

Water Supply District of Acton

693 MASSACHUSETTS AVENUE
P.O. BOX 953
ACTON, MASSACHUSETTS 01720

TELEPHONE (978) 263-9107

FAX (978) 264-0148

Commissioners Meeting
Water Supply District of Acton
Meeting Minutes
August 23, 2010

The regular bi-monthly meeting was called to order at 7:40 p.m. on Monday, August 23, 2010 at the Acton Water District Office by Mr. Stephen Stuntz.

Present: Commissioners Stephen Stuntz, Ronald Parenti, and Leonard Phillips. District Manager Chris Allen, Treasurer/Collector Mary Jo Bates, District Counselor Mary Bassett, Environmental Manager Matthew Mostoller, Commissioners Secretary Lynn Protasowicki. District Moderator Richard O'Brien. Finance Committee member(s) David Butler and Bill Kingman. Also in attendance: John Cipar and Paul Malchodi representing WLMAC, and Barry Rosen representing WRAC and WLMAC.

A. Comments from Citizens

Mr. Michael Geis, 8 Tuttle Road, informed the Commissioners that he was representing the WANT Committee. The town is looking into sewerage for his neighborhood. He would like to get the winter water bills for his neighborhood in order to estimate possible sewer bills. The Commissioners stated that this will be possible.

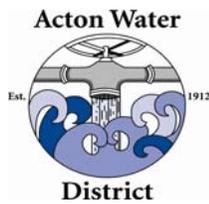
Mr. Lazarus Michaelidis, 7 Marian Road, stated that his water quality is extremely poor, it is cloudy and rusty. He stated that there is lots of sediment and that it is undrinkable this time of year (summer season). He wanted to know what the District can do about this. Mr. Allen stated that due to the water ban they turned on the Whitcomb Well and this may be the reason for the discoloration of his water. Mr. Allen asked Mr. Michaelidis if he is seeing an improvement in the water. Mr. Michaelidis stated that he had during the past week or so. Mr. Allen stated that the Whitcomb Well has been turned off and that is the reason for improved water quality. Mr. Michaelidis expressed a desire to install a "Whole house" filter. Mr. Allen recommended something with activated carbon to remove some of the organic color, but cautioned Mr. Michaelidis that it, most likely, would not be 100% effective. This element should, however, be effective at removing any sediment. Mr. Allen also cautioned Mr. Michaelidis that this type of installation requires periodically changing the filter element. In addition Mr. Allen stated that he should drain several gallons from his hot water tank at the beginning of the season.

Mr. Alden English, 18 Mallard Road, asked the Commissioners if there were any plans to develop behind the West Acton playground. Mr. Stuntz said that there were no plans at this time however it is a viable future well site.

Mr. Ivan Dobrianov, 9 Carriage Drive, stated that there has been no change in his water quality since the flushing of the pipes. Mr. Allen stated that he and Mr. Dailey had spoken previously because of there being little change since the flushing. Mr. Allen stated that he will have the engineering firm do some hydraulic modeling to see the theoretical impact to determine if there are any evident changes in hydraulic conditions that might be causing the water quality issues. Mr. Allen informed Mr. Dobrianov and the Commissioners that it may be necessary to excavate and check the orientation of the service taps on the water main. If they are too low on the main's outer circumference, this could be a conduit for sediment to enter their water service lines. This has occurred elsewhere in town. Mr. Allen will remain in contact with Mr. Dobrianov and Mr. Dailey.

B. Approval of Minutes from July 19, 2010

Mr. Stuntz moved to accept minutes of the meeting held on July 19, 2010 and Mr. Parenti seconded the motion. The Commissioners were in favor of approving the minutes.



Water Supply District of Acton

693 MASSACHUSETTS AVENUE
P.O. BOX 953
ACTON, MASSACHUSETTS 01720

TELEPHONE (978) 263-9107

FAX (978) 264-0148

C. New Business

Maureen Mara of Mara & Associates for Annual Audit Results

Presented in this evening's packet to the Commissioners is a letter from Mara & Associates, PC summarizing the recent audit. Ms. Maureen Mara stated that receipts for fiscal year 2010 were comparable to 2009. She stated that the rate increase effective July 1, 2010 is expected to bring revenue into better alignment with expenses. Ms. Mara reported that free cash decreased dramatically this year. Free cash balance is at \$25,000. This decrease was due in large part to expenditures increasing significantly this year.

