

Nantucket Water Commission
Minutes of Thursday, February 8, 2024

A meeting of the Nantucket Water Commission was held on Thursday, February 8, 2024, in the conference room at the Wannacomet Water Company facilities at 1 Milestone Road, Nantucket, Massachusetts.

Commissioners Present: Commissioners Allen Reinhard, Robert Benchley, Nelson Eldridge and John Pearl were present. *Absent:* Commissioner Curtis Barnes. *Staff & Guests:* Mark Willett – Director, and Linda Roberts Project Coordinator, and Shelby Campbell Business Manager. *Public:* None.

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 Benchley, and unanimously accepted the agenda as presented.
3. **Public Comment:** None.
4. **Review of Minutes from December 14, 2023, and January 11, 2024.** The minutes from December and January were reviewed and a motion to accept was made by Commissioner Eldridge, seconded by Commissioner Benchley, and unanimously approved as presented.
5. **Production, Billing and Rainfall Reports:** Director Willett reported the production, billing, and rainfall reports for the first month of 2024. Rainfall of 4.21 inches in January will help improve the status with the DEP after declaring Nantucket and Marthas Vineyard as a level 2 significant drought condition at the end of 2023. Water production is up for January. Baxter Road is a dead-end line and with little use this time of year, we have been flushing the line. By the end of next week will have 50-60% of the plans for Baxter Road completed for moving the water and sewer services with alternative access to the houses at the end of the other side. The residents will be losing parts of their back yards. Billing is going well. We are working with our billing company to accept the files to do our email billing for a nominal price. They will send the bills in a pdf format which is beneficial for customers. Discussion regarding the policy for disconnections took place. Motion was made, seconded, and unanimously voted to change the Disconnections hours from the hours of 9 AM and 2 PM to 8 and 12 noon to allow customers who go home to contact us earlier in the day.
6. **Director's Review and Updates:**
 - a. **West of Airport Water Main Project:** The project is nearly done on Nobadeer Way with two more services left to do. The Tom's Way work began January 11. Bringing the water line to those residents will eliminate about 20 POET Systems (Point of Entry Systems) to be installed. Those systems would have created a problem with the disposal of the filters which would have contained PFAS. Director Willett continues to communicate weekly with the residents of Tom's Way. The DEP loan for \$1.4 million was rejected and they denied Nantucket as having a disadvantaged community. The Director will review any available funds for the surfside extension project and the remaining capital to assist with the Tom's Way emergency work. The contractor is progressing well and is nearly past Monohansett.
 - b. **New Well Update:** Director Willett reported the pump test at 1,000 galls a minute went well. There is a \$190,000 change order for the new well. He presented a visual of the zone 2 upper and lower aquifers. Nick Larrabee of the Nantucket Conservation Foundation will provide data from the monitoring wells at the cranberry bogs. The Federal funding sign that was stolen will not be replaced. We are using the hydraulic model to build out scenarios for growth. Our known expansions will be 6 units off Old South Road, 6 units off

Forest Ave, and potentially 156 units off South Shore Road. The Sewer Director is working on a policy that subdivisions need to manage drainage.

- c. **System Update:** The DEP and private wells are being tested for PFAS. The Board of Health voted in a new regulation to have all private wells tested prior to transfer of ownership in 2024. The regulation would be to use a filter under the sink or connect to town water. The regulation doesn't identify who inspects, who samples, who maintains or who enforces. We are looking for a new well location and will use the model and input what PFAS detection levels are and where these locations are to determine where PFAS will go. The PFAS is turning into the PFAS 10.

7. **Discussion, amendment and execution of any personnel or vendor contracts.** There have been several water main breaks this year and some have required specialized equipment which Barrett Enterprises owns. They include Bittersweet off Somerset Lane, Commercial Wharf, Hulbert Ave, Vestal Street and Williams Lane. All have been repaired by Barrett Enterprises, and we must amend the emergency excavation contract to add funds. Motion was made by Commissioner Eldridge, seconded by Commissioner Pearl, and unanimously voted to approve this amendment.
8. **Commissioner's Comments and Reserved for Unforeseen Items for Discussion not anticipated by the Chair.** Town Council found the citizens warrant article as submitted by Meghan Perry Glowacki not legal. If passed, it would have all department heads report to the Town Manager and not to their Boards or Commissions.
9. **Adjournment:** Motion was made by Commissioner Eldridge, seconded by Commissioner Pearl, and unanimously voted to adjourn the regular business meeting at 9:25 AM.

Approved: Robert Bunchley Date: 3/14/24
The meeting packet included 2/8/24 Agenda, reports, and information on the Mondo Board.