

**NORTH SHORE WATER AUTHORITY**

**MINUTES OF OFFICIAL BOARD MEETING MAY 25, 2022**

---

The meeting took place at the North Shore High School located at 450 Glen Cove Avenue – Library room.

Meeting was called to order at 7:05 PM.

**ROLL CALL:** All six (6) appointed Board members were in attendance:

George Pombar (Glen Head/Glenwood Landing Representative)

Richard Arena (Glen Head/Glenwood Landing Representative)

James W. Versocki, Esq. (Sea Cliff Representative)

Sandeep Kapoor, M.D., MS-HPPL (Roslyn Harbor Representative)

John Vasilakis (Old Brookville Representative)

James Greenberg, Esq. (Glen Cove Representative)

**PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE** – All members and attendees joined in the pledge of allegiance.

**PRO TEM APPOINTMENTS.** The Board members agreed to rotate the chairperson who will preside over each meeting. J. Versocki, representing the village of Sea Cliff, agreed to preside as chairperson over the initial meeting and G. Pombar, representing the hamlet of Glen Head, agreed to act as the secretary for this meeting.

An agenda with exhibits was made available to all board members and shared with the public attendees.

Board member Versocki called the meeting to order. Mr. Versocki and Mr. Pombar provided background on the creation of the NSWA via legislation passed in November 2021 and emphasized the historical significance of this first meeting of the newly created water authority.

The Chair provided an overview of the law creating the Authority and the Joint Proposal filed and signed by all parties to the Public Service Commission case that authorized the sale of American Water assets to Liberty Water. Copies of the enabling law and joining proposal were provided to all board members for review and reference. Mr. Pombar also discussed the initial feasibility study prepared by Walden Environmental for the Village of Sea Cliff pursuant to a state grant. Mr. Pombar explained how the study, prepared during 2019-2020, helped provide a framework for this board as it sets out pricing for the Sea Cliff Water District assets currently operated by Liberty Utilities and such figures will be of great assistance to this board. Mr. Pombar encouraged all members to review these documents to assist in the goal of reaching an agreement for municipal water supply to be provided to the North Shore community who reside in the Sea Cliff water district..

Mr. Versocki confirmed that all individual Board appointment letters had been received by the board and all members acknowledged receipt of the letters. Copies of the appointment letters will be retained for reference.

Mr. Versocki addressed item 5D on the agenda - the assignment of Board members to the various committees. Each committee should have three Board members. After discussion, the Board members agreed to create the following committees:

- Negotiations Committee: J. Versocki (Chair), G. Pombar, J. Greenberg
- Interviewing Personnel Committee: G. Pombar (Chair), S. Kapoor, J. Versocki
- Finance Committee: J. Vasilakis (Chair), R. Arena, G. Pombar
- Water Safety & Public Health Committee: S. Kapoor (chair), R. Arena, J. Greenberg

A motion was made, seconded and unanimously passed creating the aforementioned committees.

Upon motion made, seconded and unanimously passed, the Board adopted Resolution 2022-1: as follows: RESOLVED, that the NORTH SHORE WATER AUTHORITY does hereby designate a board Negotiations Committee consisting of the following board members: J. Versocki, G. Pombar, J. Greenberg. Board member Versocki shall be the chair of the Negotiations Committee. The Negotiations Committee is authorized to commence negotiations with Liberty Water for the public acquisition and municipalization of the Sea Cliff Water District pursuant to Title 5-a of the public authorities law and in accordance with the terms of the Joint Proposal in PSC Case No. 20-W-0102.

Upon motion made, seconded and unanimously passed, the Board adopted Resolution 2022-1: as follows: Resolution 2022-2: RESOLVED, that the NORTH SHORE WATER AUTHORITY does hereby designate a Finance Committee consisting of the following board members J. Vasilakis, R. Arena, G. Pombar. Board member Vasilakis shall be the chair of the Finance Committee. The Finance Committee is authorized to contact necessary legislative and governmental agencies to obtain the funds for the NORTH SHORE WATER AUTHORITY authorized by section 239-bb(12) of the general municipal law, recommend financial professionals to the Board to be retained by the NORTH SHORE WATER AUTHORITY, and take reasonable steps necessary to obtain and secure funds for the NORTH SHORE WATER AUTHORITY authorized by section 239-bb(12) of the general municipal law. It is further resolved that no funds may be expended by or on behalf of the NORTH SHORE WATER AUTHORITY until funds are obtained and in the possession of bank accounts of the NORTH SHORE WATER AUTHORITY and after a majority vote of the Board of Directors at a duly held and properly noticed meeting of the board and in accordance with applicable law. It is further resolved that no bank account shall be opened on behalf of the authority without the express permission of a majority vote of the Board of Directors at a duly held and properly noticed meeting of the board and in accordance with applicable law.