Discussion of Proposal by Acton Water District Moderator for Appointment of Two Finance Committee Members

Presented in this evening's packet to the Commissioners is a draft letter from Mr. Richard O'Brien, Town Moderator regarding the proposal to appoint two additional finance committee members. Mr. Richard O'Brien, Town Moderator, spoke to the Commissioners informing them that the Finance Committee has plans to add two non-voting, appointed, permanent non-voting members. Mr. O'Brien stated that having three part-time members does not conveniently bring as broad a range of thought, experiences and ideas to the AWD management team as may be appropriate for new and changing business and financial environment. There is no action needed now however there will need to be a District By-law change which can be voted on at the annual District meeting in the spring.

D. Old Business

Update on Christofferson Well Replacement and Nitrate Study

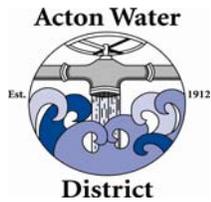
Presented in this evening's packet to the Commissioners is a letter from Weston & Sampson providing an update on the Christofferson well replacement. Mr. Allen stated that there is unfortunate news in that the nitrate concentrations discovered in the favorable aquifer areas make it infeasible to support the permitting of a new replacement well. Mr. Stuntz asked Mr. Allen if there is a more detailed report forthcoming. Mr. Allen stated that his assumption is that Weston & Sampson will be providing a summary report to wrap up the investigation. Additional monitoring has been recommended and this may result in a contract amendment with Weston & Sampson.

Update on Arlington Street Water Main Improvement

Presented in this evening's packet to the Commissioners is a revised schedule for the Arlington Street water main improvement project from Onyx Trans. Inc. Mr. Allen informed the Commissioners that Onyx Trans. Inc. is in process of switching services and that currently both the newly installed and existing mains are in service. The old mains will be retired in-place. He stated that the first week of September the project should be completed. Curb to curb milling and re-surfacing will occur in the spring of 2011.

Discussion of Town of Boxborough Home Rule Petition/Special Legislation

Mr. Allen provided an update to the Commissioners regarding the Town of Boxborough Home Rule petition which would eliminate the rights of the Acton Water District to take, acquire by purchase, and hold any water of streams, ponds, and groundwater source within the Town of Boxborough. In a letter from the Chair, Acton Board of Selectmen, to Senator James Eldridge, they are requesting to postpone any action on this legislation until the Towns of Acton and Boxborough, along with the Acton Water District have an opportunity to discuss the ramifications of this Act. Mr. Allen, Mr. Mostoller and Chairman Stuntz attended a meeting of stakeholders at Boxborough town hall, and it was determined that there should be "Mutual aid" agreement established to keep all stakeholders involved and informed. Mr. Allen stated that the legislature is in recess for the summer and that the Town of Boxborough will need to re-file the petition next year.



Water Supply District of Acton

693 MASSACHUSETTS AVENUE
P.O. BOX 953
ACTON, MASSACHUSETTS 01720

TELEPHONE (978) 263-9107

FAX (978) 264-0148

Update on Assabet Sand & Gravel

Presented in this evening's packet to the Commissioners is a letter from Mr. Chris Allen to Mr. Douglas Maccone of Assabet Sand & Gravel regarding the encroachment onto Water District property at the Assabet well site off High Street. Mr. Allen informed the Commissioners that he, Mr. Maccone and Mr. Mostoller met on-site today to discuss the conditions and what Assabet Sand & Gravel had done and must do to mitigate any potential impact to the drinking water supply wells on Water District property. Mr. Allen and Mr. Maccone discussed how Assabet Sand & Gravel controls water run-off; in addition, there are out-falls and siltation controls; he maintains all silt on-site, dries it out and then sells it., Mr. Maccone provided a copy of all EPA Storm water permitting documentation to Mr. Allen. There are monitoring wells on-site for sampling associated with the WR Grace Superfund site. And, it may be necessary to incorporate these wells into a more frequent sampling scheme if the operation is to continue. Mr. Allen's recommendation is that a third party environmental specialist be brought in to make sure that stringent controls are put into place if it is determined that Assabet Sand & Gravel's operation can continue at some level on District property.

Warrant Article

Counselor Bassett requested authorization for the Treasurer to make payment of \$51,500 as authorized by Article 1 at the Special meeting held earlier this date. The Commissioners unanimously approved the payment as authorized by the warrant article in full settlement of the 30 Knox Trail eminent domain property taking.

Mr. Parenti moved to adjourn the meeting and Mr. Stuntz seconded the motion. The meeting adjourned at 8:50 p.m.

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.