

Board of Water Commissioners

March 24, 2026

Present:

- Board of Water Commissioners: Mr. Bill Ramsey Chair, Ms. Liz Klein, and Ms. Julie Strehle
- Mr. Tom Mayo, Town Administrator
- Mr. Art Robert, Assistant Town Administrator for Operations
- Mr. Russell Tierney, Weir River Water System Superintendent (remote)

6:00 PM: Call to order

Mr. Ramsey called the meeting to order and read the following statement:

“This meeting is being held in person and/or remotely as an alternate means of public access pursuant to an Order issued by the Governor of Massachusetts dated March 12, 2025 Suspending Certain Provisions of the Open Meeting Law. You are hereby advised that this meeting and all communications during this meeting may be recorded by the Town of Hingham in accordance with the Open Meeting Law. If any participant wishes to record this meeting, please notify the chair at the start of the meeting in accordance with M.G.L. c. 30A, § 20(f) so that the chair may inform all other participants of said recording. “

No one indicated that they were recording.

Approval of Minutes

Vote: Ms. Klein made a motion to approve the minutes dated January 13, 2026. Ms. Strehle seconded. All were in favor.

Vote: Ms. Strehle made a motion to approve the minutes dated January 28, 2026. Ms. Klein seconded. All were in favor.

Consider the Agreement with SBA Monarch Towers I, LLC for the lease of Municipal Real Estate for Wireless Communication Facilities at 900 Main Street

David Sequeira, Procurement Manager, explained the lease is similar to a recent Verizon agreement with one bid received from SBA Monarch, the current lessee. The lease includes a 10-year term with renewal options, a starting annual rent of \$50,199 with 4% increases, plus additional revenue that could bring total revenue to over \$1 million; payments will be made monthly.

Mr. Tierney added that SBA Monarch has been an excellent tenant, responding promptly to tower issues, paying reliably on the first of each month, and providing strong additional revenue over the past five years.

Vote: Ms. Klein made a motion to authorize the Town Administrator to sign the Lease Agreement, Memorandum of Lease, and all associated documents with SBA Monarch Towers I, LLC regarding the lease of Municipal Real Estate for Wireless Communication Facilities located at 900 Main Street in the form attached hereto. Ms. Strehle seconded. All were in favor.

Veolia and Water Superintendent Update

Darren Dearth, Project Manager Veolia, provided an update, noting the Accord intake replacement is nearly complete and currently usable, with only cosmetic work remaining. Ongoing work includes pipe painting, chemical feed pump replacements, motor upgrades, and cybersecurity improvements. Annual well rehabilitations at Fulling Mill 1 and 2 are complete, with work on the Free Street wells beginning next. Tier 2 reports have been filed, and preparations are underway for an upcoming sanitary survey.

There was brief discussion on the flushing program, the success of the program and upcoming schedule.

Mr. Tierney reported progress on several projects, including a new security system with fob access, the Route 3A project reaching 90% design, and ongoing assessment of the raw water main to address potential restrictions. The PFAS study is on track, and a decision on the new AMI system is expected soon following final interviews.

Mr. Tierney added the town's water system is fully compliant with the Lead and Copper Rule. Recent notices are to identify service line materials, not indicate lead in the water. Testing confirms treatment effectively prevents lead leaching, and the town is proactively replacing any lead or galvanized steel lines while advising residents to do the same.

Public Comment

No members of the public came forward.

Ms. Klein made a motion to adjourn. Ms. Strehle seconded. All were in favor.

The meeting adjourned at 6:29 PM

Documents:

1. Meeting Minutes – 1.13.26, 1.28.26
2. SBA Agreement Packet