pending** – None
7. **Commissioner's Comments and Reserved for Unforeseen Items for Discussion not anticipated by the Chair.** Commissioner Benchley informed the Commission that work will be done on Sankaty Light House in September. This will require sandblasting and some water to keep the dust down. The crew will be staying for two months at the Preservation Institutes dormitory building. Director Willett will have a hydrant meter set up for them when they need to.
8. **Adjournment:** As there was no further business to come before the Commission, a motion was made by Commissioner Eldridge, seconded by Commissioner Benchley, and unanimously voted to recess the meeting at 9:38 AM.

Approved: _____

Date: _____

Meeting packet included 8/11/22 Agenda, water production billing and rainfall reports.