



# TOWN OF HALIFAX, MASSACHUSETTS BOARD OF WATER COMMISSIONERS

500 PLYMOUTH STREET  
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## MEETING MINUTES March 14, 2023

5:00 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

Absent: Donald Bosworth, Commissioner

### Meeting Minutes

Daniel Bosworth made a motion to approve the meeting minutes from January 10, as written.  
Second by Richard Clark.

*Motion Passes*

### Discussion – Flow Tests and Fees

Bill received a couple of calls regarding flow tests recently. As of now, the water department does not charge for this service. Most other towns have fees ranging from \$50 to \$500. Bridgewater charges \$400. Abington charges \$400. Hanson is \$160 for day tests and \$240 for night. Dick suggested we charge \$100 per test. Dan agreed.

### Update – Well #4

Maher has taken the pump to their facility to thoroughly clean it. They have advised Bill that he needs to replace a wire to the pump. Bill will get that done.

### Update – New Truck

Bill informed the Commissioners that the new truck took three weeks to register due to ongoing paperwork issues with the insurance company. The truck had the light kit installed and is now being used by David Hathaway.

### Sanitary Survey

Bill informed the Commissioners that a sanitary survey will be done the afternoon of March 29<sup>th</sup>. The office has updated the contact sheets and created binders for each plant with important contact information. The only thing pending is the cross-connection plan which is being worked on by Richard Tinkham.

#### Outlet Pipe Residual Results

Bill bought an inflatable plug that was used on February 17<sup>th</sup>. The plug has a cap and will work until the lagoons get too full. It cost around \$900 and works well.

The highest result was .02. Testing included five days of 0.0 results. The DEP would like .19 for the month and .11 for a day. That makes us currently under the level they prefer.

#### Status – Bidding Process

Bill had a pre-bid meeting at the plant last Thursday. One company requested a two-week delay to rework their numbers. The Town Administrator, Cody Haddad, said that we can grant a one-week extension but that's it. Bill notified the EPA of the date change. They were happy to be notified.

#### Plants Upgrade Contract

The Commissioners signed an addition original of the Tata & Howard contract for proper town record keeping.

#### Discussion – Union Renegotiations

Bill stated that the staff's union contract expires on June 30, 2023. The union representative has been unavailable for several weeks but negotiations are due to start soon. Dick stated that he feels the Administrative Assistant is getting a bad deal at her current salary. They discussed other jobs available in the area and their associated pay rates. The Commissioners feel like something needs to be done soon in order to keep our current staff or have the ability to hire quality replacement staff if needed.

#### Discussion – Iron Services

Bill asked what happens if the town breaks an old iron service when trying to replace a water meter. Who has the responsibility to fix it? Dick said the water absolutely needs to be shut off at the street before ever attempting to replace this type of meter. Dick and Dan both agreed that the town would need to fix the problem and never leave a customer without water.

#### Discussion – Hilda Lane

Bill stated that the property owner of Hilda Lane has requested to be allowed to install a 6" water line instead of an 8". He is building a road that will go to only two houses. The rules and regulations state that nothing under 8" is allowed. Dick is concerned that if something smaller goes in, there will come a time when more abutters will want to hook into town water from it. The Commissioners agreed that an 8" line needs to be installed. They told Bill that if the property owner has an issue with that, he should get on the agenda for the next meeting.

#### Discussion – Building Access

Bill informed the Commissioners that the town's IT person wants to get rid of key access to all town buildings, including the water treatment plants and replace them with fobs. Bill said that this will require the added monthly expense of monitoring access. Dan and Dick both agreed that it sounds like a waste of the town's money and nothing would be gained. They are not in favor of this change.

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Adjournment

7:05 p.m. Daniel Bosworth made a motion to adjourn.  
Seconded by Richard Clark

*Motion Passes*

Approved,

  
Daniel Bosworth, Clerk