

Water Supply District of Acton

693 MASSACHUSETTS AVENUE
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Board of Water Commissioners
Meeting Minutes
693 Massachusetts Avenue, Acton MA
Monday, April 23, 2018

A. Comments from Citizens

B. Approve Minutes of April 9th Meeting

C. OLD BUSINESS:

1. Discussion of Workshop Related to Water Resource Study.
 - Workshop tentatively planned for Saturday, September 22, 2018
2. DRAFT Master Plan Update Comments and Proposed Edits Due by 4/30/2018.
3. Update on Indian Village Water Main Improvement Progress.
 - Roadway and property restoration commenced April 12th

D. NEW BUSINESS:

Any agenda item(s) which did not come to the attention of the Board of Water Commissioners 48 hours prior to this meeting and were not reasonably anticipated.

Present at Tonight's Meeting:

Commissioners: Ronald Parenti (Chairman), Stephen Stuntz, Erika Amir-Lin
District Manager: Chris Allen
District Treasurer: Mary Jo Bates
District Counsel: Mary Bassett
Environmental Manager: Matthew Mostoller
Commissioners Secretary: Lynn Protasowicki
District Moderator: Dick O'Brien
WLMAC: Barry Rosen

Acton Citizens:

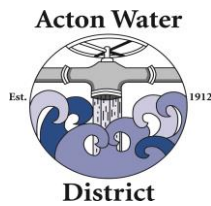
Derrick Chin (Planning Board Liaison to the District)
Carolyn Kiely
Robert Sekular
Mary Miller
Kim Kastens
Tarik Pekin
Lucy Kirshner (Green Acton)

The Board of Water Commissioners meeting was called to order at 7:30 PM on Monday, April 23, 2018 at the Acton Water District office by Mr. Parenti.

A. Comments from Citizens

Mr. Sekular spoke. He asked about a letter dated 10/5/17 from Littleton to Mr. Allen inviting Acton to participate in discussions with Littleton to exercise rights that Littleton has to Nagog Pond. He is shocked to see this letter. What followed this letter? Mr. Allen stated that nothing happened. Since the Town of Acton has statutory standing, and the District does not, he sent that letter to Acton Board of Selectmen (BOS) but they

All documents referred to in meeting minutes are available for inspection at the office of
Acton Water District, 693 Massachusetts Avenue, Acton, MA 01720 (978) 263-9107.



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didn't want to meet with Littleton unless Littleton, Acton and Concord were to be at the meeting. Concord was not invited by Littleton, thus, since Acton was in active litigation with Concord, Acton's BOS decided against attending.

Mr. Rosen spoke regarding a letter of April 16th he sent to the Commissioners talking about senior citizens discounts on water rates. He mentioned that only a couple people have taken advantage of it but based on the number of senior citizens in Acton they must not know about it. Steve Stuntz: this goes through finance committee because they recommend approval of rates and alterations thereto. Mr. Rosen believes that it's not widely known because it is not well advertised. He asked, "What can we do to make them more aware of it?" He went onto the Acton Town website and it refers citizens to the District site but then there isn't much on the District site either. Ms. Bates mentioned that the program is based on the Town of Acton's tax abatement program for low income seniors; AWD only offers a program for people who are approved for a property tax abatement through Town Assessors office. Commissioners agree that Mr. Parenti can write something up about the water rate discount program (enhance what is already on the District site) and it will be placed on the District website.

Ms. Kirshner representing Green Acton stated that Ms. Kim Kastens asked her to let the Board know about an educational forum on 1,4-dioxane to tentatively be held in October 2018 and co-sponsored by the League of Women Voters. On May 6th from 3-4 PM in the Acton Library conference room there is a planning meeting and they invited a Commissioner to attend to help with the planning if they were interested. She will send an email inviting them to the meeting.

B. Approve Minutes of April 9th Meeting

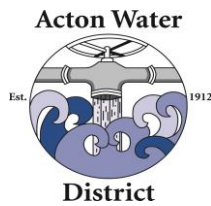
Mr. Stuntz moved to accept the minutes of April 9th. Mrs. Amir-Lin seconded and it was unanimously approved.

