

Board of Water Commissioners
Meeting Minutes
Acton Water District
693 Massachusetts Avenue, Acton, MA
Monday, August 15, 2022

AGENDA

- A. Comments from the Public
- B. Approve minutes from the meeting of 7/25/22
- C. Appoint one Commissioner to approve warrants while conducting meetings virtually

D. NEW BUSINESS:

- 1. Request for waiver of Impact Fee by Habitat for Humanity for service connection at 26 Carlisle Road
- 2. Memorandum of Lease (MOL) for the Knox Trail Solar Array

E. OLD BUSINESS:

- 1. Land Lease with Baldco on District Property at 104 Powdermill Road-Rear
- 2. Per- and Poly-Fluoroalkyl Substances (PFAS)
 - Current sample data, if available
- 3. Follow-up on interview with Treasurer/Collector candidate

EXECUTIVE SESSION: To consider the purchase, exchange, lease of real property at 549 Main Street as an open meeting may have detrimental effect on the negotiating position of the District.

Due to the Covid-19 stay-at-home order by Governor Charles Baker, the Board of Water Commissioners meeting was not held at the Acton Water District Office; instead, the meeting was held via Zoom Webinar and was recorded. The meeting was called to order at 7:08 PM on Monday, August 15, 2022, by Mr. Stephen Stuntz.

Present at Tonight's Meeting:

Commissioners: Erika Amir-Lin, Barry Rosen, Stephen Stuntz (Chair)
District Manager: Chris Allen
District Treasurer/Collector: Mary Jo Bates
District Counsel: Mary Bassett
Assistant District Manager: Matthew Mostoller
Finance Committee: Ron Parenti
Commissioners Secretary: Lynn Protasowicki

Public Present:

A. Comments from the Public

No comments this evening.

B. Approve Minutes from the Meeting of 7/25/22

Mr. Stuntz motioned to approve the meeting minutes of July 25, 2022. Mr. Rosen seconded the motion, and it was unanimously approved by a roll call vote: Mr. Rosen, Ms. Amir-Lin, and Mr. Stuntz.

C. Appoint One Commissioner to Approve Warrants While Conducting Meetings Virtually

Mr. Rosen motioned to appoint Stephen Stuntz as the Commissioner to approve warrants while conducting meetings virtually until the next meeting of the Commissioners. Ms. Amir-Lin seconded the motion, and it was unanimously approved by a roll call vote: Mr. Rosen, Ms. Amir-Lin, and Mr. Stuntz.

D. NEW BUSINESS:

1. Request for Waiver of Impact Fee by Habitat for Humanity for Service Connection at 26 Carlisle Road
Mr. Stuntz stated that Habitat for Humanity is requesting an abatement of the hook-up fee at 26 Carlisle Road. They typically rehab houses that have a water hook-up. This is the first time that there is no water hook-up at a house. Chris Allen believes it was a private well. Matthew Mostoller confirmed that it was a private well.

Mr. Rosen's understanding is that we have never waived fees for building projects or any 40B. This would be a new thing for us to start. We would be starting a new president. Counselor Bassett stated that it is not for us to pick and choose for any waiver of fees. That is not what our water takers would expect from us.

Ms. Amir-Lin stated that she remembers when we had a request several years ago where we were approached by a contractor who was going to be building a home for a disabled veteran and the District denied that request. In favor of not favoring any one charitable organization.

Mr. Stuntz agrees with both Commissioners.

Mr. Stuntz motions to deny the request. Ms. Amir-Lin seconded the motion, and it was unanimously approved by a roll call vote: Mr. Rosen, Ms. Amir-Lin, and Mr. Stuntz.

2. Memorandum of Lease (MOL) for the Knox Trail Solar Array

Mr. Allen stated that in concert with the recent vote to add an additional five-year term to the Knox Trail Solar Array to a maximum of 35 years which would be three five-year renewal periods after the original 20-year lease. This MOL has been circulated by EDF Counsel and Counselor Mary Bassett. This needs to now be approved by the Commissioners. Counselor Bassett stated that yes it is ready for execution.

Mr. Stuntz moved to approve the First Amendment to the Solar Lease on Knox Trail. Mr. Rosen seconded the motion, and it was unanimously approved by a roll call vote: Ms. Amir-Lin, Mr. Rosen, and Mr. Stuntz.

E. OLD BUSINESS:

1. Land Lease with Baldco on District Property at 104 Powdermill Road-Rear

Mr. Allen stated that the District did get an appraised value from the owner. The owner would like the District to purchase the land. The District will discuss in Executive Session. That is currently where it stands. The current extension does expire on September 1st.

Mr. Rosen moves to extend the lease with Baldco until September 30th. Ms. Amir Lin seconded, and it was unanimously approved by a roll call vote: Mr. Rosen, Ms. Amir-Lin, and Mr. Stuntz.

2. Per- and Poly-Fluoroalkyl Substances (PFAS)

➤ Current sample data, if available

Mr. Allen stated that we are currently serving water from the Central Acton and South Acton water treatment plants. Sample results for month of July - North Acton was at 21.5 ppt and is not currently

running. Based on this result we have discussed internally that we will delay putting it back in service. Try and run it to waste for a little longer and change the operating schedule in an attempt to resolve that and reduce the concentration of the finished water.

We saw a rise at the Conant I well to 25 PPT but with the blending with Conant II well has reduced that to 16.6 PPT and South Acton is at 18.2 PPT which has been consistent with what we are seeing.

Matt Mostoller stated that we will be sampling South Acton and Central Acton this week and North Acton when it returns to service.

Mr. Allen stated that we have engaged with the Massachusetts Water Resources Authority as part of PFAS response along with the Coalition of Communities in the MetroWest which includes the communities of Natick, Wayland, Wellesley, Lincoln, Sudbury, Acton, Concord, Westford. These communities are conversing with MWRA in what it would entail to bring a regional supply to the area. Most of these areas are dealing with PFAS. The Board of Directors of MWRA is discussing the potential waiver of the entrance fee for three to five years. That obviously is a multi-billion-dollar proposition for the District along with these other communities in connecting to the MWRA. The MWRA is doing and taking on the upfront analysis at their own expense. They recently sent out a request for information to all those in the coalition related to our systems (looking for information on chemicals, treatment, demand, statistical reporting, etc). They are in a fact-finding phase. We have another meeting in September to continue to move forward on this discussion.

3. Follow-up on Interview with Treasurer/Collector Candidate

Mr. Stuntz was happy and comfortable with having Chris Allen offer her the job. Mr. Rosen is ready to make an offer. Ms. Amir-Lin is also good with making the offer.

Mr. Rosen motions to make an offer to Christine McCarthy at a salary to be determined by our current Treasurer for the position of Assistant Treasurer/Collector commencing on September 15, 2022. Mr. Rosen seconded the motion, and it was unanimously approved by a roll call vote: Mr. Rosen, Ms. Amir-Lin, and Mr. Stuntz.

Mr. Stuntz motioned to adjourn the open meeting and move into Executive Session at 7:45 PM to discuss the purchase, exchange, lease of real property as an open meeting may have a detrimental effect on the negotiating position of the District. Ms. Amir-Lin seconded the motion, and it was unanimously approved by a roll call vote: Mr. Rosen, Ms. Amir-Lin, and Mr. Stuntz

Next meeting: August 29, 2022