

MINUTES
BOARD OF WATER/WASTEWATER COMMISSIONERS
Harwich Water Department
196 Chatham Rd
Tuesday, September 9, 2025
11:00 a.m.

WATER COMMISSIONER'S PRESENT: Noreen Donahue, Bob Young, Judith Underwood, John Gough, Allin Thompson (absent)

ALSO PRESENT: Superintendent Jason Trepanier, Admin. Asst. Tracey Alves, Ed Mc Manus

CALL TO ORDER

Chair Donahue called the meeting to order at 11:00 a.m.

CONSENT AGENDA

A. Minutes

1. August 5, 2025
2. August 19, 2025

Commissioner Young made a motion to approve the Minutes of August 5th and August 19th
Commissioner Underwood seconded the motion. All in favor; 4-0-0.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Ed McManus informed the Board that final draft of the Comprehensive Plan had been completed. The Commissioners had previously reviewed and confirmed the accuracy of the capital section data. The plan will be submitted to 2026 Town Meeting for endorsement.

OLD BUSINESS

A. Route 28 East Water Main Replacement Project-Update

The Massachusetts Department of Transportation (MA DoT) is still reviewing comments. Responses are expected by September 16, 2025. When the permit is granted, the Board will revisit timing, scheduling and outreach for the project.

B. Tank Painting- Worldwide Industries- Sign Contract \$835,250 and Notice to Proceed

Commissioner Young motioned to approve and sign the tank painting contract in the amount of \$835,250 with a second by Commissioner Underwood; 4-0-0.

Commissioner Young motioned to approve and sign the Notice to Proceed. Commissioner Underwood seconded the motion; 4-0-0.

The tank work will begin on October 6, 2025, and is expected to be completed by December 2025.

C. Exchange Park Fountain- Vote to Install new unit at Exchange Park

The Board had previously voted back in July to reconnect the drinking water fountain but it was later determined that reconnection was not possible due to it being too deteriorated to reuse.

The Superintendent proposed installing a new drinking water fountain that will cost approximately \$6,000. The new fountain will also have an animal water feature.

Commissioner Underwood motioned to install a new fountain at Exchange Park. Commissioner Gough seconded the motion. All in favor 4-0-0.

The new fountain will benefit the public and align with the Water Department's mission to provide clean drinking water to the public.

In the future, if additional public water stations are added at key town locations, Wheeler Park, on Route 28 by where the Post Office is located may be another good location to consider.

D. Charter Commission Discussion

The Charter Commission requested feedback from town Board's, including the Water & Wastewater Commission.

The Board plans to discuss Charter-related issues over the next two to three meetings before submitting formal recommendations. Specific sections of the Charter that affect the Water & Wastewater Department will be identified and the goal is to ensure that the Charter accurately reflects the authority, structure, and responsibilities of the Water & Wastewater Commission and Superintendent.

Every Board member's opinion will be documented and submitted to the Charter Commission.

The Board began discussing the Charter language. It was agreed upon to retain a five-member Board with three-year overlapping terms. The Board would also like for the language to reflect that they have explicit authority to appoint, evaluate, and remove the Superintendent.

The topic will continue at the next meeting.

SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

Route 28 Phase 1 (West portion-MA DoT)-There are no new updates regarding the project. MA DoT is still compiling information.

Station 15 (New well)-This well was previously referred to as Station 10; now called Station 15. A meeting is planned with Sarah Dinguard to check monitoring status.

Hydraulic Model- There are no updates on the hydraulic model.

Grant- Superintendent Trepanier has been working with EDR on a \$50,000 cybersecurity grant from MassDEP.

Hydrant Flushing-Scheduled to begin October 1.

Sewer Regulations- The Regulations are under review by Chatham and are awaiting a vote.

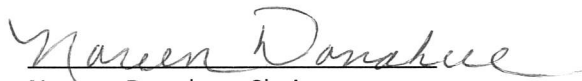
Grinder Pump Certification- Certification class for construction companies installing E1 pumps in the area has been scheduled. 18 participants are currently signed up for the class.

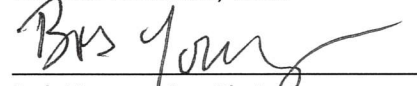
NEXT MEETING

The next meeting will be held on Tuesday, September 30, 2025 at 9:00 a.m.

ADJOURNMENT

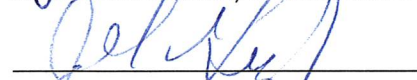
Commissioner Underwood motioned to adjourn at 12:05 p.m. with a second by Commissioner Young. All in favor; 4-0-0.


Noreen Donahue, Chair


Bob Young, Vice Chair


Allin Thompson, Commissioner


Judith Underwood, Commissioner


John Gough, Commissioner


Jason Trepanier, Superintendent

Tracey Alves, Board Secretary