

Town of Nantucket
NANTUCKET MEMORIAL AIRPORT
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Commissioners
Arthur D. Gasbarro, Chairman
Andrea N. Planzer, Vice Chair
Anthony G. Bouscaren
Jeanette D. Topham
Philip Marks III

Airport Service and Public Relations Subcommittee
August 11, 2021

The meeting was called to order at 5:00 pm by Commissioner Jeanette Topham.

This meeting was conducted remotely by video conference via Zoom app and broadcasted on the Town of Nantucket YouTube Channel.

Airport employees present were: Tom Rafter, Airport Manager, Noah Karberg, Assistant Airport Manager, Katy Perales, Office Manager and Lillian Sylvia, Administrative Assistant.

Also Present was: Rich Lasdin, McFarland Johnson, Inc., Robert Luchinni, McFarland Johnson, Inc., Georgie Nugent, McFarland Johnson, Inc. and Mina Makarious, Anderson and Krieger.

Ms. Topham read the Town's virtual meeting statement.

Ms. Topham announced the meeting was being audio and video recorded.

Ms. Topham asked for comments on the Agenda; hearing none, the Agenda was adopted.

Mr. Karberg gave a brief introduction to introduce the Airports water main project and the purpose of the meeting.

Consultant Presentation "Waterline Construction Update"- Rich Lasdin, McFarland Johnson Inc., presented a presentation on the Watermain Construction Update addressing the following topics (Presentation attached):

- Map of Airport property and the homes located on the airport property boundaries that have been tested for PFAS.
- Map of the work areas
- Overview of the Water main Construction project including the work areas, construction duration, work hours for work areas, project oversight and design considerations.
- Typical water main installation
- Typical curb stop installation
- Water service connections (next phase of construction)
- Work area I details (Skyline Drive)
- MassDOT standards for traffic management
- Work area II details (Monohansett Rd.) and work area III details (Airport Property)
- Work area IV-A details (Airport Property) and work area IV-B details (Airport property).
- Work area V details (MVR) and work area VI details (MVR)

- Summary of the water main construction project.
- Airport managed water service connection
- Homeowner installed/Airport reimbursed water connection
- Private well abandoned well disposition
- Private well retained well disposition
- Property restoration
- Project team
- Public questions and comments
- How to register to ask questions
- Frequently asked questions

Questions/Comments from Waterline Abutters/Tier 1 Participants/PFAS Impacted Residents-

Mollie Glazer, 53 Skyline Drive, asked why the waterline is being installed down skyline drive and if the Airport expects the water flow to go in that direction. Mr. Lasdin explained that in order to get water to the impacted homes on Skyline drive, 77 and 87 Skyline Drive, they need to connect to the existing waterline located on Woodland Drive, which was the most effective route. Ms. Glazer asked how much time the homeowners have to connect to the waterline. Mr. Lasdin explained there will be a permanently installed connection to the edge of the property line with a valve on it. Mr. Lasdin explained only impacted homes are getting service to their homes, but that other homeowners can reach out to the Airport in regard to where they want their curb stop located.

Jay Trubee, 83 Skyline Drive, expressed concern that his home is between the two impacted homes on skyline and that over time PFAS levels at his home will go above the threshold. Mr. Trubee asked if there will be more testing done. Mr. Karberg explained that it has been found that seasonally and throughout the year the concentrations do not differ, therefore the Airport does not plan to have samplings done again through Weston Solutions at this time. Mr. Karberg explained that if Mr. Trubee were to have his well-tested privately and the concentrations were to go above the threshold, that the Airport would like to know that information and would act accordingly.

Mr. Trubee asked what the cost is for homeowners to hook up to the water main. Mr. Karberg explained that the total cost for landscape restoration and interior plumbing work is estimated to range from \$20,000-\$30,000 per home.

