

Commissioners Meeting
Water Supply District of Acton
693 Massachusetts Avenue
Acton, MA 01720

June 2, 2008

Agenda: Comments from Citizens
 Approve Minutes of May 12, 2008

OLD BUSINESS

Update on Indian Village Water Main Replacement
Update on Assabet #3

NEW BUSINESS

Approval of Request-For-Proposal (RFP) for Great Hill Cell Tower Lease
Proposed Meeting Schedule for July through December 2008
Use of Town of Acton's Reverse-911 Program

Minutes of June 2, 2008 Commissioners Meeting

Regular bi-monthly meeting. Present were Commissioners Parenti, Phillips, and Stuntz. Also in attendance were District Manager Chris Allen, Treasurer/Collector Mary J. Bates, District Counsel Mary Bassett, and Finance Committee Member Charles Bradley. Representing the Board of Selectmen was Tara Friedrichs, Mary Michelman from ACES, and Robert Ferrara, Trustee of the Acton Memorial Library.

The meeting was called to order at 7:31 P.M.

Comments from Citizens

Tara Friedrichs asked the Commissioners to give her an overview of the status on the Grace settlement which occurred 20 years ago. She requested an executive session and would like the Board of Selectmen to be included. The Commissioners informed her that the settlement is on public record, and occurred long ago, and that she will have to request an executive session.

Ms. Friedrichs inquired about the drawdown of \$600K on an ongoing capital project and Ms. Bates stated that this was for the engineering project located in North Acton. Ms. Friedrichs asked what the Grace project was used for and the response was that it is used for water treatment anywhere in the system.

Ms. Friedrichs asked what the WLMAC are currently working on and what their mission is. Mr. Parenti stated that the WLMAC mission is completed, but they still have meetings. He also stated that he felt the WLMAC would be helpful to her and they would be able to meet with Ms. Friedrichs. Mr. Phillips asked Ms. Friedrichs to send Mr. Allen any specific topics with a request and they will put her requests into an agenda item for the WLMAC.

Mr. Allen will send Ms. Friedrich a copy of the Grace settlement.

Mary Michelman gave an overview of the proposed Charlotte Sagoff Memorial Garden that will be located at the Acton Memorial Library. She described all the things that Charlotte Sagoff was involved with in the Town of Acton. A committee has been formed to develop the Charlotte Sagoff Memorial Garden which will be located to the left of the library entrance. Ms. Michelmen handed out a copy of the concept drawing and gave a description of what will be included.

Ms. Michelmen asked the Commissioners for a contribution from the Acton Water District and she stated that the budget for the project is \$15,000-20,000. She stated that the project is privately funded and will be given to the town as a gift. Mr. Phillips said that if this memorial garden was an educational exhibit (for example, a lesson in low water use planting), that perhaps the AWD could support it. The Commissioners said that they will give this some thought and would include it as an agenda item at the June 16th Commissioners' Meeting.

The Commissioners will ask Ms. Ceraso for her opinion. Ms. Ceraso and Ms. Michelmen will meet sometime this week for a discussion. It was stated that in the past, the Acton Water District has been very strict with the funding of these types of projects.

Approve Minutes of May 12, 2008

Mr. Stuntz moved to accept the minutes of the meeting held on May 12, 2008 and Mr. Phillips seconded the motion. The Commissioners were all in favor of approving the minutes with the adjustments made at tonight's meeting.

OLD BUSINESS

Update on Indian Village Water Main Replacement

Mr. Allen gave the Commissioners an update on the Indian Village water main replacement and stated that a temporary main has been put down. He also stated that the Acton Water District's web site has been updated and the Indian Village residents have been informed. The water main for Seneca Road will be installed next week.

Update on Assabet #3

The Zone II delineation application went to MA DEP on Friday, 5/30/08. There was a slight change in the boundaries determined by hydraulic modeling, but the orientation was essentially the same as originally permitted by WR Grace.

As a reminder, the Microscopic Particulate Analysis (MPA) results from the long duration pump test were "Moderate". This result will require a second test. Two consecutive "Moderate" results will dictate a "Ground Water Under the Influence" of surface water, which will, subsequently, put Assabet #3 under the Surface Water Treatment Rule (SWTR).

There was a slight trace of 1, 4-Dioxane detected from sampling done during the long duration pump test, and treatment technologies are being evaluated for the removal of that Volatile

Organic Compound (VOC), as our aeration towers will not effectively remove it. The MA DEP Maximum Contaminant Level (MCL) is a recommended concentration of 5.0 parts-per-billion (ppb). The concentration found in Assabet #3 was .56 ppb.

OTHER OLD BUSINESS

Executive Summary

Enclosed in the board packages is an “Executive Summary” drafted by Stantec. Commissioner Phillips recommended some edits to this document. The District Manager stated that he would pass the request along to Stantec.

The Commissioners discussed the Executive Summary regarding the Assabet Well #3 from Stantec. Mr. Phillips said he had couple things he would like to have changed in the wording. In the fourth paragraph, last sentence, he was uncomfortable with using the phrase “Only a trace”. He also suggested using the following in place of the last sentence in the last paragraph “The treatment process will be designed to meet the AWD standards for removal of VOC’s.

NEW BUSINESS

Approval of Request-For-Proposal (RFP) for Great Hill Cell Tower Lease

The Commissioners reviewed the Request for Proposal for Lease of Site for Telecommunication Systems and Mr. Stuntz reviewed his questions with Ms. Bassett. He stated that he felt the July 25, 2008 cut off date for proposals was not enough time. He also suggested attaching Article 16 to the lease (Attachment I of Lease Agreement #12). Mr. Stuntz asked Ms. Bassett if the special permit normally expires, and she replied “no”, the Acton Water District applied for this and it is in their name. Ms. Bassett will make the suggested corrections to the lease agreement.

Proposed Meeting Schedule for July through December 2008

The following are the Commissioners’ Meeting dates:

July 14
August 11
September 8
September 22
October 6
October 20
November 3
November 17
December 8
December 15

All meetings will begin at 7:30 PM and will be held at the Acton Water District’s Conference Room.

Use of Town of Acton’s Reverse-911 Program

Mr. Allen met with Steve Ledoux (Town Manager of Acton) regarding the Acton Water District using the reverse-911 program. Mr. Allen was informed that the maintenance fee to the Town of Acton is \$25,000 annually. Mr. Ledoux requested that the AWD contribute \$5,000 annually for the use of the reverse-911 program.

Mr. Allen stated that the AWD would use this program frequently. Ms. Bassett asked if individual streets would be targeted and Mr. Allen responded with yes. He also said that the end of the message will state that if the resident has any questions, they should telephone the Acton Water District at 978-263-9107.

The Commissioners support the reverse-911 program. Mr. Phillips suggested that the \$5000 fee should be included as a line item in the budget for next year and Mr. Parenti and Mr. Stuntz agreed.

OTHER NEW BUSINESS

Mr. Stuntz stated his concern regarding the risk of poisoning the Acton water supply after what happened in the Town of Spencer, MA. Mr. Allen informed him that the Acton Water District has all the alarms in place for stopping this from happening. The AWD has an automated system and what happened in Spencer was due to an operator error. He said that the AWD does more than the DEP requirement for testing chemical injections.

Mr. Bradley asked if there are any updates on the appointment of the Finance Committee Member and he was informed that Mr. O'Brien has a candidate. Mr. O'Brien would like to set up a meeting with Mr. Allen and Ms. Bates to introduce the candidate.

Mr. Phillips moved to adjourn the meeting and Mr. Stuntz seconded the motion. The meeting adjourned at 9:10 pm.