

Nantucket Water Commission
Minutes of Thursday, November 9, 2023

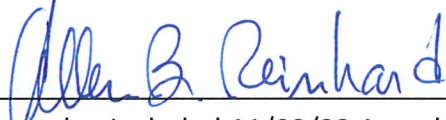
A meeting of the Nantucket Water Commission was held on Thursday, November 9, 2023, in the conference room at the Wannacomet Water Company facilities at 1 Milestone Road, Nantucket, Massachusetts.

Commissioners Present: Commissioners Allen Reinhard, Curtis Barnes, Nelson Eldridge, and John Pearl were present. *Absent:* Rob Benchley. *Staff & Guests:* Mark Willett – Director, and Linda Roberts Project Coordinator. *Public:* Meghan Perry.

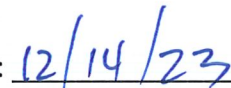
1. **Meeting Called to Order:** Commissioner Reinhard recognized that we had a quorum and called the meeting to order at 8:00 AM.
2. **Acceptance of Agenda:** Motion made by Commissioner Eldridge, seconded by Commissioner Barnes, and unanimously accepted the agenda as presented.
3. **Public Comment:** At 8:04 AM Commissioner Reinhard left item 5 Reports from the Director and reopened public comment to allow Ms. Meghan Perry to introduce herself and speak. After stating her name for the record Ms. Perry asked about a water use document that was used in two public meetings. She asked who might have requested it, who would have picked it up or how it was received. Ms. Perry stated that if anyone was looking for her water records, they wouldn't be able to find any. Chairman Reinhard commented that he personally has no idea about the document and knows that Truro and other places in the Commonwealth are reviewing voting status for their seasonal residents. Director Willett stated that he was away when the hearing took place and as far as he knows water and sewer records are public records. He will discuss this later and look into it. Ms. Perry left the meeting at 8:08 AM.
4. **Review of Minutes from October 12, 2023.** After review Commissioner Barnes motioned to accept the minutes as presented. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Eldridge and unanimously approved.
5. **Production, Billing and Rainfall Reports:** Director Willett reported that there was a significant drop in water use in October with people leaving the island and irrigation being shut down for the season. Sewer rates dropped back to the off-season rate at the end of October. Perception is up since the fall. Billing is going very well. Moving to the cloud has enabled staff to download all of the meter readings in 27 minutes. Mail delivery has been difficult. The administrative staff continue to work with customers who have fallen behind. One unresponsive customer to billing and correspondence has placed Belgian blocks have toppled over compromising the meter cover and pit.
6. **Director's Review and Updates:**
 - a. **West of Airport Water Main Project:** The work on extending the water main is being done by CC Construction. Director Willett continues to meet with the contractor and engineers. Director Willett shared photographs he has taken of the area using the Mondo Board. Brush cutting has started along Lovers Lane and the intersection of Davkim. One resident was concerned about her pets that she buried along Monohansett Road and Director Willett will make adjustments in the field for that area. Catch basin repairs should be done by Thanksgiving. No work will be done the week of Thanksgiving as they will be giving their crew the week off. The materials for the project are being stored in the valley at Wannacomet Water. A new steel building would allow for better storage of materials and inventory. Rob West, our Operations Manager has provided surveying assistance for our water plans.

- b. **Sewer force main:** The sewer force main has been working with two crews from Surfside Road to South Shore Road working both night and day shifts now. The Sewer work is slow going as it is difficult given the depth and obstacles. Some of the in-town work has resumed. Robert B. Our Company will not be working Thanksgiving week.
 - c. **Main extensions:** Director Willett updated the commissioners on DEP testing and their continuing work with homeowners. Director Willett continues to seek out ways to bring water to the areas of concern and has been updating the residents regularly. Working with a hydrogeologist he hopes to identify the compound source. They have ruled out fire foam.
 - d. **Siasconset Water:** Director Willett meets regularly with Fire Chief Cranson and the Sconset Hydrants need painting and maintenance. He had Kyle Roberts, our Field Service Operator order hydrant parts for our maintenance program determining which can be repaired and others that will need replacing. The addition of color-coded tops is planned to identify the flow of each hydrant. Director Willett continues to work with the Sewer Director to address storm water. The budget for emergency repairs has been hit hard with the water main breaks on Somerset Road for the Bittersweet Lane subdivision, and water main breaks at India Street and Commercial Wharf.
7. **Discussion, amendment and execution of any personnel or vendor contracts.** None.
8. **Commissioner's Comments and Reserved for Unforeseen Items for Discussion not anticipated by the Chair.** It was noted that the Lovers Lane generator needs replacing which will cost upwards of \$110,000. Discussion about water and sewer being public records and sharing news with the media took place.
9. **Adjournment:** Motion was made by Commissioner Eldridge, seconded by Commissioner Pearl, and unanimously voted to adjourn the regular business meeting at 9:15 AM.

Approved: _____



Date: _____



The meeting packet included 11/09/23 Agenda, reports, and information on the Mondo Board.