Erika Mooney, 60 Skyline Drive, asked that since the waterline is running down Skyline road, why not test all of homes along the way to be safe. Mr. Karberg explained that the Airport has done step out sampling as required by the state controlling law, cited as the 21e mass contingency program legislation, defining what should be tested in case of a positive result and how far to go out. The Airport has defined the boundary of the Airport investigation. As a commercial service Airport there are limits to how far the Airport should be using its revenue and funds to test for PFAS contamination once leaving the probable impact boundary of the Airport. PFAS contamination has also been found entering the Airport, making the Airport not the only potential PFAS contributor. Unless knowledge of the site or information changes the Airport will not be chasing PFAS contamination any further. Georgie Nugent, McFarland Johnson Inc., explained further regarding the MCP and that the DEP dictates that the homes on Skyline that tested 20 parts per trillion or more require you to go out 500 feet and sample those surrounding wells and so on. This was not found when the Airport stepped out.

Ms. Mooney asked if curb to curb repaving will be done on Skyline Drive, which is a private road. Mr. Lasdin explained this will be investigated further with the Town and its requirements.

June Trubee, 83 Skyline Drive, asked if the Airport would be responsible for connecting them to the watermain if their water were to test over the threshold of 20 parts per trillion in the future, noting that the homes on each side have tested over the threshold. Mr. Karberg explained they would consult with the Licensed Site Professional (LSP) and follow up with an email. Mina Makarios, Anderson and Krieger, explained in terms of liability if there is a release linked to the Airport later, the Airport would have some responsibility to address it. It's also not always clear exactly where PFAS is coming from. Where PFAS is found isn't just limited to flow because it doesn't necessarily just stay in groundwater but could have to do with the construction of the well and why it didn't get into some systems.

Meri Lepore and Matt Peel, 87 Skyline Drive, made a comment stating that their water has been tested every month since October and that the number has changed month to month. Ms. Lepore also believes that the plume does move based on weather, amount of rain and how deep a well is and thinks the Airport should think about doing more testing to other houses. Mr. Karberg explained that the difference in numbers is based on a percentage and that the Airport will follow what's required by State law and what's recommended by the LSP.

Mr. Peel asked if fire hydrants will be installed. Mr. Lasdin explained that yes, the fire department spacing is based on water company standards and will be placed every 400-500 feet down the street.

David Scuthorpe, 28 Madequecham Valley Road, made a comment about the length of time it takes to extract PFAS contamination and movement of the plume and agrees that testing should continue and not fall under the homeowner's responsibility

Mr. Scuthorpe, who tested below 20 parts per trillion, but receives bottled water, asked if they do not hook up to the water line, how long will they receive water? Mr. Karberg explained that bottled water will stop with the consultant's issuance of a solution statement but is unsure of the time frame. Ms. Nugent will follow up with the solution and time frame and explained that since the Airport is not adding anymore AFFF there shouldn't be any drastic increases or fluctuations.

Mr. Scuthorpe asked why some of the project involves trenching and horizontal sub terranean drilling. Mr. Lasdin explained that Madequecham Valley Road is a challenging road to install the water main because the traveled way does not fall on the actual right of way and protected habitat is located on both sides of the traveled way. As shown on the map on slide eleven (11) work area V (in blue) is on Airport property and does not require easements, whereas work area VI (in orange) falls on land bank property and you are not allowed to get a utility easement on land bank property, resulting in directional drilling on the right of way. Mr. Scuthorpe followed up asking if directional drilling affects the vegetation. Mr. Lasdin explained that directional drilling was an approved process by the Natural Heritage and Endangered Species program that manages and oversees habitat. They ruled this as an acceptable installation procedure. Mr. Lasdin went on to explain how the directional drilling is done.

Mr. Scuthorpe asked if they will not need to sign a release, should the problem get worse the Airport would be held responsible. Mr. Karberg explained location of some of the curb stops, based on certain properties may require a release. If knowledge or data of the site changes and the Airport is responsible for contamination, he believes the Airport would address it.

John Ward, 44 Monohansett, who is already connected to Town water, asked if the town water is now contaminated with PFAS. Mr. Karberg did not want to speak on behalf of the Water Company but explained that they have a testing program.

Mr. Ward commented that he is receiving bottled water to his guest cottage and asked how it is determined who receives bottled water. Mr. Karberg explained that the 21e guidelines are followed and if it is thought that these aren't being followed, the Airport would be happy to review through the Consultant and LSP.

