



**HOA Board Special Meeting
To Review Water Options
Wednesday, December 13, 2023**

Board Members in Attendance: Craig Costantino, Bill Custead, Andrew Davis, Keith Miller, Lisa Smith, Lynne Partridge, Janie Stopford, Becky West

Residents in Attendance: None

Call to Order: 6:05 pm Lynne Partridge, Chair

Announcement: The purpose of this meeting was to carefully review and consider three options for the future of our water system and establish a plan for a community vote. There was no other business discussed.

I. Discuss Bill Custead's detailed Water Options document:

Bill, who has tirelessly and relentlessly pursued County water for us, presented in detail the three options: Full Replacement, Master Meter, Rebuild the Existing Well.

II. Review Water Options Chart to compare 3 choices:

Those options were charted with Pros, Cons, and Cost. Lynne presented them and questions were entertained.

III. Consensus: After considerable discussion each Board member gave his/her thoughts on which option to pursue. Unanimously it was decided we should pursue Full Replacement of our water system.

IV. Plans to present to community:

There will be a letter of communication sent to the community immediately, followed by a slide show presentation and in person and virtual meetings. A required vote of 60% of home/lot owners is required to proceed with County water. This vote (which still has the option of rejecting a too high bid) is anticipated at the Annual Meeting on February 10, 2024

V. Questions to be answered:

- 1. Is St Martins getting water from Ocean Pines or the County?**
- 2. Is St Martins subjected to Ocean Pines increases in water costs?**
- 3. Is St Martins hooking into an Ocean Pines system or only a County feed?**

VI. Search for additional funding from the state to offset construction costs.

Lynne is pursuing grant options to lower the cost of the loan portion.

Meetings adjourned at 7:50.

Next Scheduled Meeting: Budget: Wednesday, January 10, 2024.