C. OLD BUSINESS:

1. Discussion of Workshop Related to Water Resource Study.

- Workshop tentatively planned for Saturday, September 22, 2018

Since this was discussed at the last open meeting on April 9th and the Commissioners were given time to contemplate the format, Mr. Allen asked them if they had anything to add to the discussions for the workshop that is being created by the Town of Acton Water Resources Advisory Committee (WRAC). Mr. Mostoller mentioned that the WRAC met recently and they confirmed the date of the workshop to be held on September 22nd at Town Hall in Room 204, from 9 AM-4 PM. They would appreciate any input the Commissioners have regarding what they think should be coming out of the workshop. Mr. Mostoller mentioned that WRAC is drafting a list of invitees (so far they have an active list of 30 people, and have not yet sent out any invites); the workshop will be a public meeting however the public will have limited time to speak during the workshop due to the nature of it and the time frame. He mentioned that during the WRAC meeting they discussed different scenarios that could be discussed at the workshop including land use concerns; redevelopment of the WR Grace Property; supply and demand concerns, etc. He stated that at the next WRAC meeting on May 17th they will get more involved in topics of discussion. Mr. Sekular mentioned that WRAC would like a professional facilitator to moderate the meeting. They are working on who it will be. Mr. Mostoller talked about the Town's current Master Plan which is well under way and a new planning process may be on the horizon, how do we want to integrate with these processes/documents? Ms. Amir-Lin asked the WRAC what they envision coming out of the workshop (i.e. a written list/product/document)? Mr. Sekular answered that question stating a written summary with highlights vetted through invited participants; the Town Manager's Secretary was invited to take notes. Mr. Stuntz mentioned state regulations regarding water supply. Mr. Mostoller stated that it would be our responsibility to bring those issues to the table at the workshop.



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Mr. Allen reviewed for the Commissioners and citizens a few graphs including: historical water pumped from 1993 to 2017; historical supply capacity analysis 2002 to 2012 (10 year snapshot); 2007 supply capacity analysis; 2012 projected water demands (9-10 year snapshots); 2017 historical and projected water demands (comes from the District's Master Plan) – Registered capacity and Permitted capacity- we have a good handle on this (master plan is updated every 5 years at a cost of \$50K so we are heavily invested into it). Historic projections are all above 1.94 mgd before 2012 for Average Day Demand (ADD) and Maximum Day Demand (MDD). Water conservation and efficiency has made a huge impact on water pumped and supply capacity, even with growth in town. The supply profile has remained constant for the last decade with ADD- 1.7 Million-Gallons per Day (MGD), and MDD- 2.7 MGD. Given that the District invests significantly in supply, demand management and capacity control, the water resources study should focus elsewhere, as this would be redundant.

2. DRAFT Master Plan Update Comments and Proposed Edits Due by 4/30/2018.

Mr. Allen asked the Commissioners to send along their comments by 4/30. The goal is to have the Master Plan posted onto the District website when finalized.

3. Update on Indian Village Water Main Improvement Progress.

- Roadway and property restoration commenced April 12th

Mr. Allen informed the Commissioners that the roadway and property restoration of Indian Village commenced on April 12th. The paving will be done by Lazaro Paving; the plan is for this project to come to final completion by early summer.

Other Old Business:

1. Discussion of Nagog Pond.

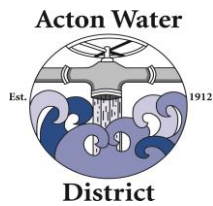
Mr. Parenti stated that many residents would like to see the Water District take a larger role in this issue; the District is not the permitting authority, but has been involved in the special permitting process; Concord has not shown any interest in sitting down with the District or the Town of Acton; residents would like to see the District join forces with Littleton. Mr. Allen stated that he spoke with Scott Edwards, the General Manager of Littleton Light & Water Department and Concord has not responded to any of Littleton's mailings. Littleton set a new deadline of May 1st – if they don't hear from Concord they are going to begin preparing a petition to Supreme Judicial Court.

Ms. Miller asked "What happens to customers and residents on Rte. 2A in the meantime? Can Concord turn off the water to them? Mr. Stuntz stated that they can try but public health trumps all so they can't turn off the water to those customers. Ms. Miller asked "can they deny new hookups to new customers?" Mr. Allen stated that yes they can and they have.

Mr. Tarik asked "who provides fire demand on Rte. 2A?" Mr. Allen mentioned that Concord has hydrants on Rte. 2A. The District has gaps in the piping distribution system, so Concord would provide fire protection in those areas.

Mr. Allen pulled up a map showing gaps in water connections on Great Road – Brook St to Concord Road - approx. 6,000 linear feet, and Wetherbee Street to the Concord town line - approx. 1,500 linear feet.

Ms. Miller stated that she hopes that the District would take a more holistic view of the importance of Nagog Pond not only for us humans but for the other life forms that live in and around the pond. What concerns her is the size of the proposed treatment plant and the pumping of 1.5 million gallons per day. What also disturbs her



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is if Concord draws down the level of the pond water so much that it disrupts the natural habitat surrounding the pond. If the District could monitor what they do that would be great. Many homes surround the pond; she thinks that Littleton should be able to monitor the water level. Mr. Parenti, asks what legally could the Water District do?

The next public hearing is on Thursday night, 4/26 regarding the site plan special permit on 180-182 Skyline Drive. Mr. Parenti, if given an opportunity to speak, will reiterate what our priorities have been all along; nothing additional to say at this time. It's basically refreshing the memories of the Acton BOS of what the District's message has been all along.

Mr. Parenti moved to adjourn the meeting at 9:21 PM and it was unanimously approved.