



**LYNNFIELD CENTER WATER DISTRICT**

**The Commonwealth of Massachusetts**

***Minutes of the Special District Meeting***  
**February 25, 2019**

Pursuant to the Warrant with return of service attached thereon, the legal voters of the Lynnfield Center Water District in the Town of Lynnfield, Massachusetts met in the auditorium of the Lynnfield Middle School at 505 Main Street in said town on Monday, February 25, 2019.

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 P.M. by Constance E. Leccese, Chairwoman of the Board.

Chairwoman Leccese requested permission for the following individuals be admitted but without voting rights.

*Nick Couris, Lynnfield Center Water District Foreman*

*Attorney Christopher Casey, District Counsel*

*Trudy Reid, Town Clerk*

*Diane Hammerbeck, Notary*

*Susan Lambe, Lynnfield resident, poll worker*

*Annmarie Vandola, Lynnfield resident, poll worker*

*Jennifer Welter, Lynnfield resident, poll worker*

*Michael Greely*

*Members of the Press*

There being no objection they were admitted.

Chairwoman Leccese, a legal voter resident of the District, read so much of the Warrant as precedes the Articles set forth within. Chairwoman Leccese announced that unless there was an objection, she would dispense with reading of the Articles until they could be taken up individually. There being no objection, she then read so much of the Warrant as follows the Articles set forth therein, including the signatures of the Water Commissioners on the Warrant and the return of service appearing thereon.

Chairwoman Leccese announced that the first order of business before the meeting would be to choose a Moderator of the meeting. On a motion made by Chairwoman Leccese, which was duly seconded, it was unanimously voted that Robert MacKendrick be chosen and sworn in as Moderator of the Meeting. Robert MacKendrick was duly sworn in by Notary Trudy Reid.

The Moderator then read Article 1 of the Warrant. Mr. Dalton made a motion which was duly seconded and

**VOTED:** to cast one ballot for an election to see if the majority of eligible voters present will vote to appoint the sole candidate, Robert B. Almy, to fill the vacant seat on the Board of Commissioners for the remaining term through 2020.



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Robert B. Almy was duly sworn in by Notary Trudy Reid.

The Moderator then read Article 2 of the Warrant. Mr. Dalton made a motion which was duly seconded and

VOTED: to see if the majority of eligible voter-ratepayers present, direct the Lynnfield Center Water District Board of Commissioners to begin the process for recruiting a new Superintendent for the position currently vacant no sooner than the 2019 Annual Meeting. To maintain adequate operational capacity, the Board of Commissioners may exercise its discretion in filling the Superintendent's position on a temporary basis until such time as the Superintendent's position is filled on a permanent basis through the recruitment process or take any action relative thereto.

Discussion for Article 2:

Mrs. Campbell inquired as to why the search process isn't being initiated until the 2019 Annual Meeting as she was selected to be on the search committee, which began in November and was delayed because of all the turmoil. Mrs. Campbell believes the second sentence which allows commissioners to appoint a temporary superintendent is extraneous and we believe they already have that authority. Mr. Dalton responded it is the understanding the ratepayers would like a new majority to be seated before the deliberations begin. Mrs. Campbell said we now have 3 commissioners. Hearing no further comments the Moderator called for a vote, with the I's have it and the motion carries.

The Moderator then read Article 3 of the Warrant. Mr. Almy made a motion which was duly seconded and

VOTED: to see if the voters of the District will recommend to the Commissioners a modification of the existing filter rebate program for District-served residences to increase the potential maximum rebate amount to \$2,000 (for equipment and installation combined), to authorize the District Commissioners to expend a total of up to \$80,000 for such rebates, and to authorize the Commissioners to appropriate a sum of money from any available source to fund such expenditure. Such rebates should be granted based on consideration of factors including service location, documented occurrence of "brown water," and the utility of the residential water supply in light of high iron and manganese levels. Such rebates should be made on a reimbursement basis and may be granted for any installation made since January 2015 that would otherwise qualify based on consistent application of the factors above. If such installation requires a valid plumbing permit, a copy of the permit should be part of the application for reimbursement or take any other action relative thereto.



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Discussion: Mrs. Lopez of 24 West Tapley spoke that her filter cost \$4,300 and has a minimum \$350 annual maintenance and the filters cost \$40 each. Mrs. Campbell made a motion to vote by ballot because it is a small crowd. The motion was seconded by Mrs. Leccese and the Moderator asked is there any discussion. Mrs. Campbell explained her rationale as it was controversial the last time and people would be more comfortable. Mrs. Rauseo said at the last secret ballot, people who voted could have voted twice and there are also people who aren't in the District that could have voted. Trudy Reid explained the voting process and the folks who are not able to vote are in the back of the auditorium. The Moderator made a call to vote for a secret ballot with the No's have it and the motion was rejected.

Page Wilkins from Cranberry Lane wants to give support to the rebates for those affected. Since there aren't many people who are affected we should do this to support our community members who are affected. Jim Noonan at 538 Lowell Street has a question on documentation process as he does not have documentation and wants to know how it will be resolved. Commissioner Almy said there are a number of ways to document it and one would be the District would collect a water sample or perhaps you would be able to collect a water sample. It is to open up the issue for reimbursement. Commissioner Almy said we have to assume people are honest and it is possible for the District to go out occasionally to document it or for you to collect the water in a jar. We will do our best.

Mrs. Campbell made a motion to amend the motion from January 2015 to January 2017. The motion was seconded. Mrs. Campbell asked Mr. Almy to explain using the year 2015 as she doesn't recall complaints were received at that time. How will the District staff validate back to 2015. Mrs. Lopez said she had moved into her house in 2013 and can attest it has been going on longer than 2013. Mrs. Rauseo said she has had brown water but not all the time. She has called the water district and the District knows the areas that have brown water. She just put in a filter and knows it can cost several thousand dollars. Mrs. Rauseo bought 2 Culligan containers that cost \$100 and the plumber cost \$650. The filters are between \$30 to \$50 filters. If I get muddy water I need to change the filters more often. \$2,000 is a reasonable amount. The Moderator called for a vote to amend from year 2015 to 2017 with the No's have it unanimously and move to the main motion with no comments. The I's have it unanimously and the motion carries.

Moderator Robert MacKendrick made a motion which was duly seconded and unanimously

VOTED: To adjourn Sine Die.

The meeting adjourned accordingly at 7:27 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,  
Christine Smallenberger, Clerk  
Lynnfield Center Water District

A true copy, Attest \_\_\_\_\_

Notary – Trudy Reid