

An in-person meeting of the Town of Barnstable's Barnstable Municipal Water Supply Board was held on October 15, 2024, at 6:00 PM in the Town Hall, Selectman's Conference Room, 367 Main Street, 2nd Floor, Hyannis, MA.

In attendance were: Sam Wilson, Louise O'Neil, Amy Wrightson, Timothy Stump and Patrick Ehart.

Staff present: Hans Keijser, Supervisor, Water Supply Division, Gareth Markwell, Deputy Finance Director of Municipal Operations, Matt Wrobel, P.E., Senior Project Manager and Tyler Gilman, P.E., Project Manager.

Also present: Kevin Sampson from Veolia, Aidan Oates, NewGen Strategies & Solutions, LLC. and Nate Ludtke, youth member.

A quorum being present, Chair Wilson called the meeting to order at 6:00 PM.

A motion was made and seconded to approve the agenda.

VOTE: Unanimous in favor. The Agenda is approved.

A motion was made and seconded to approve the 9/17/24 meeting minutes.

VOTE: Unanimous in favor. The 9/17/24 meeting minutes are approved.

Operations Report –

Sampson informs the board about the following distribution tasks, contract obligations for preventative maintenance, distribution issues and water main breaks that were addressed and repaired in the month of September:

- A water main leak was repaired at #141 Falmouth Road.
- A new service relay was completed for the Daily Paper restaurant on West Main Street.
- Annual flow-tests were completed at all of the well sites and well rehabilitation on (4) most needed wells was decided.
- Hydrant replacement was completed on Hydrant# 98 at the #20 School Street location.
- A curb stop repair was completed at a residence having a driveway installed. This curb stop was damaged by the driveway installation contractor which had resulted in a water leak.
- A water main leak was repaired at #120 Bearses Way.
- An inspection was completed for a newly installed service at #10 Tobey Way.
- The existing ductile iron piping and flow meter were replaced at the Mary Dunn Treatment Plant. These damages were a result of a previous lightning strike. It was also determined to replace the piping and meters to the other (3) trains located at the same plant due to the large demand needed from this facility.
- A satisfactory inspection was completed for a cut and cap at #201 Main Street.
- A call was received of water flooding the basement at #55 Longwood Avenue which resulted in the replacement of the resident's meter and the exterior curb valve.

Wilson notes that revenues are still down. Keijser expresses that he's not quite sure why the numbers are down, mentioning that it may be a result of the wet summer that was experienced. He adds that he will keep a close eye out on the issue.

All required monthly reports and sampling were completed and submitted on time.

Capital project update by Matt Wrobel, Senior Project Manager (handout dated October 10, 2024, given) – Wrobel and Gilman review the following projects and their progress as follows:

1. New well exploration program, update – Wrobel reports that all work continues to be on hold until further notice.
2. Pilot testing project Mary Dunn & Airport wells – Wrobel reports that a couple minor modifications will be completed prior to routing distribution of the document.
3. New Straightway Water Treatment Facility (WTF) and Replacement of the Hyannis Port & Simmons Pond wells – Wrobel reports that revisions have been submitted to Kleinfelder. He adds that there was not a lot of public participation with the informational meeting that was offered on October 3rd. He adds that Kleinfelder is submitting the SRF loan assistance application package for the 10/11/2024 deadline.
4. Lead Service Line Replacement – Wrobel reports that Kleinfelder is finalizing the submission to Mass DEP on 10/15/2024 which is a day ahead of deadline. He adds that DPW Engineering continues to follow-up with residents to obtain completed surveys; he states that they are advising residents to submit color photos of their service line to enable their receipt of the \$35.00 bill credit. Wrobel states that no lead has been detected to date. Wilson shares that it is great to hear that there are no detections of lead in the system to date and expresses a great job for the early submission to Mass DEP. Wrobel shares that Kleinfelder will prepare a presentation for the board which will include the findings, next steps and the estimated projected costs to fulfill those recommended next steps.
5. Route 28 / Yarmouth Road project – Wrobel reports that the water service relocations are scheduled for the evening of 10/21/2024. He adds that the water as-builts have been requested through the state.
6. Route 28 East sewer expansion project, water main extension – Wrobel reports that there has been no update since last meeting.
7. Ocean Street Water Main – Wrobel reports that the low bid contractor has been identified as Dig-It Construction and he reports that they are targeting to contractor award next month.
8. Mary Dunn 4 well building – Gilman reports that materials for the foundation of the pre-cast building has been received and that the second pay requisition has been received and is being reviewed for approval of payment.
9. Mary Dunn 16” Transmission Main – Wrobel reports that there has been no update since last meeting.
10. Mary Dunn Tank #1 Rehabilitation – Wrobel reports that there has been no update since last meeting.

