

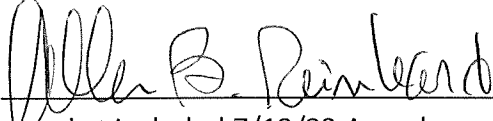
Nantucket Water Commission
Minutes of Thursday, July 13, 2023

A meeting of the Nantucket Water Commission was held on Thursday, June 8, 2023, 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. *Staff & Guests:* Mark Willett – Director, and Shelby Campbell – Business Manager and Linda Roberts Project Coordinator. *Public:* None.

1. **Meeting Called to Order:** Commissioner Reinhard recognized that all commissioners were present and called the meeting to order at 8:00 AM.
2. **Acceptance of Agenda:** Motion made by Commissioner Eldridge, seconded by Commissioner Pearl, and unanimously accepted the agenda as presented.
3. **Public Comment:** None.
4. **Review of Minutes from the June 8, 2023, regular session.** The minutes were reviewed. Commissioner Eldridge made the motion to accept the regular session minutes for June 8, 2023, as presented. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Benchley and unanimously approved. The executive session meeting minutes will be reviewed at the August 10, 2023, meeting.
5. **Production, Billing and Rainfall Reports:** Director Willett reported precipitation was three inches in June but was reported as .99 inches on the weather precipitation websites for Nantucket. The USGS drought well at Russell's Way is monitored remotely and has a battery backup and solar panel to recharge the battery. The levels at the monitoring well are good. Siasconset is up from its highest month of pumping 10,797,368 gallons in 2021 to 12,259,029 gallons this June. Wannacomet had its largest June pumping 102,387,014 this month which was higher than the previous high June of 2021 with 182,476 gallons. Both seem to be up due to heavy irrigation. Both Sconset and Wannacomet had are on pace to suppress last years totals. Billing is going well, and staff work with non-English speaking residents and people who have fallen behind. Purchasing more Ally smart meters would help with our being able to shut off customers who fall behind frequently who have the funds to pay but choose to wait for disconnection notices. We were doing seven to ten taps per week earlier in the year. This has slowed to one or two each week. Uncertain if this is a seasonal slowdown or a work slowdown.
6. **Director's Review and Updates:** (items 6e, 6f and 6g were added to the agenda at the meeting)
 - a. **West of Airport Water Main Project:** The work on extending the water main continues. Director Willett has been working with the finance department who accepted the bids for the work. Bids were received from CC Construction, Robert B Our and a company called Dig It. CDM Smith is reviewing the submissions. Hazen and Swayer will be overseeing the project which was initially due to PFAS contamination, but now includes other road work and improvements. Hopefully the work will begin in the fall, and they can do lay about 700 to 800 feet of water pipe per day on the dirt road areas.
 - b. **New Well Project:** The new well at North Pasture completed its seven-day pump test and all paperwork has been submitted. Hopefully we hear back from the DEP staff reviewing this soon. Mark is working with Mass DEP representative Nicholas Shuler.
 - c. **Compensation & Classification for Staff:** Director Willett updated the commissioners on the recently released wage study done by Segal Consulting who is a Human Resource Consulting firm hired by the Town to review compensation. The data used was two years old. The recommendation of the past four consultants has always been to increase wages. The Segal study recommended an increase of 4% plus a flat market rate adjustment and a

- 4% cost of living increase. Director Willett presented the commissioners with his recommendations for the Wannacomet Water Department staff. After discussion and review of other departments, motion was made by Commission Barnes, seconded by Commissioner Pearl, and unanimously approved and signed personnel action forms to increase salaries 6% and give 4% cost of living increase to the nonunion staff retroactive to July 2, 2023.
- d. **Codfish Park:** A resident of Codfish Park has submitted a warrant article to include Codfish Park in the Sewer District. Commissioners and the Director discussed the benefits of improving the existing septic and cesspool systems and water service. If they do bring the sewer to Codfish Park Sconset Water improvements will be made then. There is also consideration being made for a sewer line to be brought from the Windsor/Pitman Lane areas to Hydrangea and Milestone Road.
 - e. **Solar Project update:** Director Willett provided information from the Massachusetts Executive Office of Energy and Environmental Affairs (MEOOA) They have determined that the Solar Project as proposed is a conflict for Chapter 97. If it was reduced to only water production electrical needs, then it might be approved. In prior communication with Town Council, they determined it was not a conflict with Chapter 97. Director Willett is going to look at reducing the plan under five acres and see if this might be doable. The Commissions consensus was in favor to research solar for the Wannacomet and Sconset Water benefit further.
 - f. **2 Forest Avenue property – 40 OSR, LLC project abutting Wannacomet Water Property:** A residential commercial development is being proposed at 2 Forest Avenue. This would be the Thai House Restaurant with apartments above. Consideration of a Memorandum of Agreement might be presented at a further date to allow patrons of the building to use picnic tables and sit outside in exchange for one of the apartments being rented to water company staff.
 - g. **Tom's Way DEP Letter to test private wells:** A private well in the Tom's Way area has been tested and is over the recommended limits for PFAS. Residents in the area received letters that the DEP will be contacting them to perform PFAS testing of their private wells. There may be a need to extend water to that area if further testing shows higher than acceptable PFAS limits.
7. **Discussion, amendment and execution of any personnel or vendor contracts.** The excavation contracts for three private contractors were reviewed for Holdgate Partners, Kobo and Barrett Enterprises. Director Willett recommended approval for all three so if one contractor is not available for emergency work, he would have the other two to contact. Motion was made by Commissioner Benchley, seconded by Commissioner Pearl, and unanimously approved and signed all three contracts. (*As Commissioner Eldridge left the meeting at 9:37 AM for an appointment he was not present to sign. The members remaining represented a quorum and all signed.)
8. **Commissioner's Comments and Reserved for Unforeseen Items for Discussion not anticipated by the Chair.** None.
9. **Adjournment:** Motion was made by Commissioner Barnes, seconded by Commissioner Reinhard, and unanimously voted to adjourn the regular business meeting at 9:41 AM and enter executive session.

Approved:  Date: 8/10/23

The meeting packet included 7/13/23 Agenda, reports, and information on the Mondo Board.