Mr. Ward asked if it is safe to shower in the contaminated well water. Mr. Karberg deferred to the Massachusetts Department of Public Health, but that they propose under 200 parts per trillion as the standard for dermal contact for showering as their limit.

Mr. Ward asked who is incurring the water bill costs once connected to town water. Mr. Karberg explained that the Commission approved a policy to provide an on-bill credit for \$1,000 that will be billed directly to the Airport. The homeowner will then be responsible for all subsequent water bills.

Mr. Ward asked about the affect this has on property values and explained his own personal experience trying to refinance his home. Mr. Karberg explained that this is a concern that should be brought to a homeowner's real estate council. Mr. Karberg will provide Mr. Ward with Airport legal's representatives contact information, Mr. Makarios. Mr. Ward requested to have this information sent to all tier 1 participants. Mr. Karberg responded that this will be taken into consideration.

Dan Mulloy, representing the Sourian Family located on Madequecham Valley Road, asked who the project was awarded to. Mr. Karberg responded the project was awarded to the Robert B. Our Company.

Mr. Mulloy asked if it would be easier to mark on a map where they would like their curb stop located and who to send it to. Mr. Karberg asked Mr. Mulloy to send the appropriate email contact and he will provide a more detailed plan of the relevant property to be marked up by hand or GIS.

Ms. Mooney, who's well was not tested, made a comment regarding not receiving bottled water while her neighbor has. Mr. Karberg explained that Ms. Mooney's neighbors all came in under 20 parts per trillion but will review and make sure she was not missed.

Daniel Wofford, 12 Madequecham Valley Road, asked what the engineering or mechanics are to bring the water to his house which is the last house on the map. Mr. Lasdin explained that the drawing in the presentation is an older drawing and that the water main does go all the way down to 12 Madequecham Valley Road and will be directional drilling.

Mr. Wofford asked a question regarding where the pipes will be brought into the property. Mr. Lasdin explained that every impacted homeowner that will be hooked up to water service will have an individual meeting with the site engineer to discuss all the logistics.

Mr. Wofford made a comment on his pleasant experience with the LSP.

Philip Waterman III, 50R Madequecham Valley Road, asked what the plan is to get access to and from the homes on Madequecham Valley Road. Mr. Lasdin explained that the road will be closed at night for construction, with provisions for emergency personnel.

Mr. Waterman asked what the plan is regarding repairing the road when the work is complete. Mr. Lasdin explained that the road will be put back in the condition it is in before construction.

Jack Wofford, 20 Madequecham Valley Road, asked a question regarding testing of town water and how far under the 20 parts per trillion threshold town water is. Mr. Karberg explained this information is online on the Town of Nantucket PFAS website, which will direct you to the Wannacomet Water Company test results.

Jeff Tonkel asked the timing of the implementation. Mr. Lasdin explained that the project is 142 days once construction starts. There are supply chain concerns regarding getting plastic pipe, resulting in construction not starting until November and is being discussed.

Mr. Tonkel asked if Madequecham Valley Road will be paved after completion. Mr. Lasdin explained that no, the road will not be paved. There were significant challenges with the natural heritage office in Massachusetts on constructability and impact and permitting.

Sandy Sheehy, 42 Skyline, asked if her home has been tested or if she should get a private test. Mr. Karberg explained that 42 Skyline is not part of the Airport investigation. PFAS is a ubiquitous chemical and if there is concern about your water Mr. Karberg recommends seeing if the State programs are still offering open application for free testing or to email Mr. Karberg and he will provide the names of firms that conduct PFAS testing.

Delphine Sourian made a comment that she is against paving Madequecham Valley Road and hopes that there will be no changes to the infrastructure other than connecting those homes to town water.

Mr. Karberg stated that should anyone have any further questions to reach out to him via email, which can be found in the presentation.

Public Comment-

Andrew Mulcahy, 1 Webster Road, asked if there was opportunity for a curb stop. Mr. Karberg explained he would like to look at this property and boundary to see if it will be receiving a curb stop or not.

Commissioner Comments/Staff Comments-

None.

Meeting adjourned at 6:30 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Lillian Sylvia, Recorder

