

MINUTES
HARWICH WATER DEPARTMENT
BOARD OF WATER/WASTEWATER COMMISSIONERS
REGULAR SESSION MEETING MINUTES
Tuesday, February 4, 2025
9:00 a.m.

WATER COMMISSIONER'S PRESENT: Chair Noreen Donahue, Clerk Bob Young, Commissioner John Gough, Commissioner Judith Underwood (arrived at 9:35am), Vice Chair Allin Thompson (absent)

OTHERS PRESENT: Superintendent Jason Trepanier, Administrative Assistant Tracey Alves, Selectman Mike MacAskill

CALL TO ORDER

Chair Donahue called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m. and then entertained a motion for the Board to enter into Executive Session. Clerk Young moved to go into Executive Session. Commissioner Gough seconded; 3-0-0.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

- A. Pursuant to MGL c. 30A §21(a)(7) to comply with, or act under the authority of, any general or special law or federal grant-in-aid requirements, the Open Meeting Law, MGL c. 30A §§ 22(f), (g) to review, approve and or discuss the possible release of executive session meeting minutes dated; January 21, 2025
- B. Executive Session pursuant to G.L. c. 30A, Sec. 21(a)(3) To discuss strategy with respect to collective bargaining or litigation if any open meeting may have a detrimental effect on the bargaining or litigating position of the public body and the chair so declares; Harwich Employee Association (HEA)

The Board returned to Open Session at 9:22 am.

Chair Donahue informed the public that the Executive Session minutes of January 21, 2025 were approved but not released and no action was taken on Item 2.

CONSENT AGENDA

- A. Minutes
 - 1. November 15, 2024

Clerk Young entertained a motion to approve the minutes of November 15, 2024. Commissioner Gough seconded the motion; 3-0-0.

OLD BUSINESS

A. Route 28 Water Main Project Contract- Phase 2- East Portion

The quality of the revised contract drawn up by GHD is disappointing. GHD may not fully realize that the sewer work is handled by the Select Board and the water work is handled by the Water Department. The references to sewer should have been edited out and the outreach portion of

the contract is scant and could be considered missing. Superintendent Trepanier will work with Bob Drake of GHD to get the contract cleaned up.

The Board once again emphasized the importance of community outreach for all.

Both the BoWWC and Select Board will have to have joint community outreach sessions that cover information briefs on both sewer and water for the entire Route 28 project.

B. Local Comprehensive Plan (LCP) and Open Space and Rec Plan (OSRP)

Additional updated comments were drawn up to include in the Local Planning Committee's Local Comprehensive Plan. The Board was in favor of the comments as well as sending it along.

Clerk Young motioned to send along the LCP subject to further input from Superintendent Trepanier. Commissioner Underwood seconded the motion. All in favor; 4-0-0.

There was no additional language to add to the OSRP.

SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

Town Council adjusted the Tank Painting contract and has sent it along to Haley & Ward for review.

The garage heater has been installed and is working well to provide heat.

The Department's new leak detection units will be deployed on March 4th in 8 different locations throughout the water distribution system mains. The units will be able to talk to one another and tell each other if there is a leak within the water distribution system. The data will go back to a GIS map. Training will involve teaching staff how to use the units as well as analyzing the data.

Superintendent Trepanier will have someone come in to do a Hydraulic model presentation for the Board in March. The model will show where the Department needs to increase water mains as well as where we are deficient. It will also help to create a new hydrant flushing program.

The town's Phase 3 sewer work is going well. The Water Department has been collaborating with Robert Our and will be supplying them with parts for services that they cut out of the way. Robert Our will do the labor.

An update on Bay Rd was provided. The sewer main on Bay Rd was filmed last week. The engineers are still trying to see if a correction is needed.

COMMISSIONER'S REPORT

Clerk Young commented that as we go forward with Public Outreach it would be nice to have a picture taken of everyone in the Water Department out front of the building to put up on the website.

Commissioner Underwood will e-mail an inspiring article on teambuilding to both Chair Donahue and Selectman MacAskill.

Chair Donahue will reach out to the head of the Chamber of Commerce to see if she may be able to attend a meeting in March to talk to her about the businesses along Route 28.

The Board will have Comptroller Sieger look into if the Board may be able to get once a year compensation (after elections take place) vs. monthly paychecks.

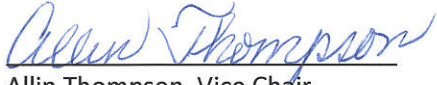
NEXT MEETING

The next Board meeting will be held on Tuesday, February 18, 2025 at 9:00 a.m.

ADJOURN

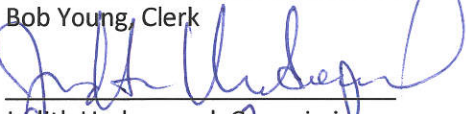
Chair Donahue entertained a motion to adjourn at 10:07am. Clerk Young moved the motion with a second by Commissioner Gough; 4-0-0.

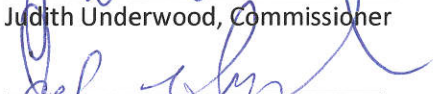

Noreen Donahue, Chair


Allin Thompson, Vice Chair


Jason Trepanier, Superintendent


Tracey Alves, Board Secretary


Bob Young, Clerk


Judith Underwood, Commissioner


John Gough, Commissioner