FY 2024 Financial Report, Gareth Markwell, Deputy Finance Director of Municipal Operations (handout emailed by Markwell, figures as of June 30, 2024) – Markwell reviews the FY24 information with the board. The figures show that although the positive revenues and strict operating expense regulation, the monies needed for the extensive remediation within the system relative to contamination continues to grow and affect the long-term debt that drives the rates. Markwell states that the figures on page 1 clearly display the great work done by staff throughout the year. O’Neil inquires about what the Mass Clean Water Trust is; Keijser explains that they are the state loan agency who facilitates funding from the federal government and offers borrowing at low interest rates. Ehart inquires how payments are made relative to the long-term debt; Markwell states that it all depends on the bond terms. Wilson thanks Markwell for his presentation.

First run of FY 2026 operating budget, capital and rates using our model, Aidan Oates, Senior Analyst, NewGen Strategies & Solutions, LLC present – Oates states that the rate model displays a projected rate increase of 8% in FY 2026 (8% increases for the next 8 years) while maintaining a minimum projected year-end cash balances (4-month reserve). He adds that this is taking into consideration the needed \$500,000 (decreased from 1M) yearly transfer-in from the stabilization fund, \$231,000 yearly county settlement

funds, a zero growth in customer base and delaying new debt payments after project completion for a year. The approximate figures are as follows:

- Proposed Operational Budget-FY 2026 in the amount of: \$9,620,746.00
- Capital Improvement Plan-FY 2026 in the amount of: \$4,700,000.00
- 8% rate increase which would enable the water system to maintain a 4-month reserve. Retention of reserves is essential.

It is discussed that SRF loan payments normally start approximately 2 years after disbursement. Keijser explains how different loans/bonds work. Ehart asks if the figures are with keeping consumption fixed; Oates states “yes”, Keijser adds that the water system is basically built out, so the numbers should stay steady. Wilson comments how the water system is starting to see the “large bill” for the projects it is facing. Keijser questions then computes that the proposed rate increase would result in a \$10 average, quarterly residential increase = \$40 a year.

FY 2025 Capital Project Timetable (handout dated 10/8/2024 given) – Keijser reviews the information of the following capital projects approved by town council, totaling \$39,800,000:

1. Pipe Replacement and Upgrade Program, \$1.5M
2. Water Supply Wells, Pump Station and Treatment Plant repair and upgrade program: \$200,000
3. Straightway Filtration Plant, Construction, \$35,500,000
4. Mary Dunn Filtration Plant, Design, \$2,600,000

Review of uncollectable account and liens, update – Keijser informs the board that the customer in question from last meeting has paid the account in full and therefore was removed from the lien’s list. He adds that the remaining accounts are being processed through the Assessing Department for a property lien. O’Neil asks where the money goes upon payment from a delinquent account; Keijser states that it goes into the Water Supply Division’s reserve account.

Next generation, “at-large” youth water board member, follow-up – Wilson introduces to the board; Nate Ludtke, who attends Sturgis-West in his senior year. The board welcomes Ludtke.

Fall, open house for the general public and water plant tour, Saturday, October 26th, 9:00 am, 11:00 am, 1:00 pm, follow-up – Wilson summarizes that the open house will be similar to the tour given to town councilors with focus on the Maher Treatment Plant, expressing that they will be explaining what the Water System does. Wilson states he needs another member to host the 1:00 pm time slot; O’Neil and Wrightson state they are available. O’Neil inquires how this is being advertised; Wilson requests that board members speak with their councilors and ask them to share with their constituents. He adds that it will also be posted on social media as well and will communicate with board members participatory information.

Matters not reasonably anticipated by the Chair – None.

Meeting was adjourned at 7:32 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

*Marcia Sellitto
DPW, Water Supply Division –Administrative Assistant*

Materials presented at meeting:
- Meeting Agenda October 15, 2024 (presented by: T.O.B.-DPW, Water Supply Div.)

- Meeting Minutes for approval 9/17/2024 (*presented by:* T.O.B.-DPW, Water Supply Div.)
- H.W.B. Monthly Report, September 2024 (*presented by:* Veolia)
- FY '25 Pumping Projection spreadsheets, dated 10/9/2024 (*presented by:* Hans Keijser)
- Billed and Received Revenue Projection-FY'25, dated 10/9/2024 (*presented by:* Hans Keijser)
- Copy of Capital Project spreadsheet, dated 10/10/2024, from Matt Wrobel (*presented by:* Mike Tieu & Matt Wrobel)
- CIP FY25 Timetable, dated 10/8/2024 (*presented by:* T.O.B.-DPW, Water Supply Div.)
- Copy of Proposed Operating Budget Fiscal Year 2026, dated 9/20/2024 (*presented by:* T.O.B.-DPW, Water Supply Div.)
- Copy of Water Supply Enterprise Fund Financial sheets, dated 6/30/2024 (*presented by:* Gareth Markwell)
- Copy of Free Cash Certification-Retained Earnings Calculation- Water- Fiscal Year 2025, dated 10/4/2024 (*presented by:* T.O.B.-DPW, Water Supply Div.)
- Copy of Water System Model, dated 10/11/2024 (*presented by:* Aidan Oates, NewGen Strategies and Solutions, LLC)
- Newspaper Clippings (*presented by:* Hans Keijser)