

Nantucket Water Commission
Minutes of Thursday, November 14, 2024

A meeting of the Nantucket Water Commission was held on Thursday, November 14, 2024, in the conference room at the Wannacomet Water Company facilities at 1 Milestone Road, Nantucket, Massachusetts.

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

1. **Call Meeting to Order:** Commissioner Reinhard recognized a quorum was 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:** None present.
4. **Review of Minutes from October 10, 2024.** After review, Commissioner Eldridge made the motion to accept, seconded by Commissioner Barnes. All others except for Commissioner Benchley voted to approve the meeting minutes from October 10, 2024, as presented.
5. **Production, Billing and Rainfall Reports:** Director Willett provided the production, billing, and rainfall reports. The pumps have all resumed to their off season use which will allow us to do some maintenance. Wannacomet production was nearly the same as this time last year and Sconset was up some which might be due to the leak at 39 Sankaty and irrigation. Several Sconset residents expressed their gratitude about the care the repair crew did so as not to disturb the recent paving. The DEP has declared drought conditions for all of Massachusetts except the Cape and Islands due to the low rainfall over the past few months. The central and northeast regions are the most serious with Level 3 critical drought conditions and the western and southeast regions being level 2 significant drought condition. Billing is going well with only a few customers not responding to their delinquent bills who had to be shut off for non-payment. Discussion about notice of disconnection fees and hydrant meters took place. Motion was made by Commissioner Barnes, seconded by Commissioner Pearl and unanimously approved to increase the disconnection notice fee from \$29 to \$39 and hydrant meter fee from \$100 to \$250 plus use.
6. **Director's Review and Updates:**
 - a. **Mass DEP Sample Schedule Update:** The Director has been reviewing the new water sampling schedules and permitting for the new well with Willaim Schwartz and Martin Gerard from the Southeast Regional office. The Director anticipates the need to do an additional well to keep up with the increased demand for water being brought down to areas impacted by PFAS.
 - b. **Tank Maintenance:** The Director is working with the Finance Director to add the typical contract language required and hopes to have a contract ready for review for the December meeting.
 - c. **Sewer Force Main Update:** The sewer work continues with three of Robert B. Our Company's crews working on Gardner, Silver, Pleasant and Pine Streets. They are also doing storm water improvements. Residents on Gardner Street lost water service on Tuesday and for part of the day on Wednesday while we made repairs to the water lines that were broken during their work. Wannacomet supplied the pipe and Robert B. Our did the excavation. Additionally, the Surfside Road area across from the school restoration of the walk area and curbing is being done this week.

- d. **Main Extensions:** The Director and Rob West have surveyed Arkansas Avenue in Madaket in anticipation of extending the water to that area. Other areas may be Long Pond, Chatham and Ramos Court. One of the town houses was tested for PFAS on South Cambridge Street. The test came back over the limit. Each structure has five units with three bedrooms making them a public water supply. This would require that they hire a licensed drinking water operator to do sanitary inspections, take monthly and other sampling for VOC's, bacteria, PFOS and file the reports to the DEP. The DEP contacted the Town's Assessor to receive a list of all the owners. The easiest way to solve the South Cambridge Street town house issue would be to bring water from the street to their cul-de-sac and place a hydrant at the end. Any of these areas will require full cooperation from each owner to give utility easements. We would provide the pipe and the hydrant, pressure test and cap. The owners would pay for their plumber and excavator. They could share one meter for each town house, or each customer would have their own. After further discussion, the motion was made by Commissioner Barnes, seconded by Commissioner Eldridge and unanimously voted to have the Wannacomet Water Company supply the pipe and hydrant.
7. **Discussion, amendment, and execution of any personnel or vendor contracts:** After discussion Motion was mad by Commissioner Pearl, seconded by Commissioner Benchley and unanimously voted to authorize the Director to award merit pay as consistent with past practices. The Commissioners and the Director individually signed the personnel action sheet and dated it today.
8. **Commissioner's Comments and Reserved for Unforeseen Items for Discussion not anticipated by the Chair.** Discussion about private wells being testing program being done by Dr. Graham Peaslee a professor from Notre Dame University through the Nantucket Land & Water Council. They conducted total fluorine well water tests during the past year.
9. **Adjournment:** Commissioner Eldridge made the motion to adjourn. This was seconded by Commissioner Barnes, and unanimously voted to end the regular business meeting at 9:53 AM.

Approved: _____



Date: _____

12/12/24

The meeting packet included 11/14/24 Agenda, reports, and information on the Mondo Board.