

Nantucket Water Commission
Minutes of Thursday, August 10, 2023

A meeting of the Nantucket Water Commission was held on Thursday, August 10, 2023, in the conference room at the Wannacomet Water Company facilities at 1 Milestone Road, Nantucket, Massachusetts.

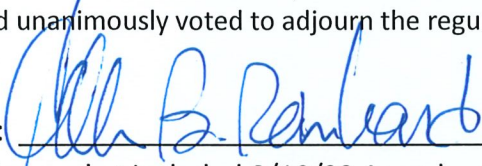
Commissioners Present: Commissioners Allen Reinhard, Curtis Barnes, Rob Benchley, Nelson Eldridge, and John Pearl were present. *Staff & Guests:* Mark Willett – Director, and Linda Roberts Project Coordinator. *Public:* None.

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 Barnes, and unanimously accepted the agenda as presented.
3. **Public Comment:** Discussion of the citizens' petition to bring sewer to Codfish Park in Siasconset took place. Should sewer be brought to Codfish Park in Sconset water improvements will be made. Director Willett will meet with Mr. Gray on the matter.
4. **Review of Minutes from July 13, 2023, regular session and the executive session minutes from June 8, 2023, and July 13, 2023.** After discussion the minutes for the July 13 executive session were corrected. Commissioner Barnes motioned to accept the three sets of minutes as corrected, which was seconded by Commissioner Benchley and unanimously approved.
5. **Production, Billing and Rainfall Reports:** Director Willett reported that production increases for Wannacomet and Siasconset were due to heavy irrigation and less rain. On the mornings there is heavy irrigation the alarms go off around 4:30 AM notifying him of the decline in the tank levels. Irrigation is highest on Monday, Wednesday, and Friday. While we have had little precipitation in July, the monitoring drought well is good. Billing is going well, and staff continue to work with customers who have fallen behind.
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. CC Construction has a letter of award, and the work should begin in the fall. Material is here and the work will begin near the airport area.
 - b. **Last Fiscal Year Stats:** New connections were up with 200 new services. Richmond completed new apartment buildings and has more in the works. Debt service and salaries are down. We used 85% of the budget allocations. The present debt should be paid off in five to seven years. Given all of that we are hopeful rate increases won't be needed until FY 2025 or FY 2026.
 - c. **Small public/private projects:** Director Willett updated the commissioners on recent inquiries for town water by homeowners. In some circumstances it will result in a tap to the main and services one or two homes and others might be more.
 - d. **FY 25 Capital:** Director Willett has met with Town Manager and Assistant Town Manager Brian Sears. Would like to focus on maintenance needs for Wannacomet and Siasconset with the goal not to follow sewer unless it is a public health issue.
 - 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.

7. **Discussion, amendment and execution of any personnel or vendor contracts.** The finance department is preparing the contract for meters with E J Prescott.
8. **Commissioner's Comments and Reserved for Unforeseen Items for Discussion not anticipated by the Chair.** It was noted that there is an open house for the wastewater treatment facility solar was being held later today. Commissioners would like to do one for water energy costs.
9. **Adjournment:** Motion was made by Commissioner Eldridge, seconded by Commissioner Barnes, and unanimously voted to adjourn the regular business meeting at 9:20 AM.

Approved: _____



Date: _____

9/14/23

The meeting packet included 8/10/23 Agenda, reports, and information on the Mondo Board.