

Nantucket Water Commission
Minutes of Thursday, January 9, 2025

A meeting was held by the Nantucket Water Commission on Thursday, January 09, 2025, in the conference room at the Wannacomet Water Company facilities at 1 Milestone Road, Nantucket, Massachusetts.

Commissioners Present: Commissioners Curtis Barnes, Nelson Eldridge and John Pearl and Rob Benchley were present. *Commissioners Absent:* Allen Reinhard. *Staff & Guests:* Mark Willett – Director, Shelby Campbell Business Manager and Linda Roberts Project Coordinator. *Public:* Emily Molden Executive Director for the Nantucket Land & Water Council.

1. **Call Meeting to Order:** Commissioner Eldridge acting as Chair, recognized a quorum was present and called the meeting to order at 8:05 AM.
2. **Acceptance of Agenda:** Motion made by Commissioner Barnes, seconded by Commissioner Benchley, and unanimously accepted the agenda as presented.
3. **Public Comment:** Emily Molden was present as the Director of the Nantucket Land and Water Council. Ms. Molden came back to talk about concerns the Nantucket Land and Water Council has about the Surfside Crossing project. She provided a brief history of the project and where it is now. Their concerns are with storm water runoff, impervious surfaces, and any potential harmful impacts to water quality. Ms. Molden spoke about her concerns with developments within the Zone II area and the review processes with Town Boards and department heads. Ms. Molden's presence was to elevate the Nantucket Land and Water Councils level of concern. Director Willett will be present at the ZBA's meeting. Director Willett meets and works with David Gray, the Sewer Director and Charles Johnson who is the Storm Water Director to improve storm the systems. Some of these systems include swales, infiltrators, and berms. There is no enforcement for those who do not maintain or cleanout their storm drains. After discussion and recognizing that such concerns were not raised in prior projects, the commissioners felt considering the cumulative growth in recent years they should raise concerns. Director Willett has not seen the engineers' reports submitted to the Zoning Board of Appeals. While Director Willett is a hydrologist and could run the calculations, this would be determined by storm water engineer. Motion was made by Commissioner Barnes, seconded by Commissioner Pearl and unanimously voted to have the Director write something and express the commissioners concerns about storm water and that water is protected. The Commissioners thanked Ms. Molden for coming.
4. **Review of Minutes from November 22, 2024, and December 12, 2024.** The minutes from the November 22, 2024, and the December 12, 2024, meeting was reviewed, and the motion was made by Commissioner Barnes, seconded by Commissioner Benchley and unanimously voted to approve as presented.
5. **Director's Review and Updates:**
 - a. **Water Quality, Mass DEP Sample Schedule and Public Education:** The Director has been in touch with the DEP Director and staff. Despite the drought conditions of the extended period of no rain in 2024, it ended with 27.54 inches of precipitation, three inches more than last year. The pumps are running like they typically do in the off season. Use is up mostly due to the increase of customers who tied in after the water main extension when to the areas hit with PFAS. Sconset has about a six percent increase mostly due to Cannonbury areas use. The sampling schedules will be changing and increasing our costs for 2025. PFAAS hits have been reported in Vestal Street. 2025 may present drought conditions that we will have to monitor use and focus on for the spring. There is no ability to control private

well use. The DEP will be mandating a tiered billing systems within two years so we will want to start before it is mandated.

- b. **Water Quality, Mass DEP:** Well 12 sampling tested PFAS free. Well 16 has a trace and well 15 has not been used and will continue to be off except for any required sampling. Operations Manager Robert West and the Director shot elevations and surveyed ground water flow to the North. While the geothermal heat pumps at 4 Fairgrounds Road are changing the flows, we believe our hist are coming from Tom's Way since they are now on town water and their private wells have been decommissioned. Mass DEP staff were planning on coming Monday or Tuesday but did not make it. They may come today to continue sampling from their monitoring wells. The Director discussed PFAS areas and the decontamination processes using a GAC (Granular Activated Carbon) systems. The cost is high to lease them is high and given our need to use the system it would make since to purchase one if the numbers work. Director Willett has been in speaking with the Director of the Marston's Mills system. They have been using theirs since the hits in 2023. The Director has searched for possible grants and state revolver funds some are out there but not much is available as PFAS is happening everywhere. The new well even if its fast tracked will take another year. We need to find a way to treat by June or we will have to limit irrigation.
 - c. **Sewer Force Main Update:** The Director updated the Commission on the sewer force main projects which are being done by Robert B Our and CMON work being done by N&M. Work continues Liberty and Gardner Streets. Dean and Bob from N&M are working on Pleasant and Williams Streets and portions of Pleasant. There was a radial crack which we gave the contractor permission to do spot repairs on Pleasant Street with our staff present. They wanted us to move our water main, but we aren't able to fund this and the Finance Director won't authorize CMON funds to include the cost of the 800' of pipe that would be needed to lay in this area although we were able to do 900' in King Street last year. Drainage work continues with the States reconstruction of the Polpis and Milestone turning lanes. This work includes catch basin collection and infiltrators. Supplies and materials are being stored on Wannacomet property.
 - d. **Main Extensions:** Property owners at Teasdale Circle asked if the commission will waive connection fees if they pay for the excavation to bring water down. The Commission did not grant any waiver. It was suggested that the neighbors to work together.
- 6. **Discussion, amendment, and execution of any personnel or vendor contracts:** None.
 - 7. **Commissioner's Comments and Reserved for Unforeseen Items for Discussion not anticipated by the Chair.** None.
 - 8. **Adjournment:** Commissioner Barnes made the motion to adjourn. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Pearl, and unanimously voted to end the regular business meeting at 9:37 AM.

Approved: _____

_____ Date: Feb. 13, 2025

The meeting packet included 1/9/25 Agenda, reports and information from the mondo including images of treatment systems.