

**MINUTES OF BOARD OF SELECTMEN MEETING  
WEDNESDAY, MAY 30, 2018**

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Chairman Prisco called the meeting to order at 6:34 p.m. in Room 14 at the Town Hall in the presence of members Mrs. Manupelli, Mr. Mauceri, Mr. O'Leary, and Town Administrator, Michael Gilleberto. Mr. Schultz was absent.

**CALL TO ORDER OPEN SESSION**

Chairman Prisco called to order the open session at 6:34 p.m.

The members recited the Pledge of Allegiance.

The Chairman States: "In accordance with the Open Meeting Law, the Board states for the record that this meeting is being recorded by NORCAM and may be recorded by other local media."

**MWRA / ANDOVER WATER / WASTEWATER UPDATE**  
**VOTE TO APPROVE NEXT STEPS**

Mr. O'Leary updated the Board on the status of the negotiations of the long term water agreement between Andover and North Reading. Andover is meeting tonight to discuss the terms of the agreement. Mr. O'Leary stated that if both Boards are in favor of the agreement tonight, there will be no need for an additional meeting tomorrow.

Water consultant, Rob Williamson and Town Council, Gregg Corbo were in attendance to answer any questions from the Board. Attorney Corbo explained the 4 contingencies in the agreement that will protect both parties.

1. Agreement goes into effect the moment both parties sign and will terminate if legislation is not passed;
2. If legislation is not passed or passed differently than both parties agreed to the agreement goes back to the existing agreement with a one year extension;
3. If Andover does not sign after legislation is passed, they will incur a penalty;
4. If North Reading does not sign after legislation is passed, they will give up a credit that is in the existing agreement.

If any of these contingencies occur, the agreement goes back to the existing agreement with a one year extension.

Mr. Gilleberto stated that the recommendation is for Town Meeting to be asked to appropriate 3 Million Dollars for potable water to give the Town insurance to connect with Andover or MWRA; in doing this the Town doesn't have to wait until October Town meeting to obtain construction funding.

Attorney Corbo goes through each page of the agreement. He emphasized the following:

- North Reading residents will be treated the same as Andover residents;
- North Reading will not be treated as one unit, language in the agreement represents parody;

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- Each town is responsible to meet water quality guidelines once it crosses over the Town line.

Mr. Prisco stated that he and Mr. Schultz are concerned with the Merrimack River's ability to meet water quality standards long term. Mr. O'Leary responded that Andover has a reservoir to use in the case of a combined sewer overflow (CSO); Water Superintendent Mark Clark responded that Andover has a couple of layers of protection if a CSO occurs. Mr. Prisco referred to an article in the Tribune that reported some Andover residents are experiencing GI issues they feel are related to the water. Mr. Prisco requested these concerns be addressed before June Town Meeting.

Mr. Prisco reads a statement from Mr. Schultz as follows:

"While I am unable to attend tonight's meeting due to a family obligation, I wish state for the record my opposition to the Andover 99 year water deal. I am strongly concerned with the safety aspect of the water emanating from the Merrimack River versus water from the Quabbin reservoir. The Merrimack River has much industry on it and many raw sewerage inflows during storms. The Quabbin has no industry on it and is in a protected watershed.

According to the May 27, 2018 Eagle Tribune....

Upstream from our water intake in Andover here are the 2017 raw sewage discharges by community:

Manchester, NH 227 million gallons (15 outfalls)

Nashua, NH 9 million gallons (5 outfalls)

Lowell: 108 million gallons (8 outfalls)

According to a 2015 study published in the journal Environmental Health Perspective, it was found that there were a significant increase in people visiting hospital emergency rooms with gastrointestinal illnesses following raw sewage discharges into the river in the Lowell, Andover and Lawrence region. This is a public health issue as it is obvious from this study that folks were getting sick on treated water. With Andover we will be drinking water that at times will be mixed with sewerage. We will not have that issue with the MWRA.

Less cost isn't always the best choice and the MWRA clearly is a safer and much cleaner water supply. Also the Andover option is not a permanent solution and merely kicks the can down the road for future generations.

Also, in the event the Board does go down the Andover path I do not believe the current language regarding sewerage tie has any teeth whatsoever and needs to be tightened up.

The language "At North Reading's election, Andover will work cooperatively with North Reading to facilitate North Reading's connection through Andover's sewer network to the

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Greater Lawrence Sanitary District sewer treatment facility. All costs for such application and implementation shall be subject to a separate agreement between Andover and North Reading.” is not sufficient to protect our interests. Given the length of time it took to get us this far, do we really think Andover will cooperate with us on sewerage once they have us signed up for 99 years of water??

For these reasons, and many others, I strongly believe MWRA to be a safer and permanent water option.

Thank you,  
Andrew Schultz”

Mrs. Manupelli stated that the sewer component of the agreement is what shifted her from MWRA to being in favor of the Andover agreement. She further stated the rate terms of the agreement are hard to turn away from. She would like Andover to firm up their commitment to provide sewer to the Town in the future. Mr. O’Leary responded that sewer was not specifically addressed but was in the equation and to tie it into the agreement now would make it more confusing. Mr. Clark responded that a sewer agreement would take more time and more negotiations than the water agreement.

Mr. Gilleberto informed the Board that he just received word from Andover Town Manager that the Andover Board of Selectmen is in agreement with the terms of the agreement with no changes.

The Board is in agreement that there is no need for further discussion and a vote to approve and sign the agreement will take place on June 4<sup>th</sup> at June Town Meeting. Mr. O’Leary stated he would like more than a simple majority vote, he would like unanimity.

MR. CHAIRMAN, I MOVE TO EXTEND THE PERIOD OF TIME FOR NORTH READING’S CONSIDERATION OF A LONG TERM PERMANENT AGREEMENT TO JUNE 4, 2018.

MOTION BY:	MR. O’LEARY
SECONDED BY:	MRS. MANUPELLI
VOTED:	4-0 (UNANIMOUS) (MR. SCHULTZ ABSENT)

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**APPOINTMENT: CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT PLANNING COMMITTEE**

MR. CHAIRMAN, I MOVE TO APPOINT DYANA BOUTWELL TO THE CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT PLANNING COMMITTEE AS A SCHOOL COMMITTEE REPRESENTATIVE FOR A TERM TO EXPIRE MAY 4, 2021.

MOTION BY: MR. O'LEARY  
SECONDED BY: MRS. MANUPELLI  
VOTED: 4-0 (UNANIMOUS) (MR. SCHULTZ ABSENT)

MR. CHAIRMAN, I MR. O'LEARY MOVE TO ADJOURN.

SECONDED:	MRS. MANUPELLI	
VOTED:	MR. O'LEARY	AYE
	MRS. MANUPELLI	AYE
	MR. MAUCERI	AYE
	MR. PRISCO	AYE

VOTE: 5-0 (UNANAMOUS)

ADJOURN: 9:12 p.m.

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DATE

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STEPHEN J. O'LEARY, CLERK