

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

January 28, 2008

Agenda: Comments from Citizens
 Accept Minutes of January 14, 2008

OLD BUSINESS

Discussion on Silver Hill Water Quality Issue
Update on Indian Village Abatement Request

NEW BUSINESS

Finalize FY09 Budget and Warrant

Minutes of January 28, 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 Moderator Dick O'Brien. Representing the Finance Committee was Charles Bradley and from ACES was Mary Michelman.

The meeting was called to order at 7:34P.M.

Comments from Citizens

Mary Michelman (ACES) questioned moving the Kennedy/Marshall wells as suggested by the WLMAC Committee in their report and asked if the AWD was looking into testing other places around the existing wells. She stated that in the past, the Commissioners spoke of opening Kennedy III. Mr. Parenti said that the plan was to move the wells slightly from their current sites and Mr. Allen has agreed to look into this matter.

Approve Minutes of January 14, 2008

Mr. Stuntz motioned to approve the minutes of the meeting held on January 14, 2008 and Mr. Phillips seconded the motion. The Commissioners were all in favor of approving the minutes.

OLD BUSINESS

Discussion of Silver Hill Water Quality Issue

Mr. Allen discussed the Silver Hill water quality issue with the Commissioners and said that he will work with the neighborhood organization and plans on having a meeting with them. He said that Malcolm Pluskal will be his contact person for the Silver Hill neighborhood organization and that he will follow up with Mr. Pluskal on the water quality. Mr. Allen also stated that the valve at the bottom of Silver Hill is closed and that it will stay this way for now. He also said that he is waiting for a response from Stantec on the model.

Mr. Parenti stated that this could possibly be a problem in other parts of distribution and can this be used for those areas as well and Mr. Allen response was yes. Mr. Parenti also asked how much water is being used at the waste water treatment plant and Mr. Allen responded that approximately 255 cubic feet per day is being used. Mr. Phillips feels that there is a need to meter occurrences of color throughout Silver Hill and the adjoining mains if possible and to record the changes over time. Mr. Stuntz asked what comes out of the pipe when flushing occurs and Mr. Allen responded with the top layer of sediment.

Update on Indian Village Abatement Request

Mr. Allen said that he has been receiving telephone calls from residents from Indian Village regarding abatement and that he needs to get an official word from the Commissioners as to whether to grant or deny the abatement requests. The Commissioners agreed that the abatement will not be granted. Mr. