

**Carver Select Board**  
**Joint Meeting with North Carver Water District Commissioners**  
**Meeting Minutes**  
**Town Hall- meeting room #1**  
**June 23, 2022 - 6:00pm**

In Attendance: Chair Mark Townsend, Vice-Chair Sarah Hewins, Jen Bogart, John Cotter, Town Administrator Robert Fennessy and Shelby Roy.

Absent: Jim Hoffman

North Carver Water District Commissioners (NCWD): Kevin Tracey and Mike Palimeri

Small Water Systems Representatives: Deborah Trumbull, Owner and Steve Bachand, Supervisor of Drinking Water Department

The Chair led the meeting with the Pledge of Allegiance and read the Community Prayer

**Joint meeting with the North Carver Water District Commissioners to discuss recurring water issues and possible solutions**

Tracey called the North Carver Water District meeting to order at 6:02pm.

Townsend stated that the purpose of this meeting is to get to the bottom of this issue and to come up with long-term & short-term solutions.

Tracey explained that the membranes exceeded their life span and unfortunately, NCWD will need to stop operations. In the meantime, these residents will need to be hooked up to the Middleboro water line.

Dave Siedentopf, Director of Operations & Maintenance introduced himself.

Deborah Trumbull and Steve Bachand from Small Water Systems introduced themselves.

Several residents came up to the table to express their frustration: Hannah McDonald of 11 Lakenham Drive, Joe Beadling of 277 Meadow Street, Keith Bossong of 27 Santana Way.

Tracey stated that the funds are available to purchase replaceable membranes, but there needs to be Town Meeting approval. Unfortunately, the quotes came in too late to get this on the April Town Meeting.

Townsend asked what the Town can do to immediately have drinkable water for these residents.

Fennessy stated that the Town can have a delivery type of service for the water.

Several residents came up to the table to express their frustration: Tara Stone of 10 Lakenham Drive, Wesley Swain of 6 Lakenham Drive, Bridget McDonald of 11 Lakenham Drive.

Trumbull from Small Water Systems stated that these membranes are very expensive to replace and they last about 10 years. The licensed employees check the water 6-12 times a day. Several weeks ago on June 2<sup>nd</sup> the system was flushed with Middleboro Water and there were no issues. There were samples taken on Monday June 20<sup>th</sup> and she received the results today. The iron and manganese levels were high.

Trumbull spoke with the Town, State and residents on why the hydrants are being left open. There are unauthorized people & contractors that are stealing the water from the hydrants.

Several residents came up to the table to express their frustration: Lynda Marchi of 1 Lakenham Drive, Mike Jones of 7 Lakenham Drive, Christopher Mahoney owner of both Honey Dew Locations, Dan Badger of 165 Plymouth Street, Emily Collins of 3 Arrowhead Lane, Mary Dormer of 162 Plymouth Street, Steve Harris of 2 Arrowhead Lane, Matt Thomas of 4 Captain Perkins Drive and Paula Hart of 212 Plymouth Street.

Trumbull clarified that the naturally occurring of Iron & Manganese that broke through the membrane is brand new to them and that this has not been happening for years. Also, the shutting down of the NCWD is to stop any further problems from happening.

Motion to immediately provide bottled water to the residents no later than tomorrow morning and to reimburse those who have purchased water by Hewins, second by Cotter.

Vote 4-0

Tracey stated that when they receive their bill, residents can make a request to appeal this. Hewins clarified the approximate start date is May 13<sup>th</sup> for residents being able to be reimbursed retroactively for purchasing water and the residents should put this into a request to the Planning Office with Jill Martins.

Townsend asked how much it is to replace the membranes.

Tracey stated that it is \$205,166.95 to replace. There will need to be 50% of the payment submitted up front and the rest submitted upon completion.

Motion to use ARPA funds for the down payment of these membranes and to have NWCD reimburse the funds by Hewins, second by Cotter.

Vote 4-0

Hewins stated that Ms. Dormer was the one that had informed her on this issue back in 2017 and not the Town Administrator at that time. She stated that the votes were always 4-1 and she was the one "1".

Motion to institute two reverse 911 calls, one to the whole Town for this emergency and one for maintenance flushing, etc. to the users and businesses of NCWD by Hewins, second by Bogart.

Vote 4-0

Townsend stated that there should be someone that receives a stipend or have a position created in the Town on resident's behalf.

Siedentopf stated that they are hiring someone new that this could be added to their duties.

Motion to institute lock boxes on all hydrants conditional on Fire Chief approval by Hewins, second by Bogart.

Vote 4-0

Cotter stated that he does not recall this being on the Capital Plan.

Tracey explained that he never planned to have this on the Capital Plan, but always intended NCWD to use their funds.

Michael Bumpus from the Middleboro Water Department stated that he will speak with Chair Germain of the Middleboro Select Board on hooking these residents up.

Trumbull stated that there are rules and regulations that they will have to follow when it comes to sampling.

Motion for NCWD customers to receive water from Middleboro as soon as possible by Palimeri, second by Tracey.

Vote 2-0

Palimeri spoke as a resident of 164 Plymouth Street and stated that back in 2016 he had brought up the well contamination issue to the Town. He has lived there since 2010 and the NCWD has always been an issue for a small group of people. His advice is to keep following up with the Town, Tracey and himself so the residents can stay informed. He stated that his term is for 3 years and will try his best to do something in this time frame.

Hewins confirmed with Fennessy and Trumbull the emergency contact number for Small Water Systems: 978-501-7600.

Siedentopf stated that they plan to shut down the plant tonight and start to move the Middleboro water. This will give the residents better pressure and clean water, Middleboro is the best source for tonight.

Townsend stated that the point of contact for the residents right now is the Town Administrator, Robert Fennessy. He can be reached at 508-866-3401.

Trumbull stated that she has always used the phrase "If you see something, say something". For the hydrants issue, if anyone see's someone stealing or see's someone that should not be at the hydrants, please call the Police Department and get any information on them (license plate number for example).

Fennessy confirmed that this is the correct route to go for the hydrants issue.

Motion to adjourn the NCWD meeting at 8:44pm by Palimeri, second by Tracey.

Vote 2-0

Motion to adjourn the Select Board meeting at 8:44pm by Hewins, second by Cotter.

Vote 3-0

Bogart excused herself at 7:45pm.