Consistent with Board resolution 2022-1, Mr. Versocki advised the board that he would prepare a letter to be sent to Liberty Utilities introducing the Authority to Liberty Utilities and commencing the process for negotiations pursuant to the Joint Proposal.

Mr. Versocki discussed the grants received by the Village of Sea Cliff from Senators Marcellino and Gaughan to assist in the preparation of a feasibility study of the Sea Cliff water district. An initial study

was performed by Walden & Co. The Chair thanked both senators as well as Assemblymen Levine, Ra and Montesano for their support in passing the bill that ultimately was approved by Gov. Hochul, to approve the creation of the NSWA.

G. Pombar, J. Greenberg, and R. Arena inquired about the balance of these grants assigned to the village of Sea Cliff for managing the funding process, for the purpose of possibly using the balance for the hiring of the bill's mandated staff. G. Pombar stated there will be an immediate need to have Walden update the existing feasibility study and such update should be funded from the grant. J. Versocki stated he will discuss the questions with the Village of Sea Cliff officials, which Mr. Versocki represents as a member of the Authority Board and a Village trustee, and he will report back on his findings at the next meeting.

The Chair then moved to discuss various points the Board will need to consider going forward including the need for insurance coverage for the Authority and its board members. Mr. Versocki discussed a letter from the State Authorities Board asking for points of contact for the Authority; the Board designated J. Vasilakis and J. Versocki as the points of contact. The board also discussed the need for a website to post public information and all were reminded by the chair that all deliberations, including electronic messages, are subject to the open meetings law and the Freedom of Information law and should therefore be retained as public records. Mr. Pombar emphasized the need for each Board member to establish a dedicated email address, separate from their personal email, for Authority business.

G. Pombar discussed the need for staff for the Authority once funding is obtained. He advised he would work on a job description for the CEO position for review by the personnel committee. .

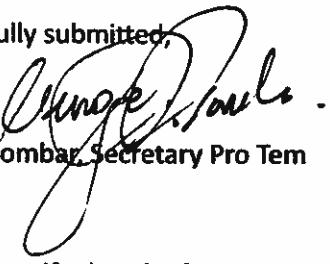
The Board discussed holding the next meeting in the Village of Sea Cliff Hall on June 21, 2022.

Having concluded all business, the Board invited comments from the public with the following comments received from those attending the meeting:

- J. Lopes of Glen Head stated there is website in existence, currently maintained by him as a member of the North Shore Concerned Citizens group from Glen Head, which can be easily be used by the NSWA. Mr. Lopes also provided information on local water usage which he has gathered from the various public water company data. The Board thanked Mr. Lopes for his years of service to the North Shore community as a board member of North Shore COncerned Citizens and thanked him for the information he provided.
- A. Nadel from Glen Head emphasized the serious task before the board advised the board that the community wants municipal water. She also recommended the Board track the record of New York American Water and their use of lobbyists to reach their objectives. Lastly, she urged the Board to explore all funding avenues for the acquisition of assets, including all available grants.
- S. Carey, recently retired from the Massapequa Water District and currently consulting with the Massapequa Water district for H2M, congratulated the board on its formation and offered his assistance to the board. He encouraged the board to explore the possibility of using existing grants to update the feasibility study.

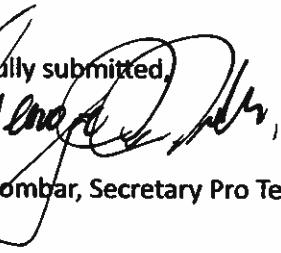
There being no further business before the board, a motion was made to adjourn the meeting at 8 p.m. by G. Pombar, seconded by R. Arena, and passed unanimously by the Board.

Respectfully submitted,

  
George Pombar, Secretary Pro Tem

I hereby certify that the foregoing is a true and accurate copy of the minutes of the meeting of the Board of the North Shore Water Authority held on May 25, 2022.

Respectfully submitted,

  
George Pombar, Secretary Pro Tem