

## WATER AUTHORITY OF NORTH SHORE

### MINUTES OF BOARD MEETING HELD ON AUGUST 2, 2022

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The meeting took place at the GOLD COAST LIBRARY ANNEX, 50 Railroad Avenue, Glen Head, NY 11545

Meeting was called to order at 7:05 PM.

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

**ROLL CALL:**

Richard Arena (Glen Head/Glenwood Landing Representative), Absent

James Greenberg, Esq. (Glen Cove Representative), Present

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

George Pombar (Glen Head/Glenwood Landing Representative), Present

John Vasilakis (Old Brookville Representative), Present

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

**PRO TEM APPOINTMENTS:** The Board members agreed to appoint Member Pombar, representing the hamlet of Glen Head, to preside as chairperson over the meeting and Member Versocki, representing the village of Sea Cliff, was appointed to act as the secretary for this meeting.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES.** A motion was made by Member Versocki and seconded by Member Greenberg, to approve the minutes of the July 18, 2022 meeting. The motion passed unanimously.

**REPORT OF THE COMMITTEES:**

**Personnel.** Member Pombar reported that there was no report at this time based on ongoing discussions with the Suffolk County Water Authority.

**Health and Safety Committee.** Member Kapoor reported that there was no report at this time based on ongoing discussions with the Suffolk County Water Authority.

**Finance Committee.** Member Versocki reported that the State Comptroller's office contacted him and that he and Member Vasilakis have registered the Authority in the State Comptroller's vendor database/portal. Member Vasilakis has all login information and is the designated Authority representative on the portal. Member Pombar inquired if any other filings were required and Member Versocki and Vasilakis will review and report at upcoming meetings.

**Negotiations Committee.** Member Versocki reported that Liberty has forwarded a draft NDA for review by the Authority as part of the Joint Proposal process. Member Pomar reported on the meeting held by the negotiations committee and the Suffolk County Water Authority (SCWA). The meeting was held on July 21, 2022 at the SCWA offices and included the top officials at the SCWA including their CEO, chief legal officers and senior staff. Member Versocki reviewed the draft SCWA proposal with the Board and comments/suggested edits were provided to the negotiations committee in order to continue

negotiations for a cooperative agreement between the WANS and SCWA to assist WANS in negotiations with Liberty. The board discussed whether the Authority retains control over assets managed by SCWA and the board agreed that WANS must control the funds. Other requested edits will be made to the agreement by the negotiations committee.

**OLD BUSINESS:**

- a. Walden Update. Member Versocki advised that the Village has sought a new proposal from Walden to assist in the valuation of Liberty assets. There was a discussion on whether other experts can be used. Member Versocki advised that he will seek to have the negotiations committee attend future discussions with the Village and Walden. Member Versocki advised that the possible contract with SCWA will also help the Authority determine appropriate experts for the valuation and municipalization process.
- b. Public Service Commission cases. As previously authorized by the Board, Member Versocki filed requests for WANS status as an interested party in the open Public Service Commission cases.

**RESOLUTIONS**

Resolution 2022-5: Resolved, that the Water Authority of North Shore authorizes its Negotiations Committee to sign the proposed cooperative agreement for Administrative Assistance with the Suffolk County Water Authority, subject to the amendments requested by the Board at its August 2, 2022 meeting. Upon motion made by Member Pombar and seconded by Member Kapoor, the resolution passed unanimously.

**PUBLIC COMMENT**

Mr. Warshaw of Glen Head discussed that someone will want to operate our water district and recommended that the Authority invest the funds it receives and hire staff, including a CEO, as needed.

Mr. Lopes of Glen Head also noted that the district is going to be desired and another operator will want to operate the district for us.

Mr. Papiro of Glen Head inquired about how the Authority is funded.

Mr. Warshaw asked if the board has spoken informally with Liberty. The board members advised that no one has spoken with Liberty and that the only communications have been in writing to start the negotiation process under the Joint Proposal with the Public Service Commission.

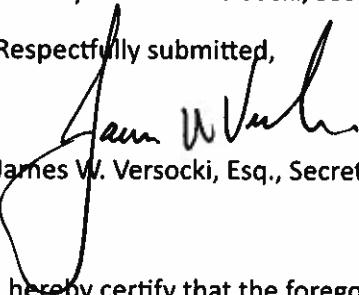
Ms. Agatha Nadel of Glen Head thanked the board for moving forward with steps to bring on SCWA for support. She advised the board to be cautious about Liberty pressure on other local elected officials and water districts. She believes that partnering with SCWA will allow WANS to avoid such pressures as SCWA is the second largest water operator in New York State. She also advised that Liberty has hired Mr. Stephen Delgagati - a former Town of Oyster Bay employee - in its intergovernmental affairs department. She noted that South Huntington residents pay approximately \$40 for a water bill that costs \$242 in the Liberty serviced area of the North Shore. She also advised that Mr. Alario, President of Liberty, has extensive experience in the water industry, including for American Water as a vice-president for business development.

NEXT MEETING DATES

The next meetings were set for August 24, 2022 at 7pm and August 31, 2022 at 7pm at the Gold Coast Library Annex. The board will not necessarily use both dates but will hold them in case both dates are necessary.

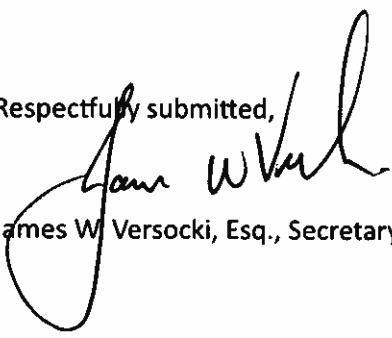
There being no further business before the board, a motion was made to adjourn the meeting at 8:56 p.m. by Member Versocki, seconded by Member Greenberg, and passed unanimously by the Board.

Respectfully submitted,

  
James W. Versocki, Esq., 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 Water Authority of North Shoreheld on August 2, 2022.

Respectfully submitted,

  
James W. Versocki, Esq., Secretary Pro Tem

