



# TOWN OF HALIFAX, MASSACHUSETTS BOARD OF WATER COMMISSIONERS

500 PLYMOUTH STREET  
HALIFAX, MASSACHUSETTS 02338  
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## MEETING MINUTES January 10, 2023

5:08 p.m. Daniel Bosworth made a motion to open the meeting.  
Seconded by Richard Clark

*Motion Passes*

Present: Richard Clark, Chairman  
Daniel O. Bosworth, Jr., Clerk  
Bill Lindsay, Superintendent  
Kathleen O'Neil, Administrative Assistant  
See attached list of other attendees

Absent: Donald Bosworth, Commissioner

### Meeting Minutes

Daniel Bosworth made a motion to approve the meeting minutes from December 13, 2022, as written.  
Second by Richard Clark.

*Motion Passes*

### Discussion – 526 Thompson Street- Sarah Page

Ms. Page came to the meeting tonight to hear the Carver Street discussion about discolored water. She has been experiencing discolored water in both her hot and cold taps. She does not have a hot water tank or filtration system. Dick explained that the Water Department is in the process of upgrading both water treatment plants. His hope is that these upgrades will clear up some of the issues with discolored water.

### Discussion – 54 Carver Street – Linda Parent

Mr. Parent requested to meet with the Commission tonight to discuss discolored water on her street. She stated it is becoming a real problem. Any white laundry turns yellow. Her tap water comes out the color of tea. She is worried that it is not safe. She is buying bottled water to cook with and give to her animals. Her neighbor, Aldine McGee, also in attendance, has been experiencing similar issues.

Ms. Parent stated that she has been going to Whitman to do her laundry. She showed the Commission photos of darkly tinged water. She also stated that she has medical issues and needs to drink a lot of water.

Both Ms. Parent and Ms. McGee want to know what the town is going to do about this issue. They stated that 25 years ago we had the best tasting water in the area. Ms. Page asked why this is happening. Dick stated that the department is working on figuring that out. The attendees asked if it is due to the water line pipes being old. Dick does not believe it is related to the age of the pipes and added that the water tank was recently cleaned and is slated to be cleaned again this Spring. Dick explained what the water treatment plant upgrades entails and the upcoming warrant article to fund the completion of this project.

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Discussion – 54 Carver Street – Linda Parent (continued)

Bill Lindsay stated that he opened a couple of hydrants on Carver Street last week and the discolored water cleared right up. He also stated that the discolored water is likely due to naturally occurring iron and manganese in the water. Dick said the water is tested every month for several contaminants. The water is safe to drink.

Ms. Page stated that they do not have drinkable water in their homes. Ms. Parent added that they should not have to pay for it. Kathy distributed the 2021 Consumer Confidence Report to each attendee. Dick explained that the Water Department is funded through water rates and not through property taxes. Dick asked that each attendee call and report discolored water every time they experience it. This way the Water Department can look for any patterns.

5:39 p.m. All attendees left the meeting.

Discussion – Recap of Meeting for Plant Upgrades

Dick told Danny what was discussed at the meeting last week with Jon and Robert from Tata & Howard, Town Accountant, Sandy Nolan, Bill and Kathy. Dick broke down current finances and the potential for additional funding.

Sandy has advised us not to raise water rates because our retained earning balance is healthy. Dick and Dan also do not want to raise rates because times are tough for everyone right now.

Daniel Bosworth made a motion to submit a warrant article for the Annual Town Meeting to request \$1.65 million dollars to fund the water treatment plants upgrades in their entirety.

Second by Richard Clark.

*Motion Passes*

Discussion – EPA

Bill stated that the EPA would like to have a meeting to discuss our discharge permit and missed November 2022 deadline to award the plant upgrades bid. Dick stated that he wants EPA to attend the meeting in person at this location. He does not want a Zoom meeting. Dick wants to make sure that the Board of Selectmen, Town Accountant and Tata & Howard are all given the opportunity to attend. Bill will let the EPA know.

Adjournment

6:31 p.m. Daniel Bosworth made a motion to adjourn.

Seconded by Richard Clark

*Motion Passes*

Approved,

  
Daniel Bosworth, Clerk

Water Commissioner's Meeting 1/10/2023

PLEASE PRINT

NAME	ADDRESS
Sarah Page	5267 Newsum St.
Jenifer Parent	54 Carter St.
Alyssa Miller	50 Garver St.