

Board of Water Commissioners
Meeting Minutes
Acton Water District
693 Massachusetts Avenue, Acton, MA
Monday, December 12, 2022

AGENDA

A. Comments from the public

B. OLD BUSINESS:

1. Per- and Polyfluoroalkyl Substances (PFAS)
 - Current sample data, if available
 - Review Public Notice for 3rd Quarter of 2022
2. Review Draft Budget for FY '24 and proposed articles for 2023 Annual District Meeting Warrant
3. Update on the Town of Acton's Open Space and Recreation Plan (OSRP)

C. 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.

EXECUTIVE SESSION:

- To consider the purchase, exchange, lease of real property as an open meeting may have a detrimental effect on the negotiating position of the District.
- To conduct strategy sessions for contract negotiations with nonunion personnel.

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 7:00 PM on Monday, December 12, 2022, by Mr. Stephen Stuntz.

Present at Tonight's Meeting:

Commissioners: Erika Amir-Lin, Barry Rosen, Stephen Stuntz (Chair)

District Treasurer: Christine McCarthy

District Counsel: Mary Bassett

Assistant District Manager: Matthew Mostoller

Finance Committee: Ron Parenti and Chuck Bradley

Commissioners Secretary: Lynn Protasowicki

Public Present:

Kim Kastens

David Martin

A. Comments from the Public

No comments from public.

B. OLD BUSINESS:

1. Per- and Polyfluoroalkyl Substances (PFAS)

- Current sample data, if available
- Review Public Notice for 3rd Quarter of 2022

Mr. Allen provided a PFAS update. The only verified sample results are from SAWTP at 17.1 parts per trillion (ppt); unverified are Center Acton 26 ppt and North Acton 27 ppt. No progress on Central Acton and up slightly for North Acton. We are thinking of not operating North Acton for the month of December and resume operation in January, but it has not been vetted yet. Center Acton is running from 6:30 AM to 8:30 PM daily and off the rest of the day. Conant I is offline right now for maintenance. Conant II is the only raw water supply to plant. The November sample only reflected a few days of the modified schedule. In December we will try to rest each well and then swap between Conant I and Conant II. We will start the PFAS pilot for Acton Center after the new year. We met with the contractor on Friday morning to finalize the setup. They plan to get system up and running during the first week of January.

Kim Kastens: is there well by well data for the various wells that feed into the South Acton Treatment plant or do you just have the single number coming out of the blended water after treatment. She is curious about the School Street wells. Matt Mostoller stated that we do periodically take raw well data as we see changes in the finish water quality or if we make changes we will go back and take a raw water sample the following month. Kim Kastens asked if we recall what kinds of numbers were coming out of the School Street wells for PFAS? Matt Mostoller indicated in the past we have seen low single digits to low tens of parts per trillions at the Scribner and Lawsbrook wells and the Christopherson well has historically been a higher concentration well in that circuit (40-60 ppt).

Chris Allen shared that we are required to provide a public notice for the 3rd quarter. The notice of noncompliance was shared with the Board members last week. Matt Mostoller indicated the public notice has been approved and is scheduled to go out on Friday, December 16th to all Postal Patrons in the 01718 and 01720 zip codes.

2. Review Draft Budget for FY '24 and Proposed Articles for 2023 Annual District Meeting Warrant

Steve Stuntz asked if there are any changes to the draft budget? Chris Allen indicated there has not been any changes but will keep this on the agenda until it has been approved.

3. Update on the Town of Acton's Open Space and Recreation Plan (OSRP)

Steve Stuntz stated that he had no more comments. Barry Rosen told Erika Amir-Lin that she should have received an email from Kim Kastens and Erika confirmed that she had. Chris Allen shared a chart that had a ranking of open space parcels. Barry stated that during a meeting this morning it was discussed that a new column would be helpful next to each parcel indicating what ground water protection zone each parcel is in. Some parcels are in multiple zones. According to the Chapter X by-law, which regulates stormwater management, it says that if the parcel has multiple ground water protection zones the lowest zone number is how the parcel will be treated.

Kim Kastens believes having this chart in front of people while they are trying to understand the value of different parcels for open space would raise the awareness of the ground water protection zones. And the new open space and recreation plan will be aware of the new protection zones.

Erika stated that she is still soliciting input from the commissioners. Kim stated that Green Acton will be finalizing their comments tomorrow and will send along those comments to Erika.

Mr. Stuntz motioned to adjourn the open meeting and move into Executive Session at 7:30 PM to discuss the purchase, exchange, lease of real property and to conduct strategy sessions for contract negotiations with nonunion personnel as an open meeting may have a detrimental effect on the negotiating position of the District. Mr. Rosen seconded the motion, and it was unanimously approved by a roll call vote: Ms. Amir-Lin, Mr. Rosen, Ms. Amir-Lin, and Mr. Stuntz.

Next Meeting: January 9, 2023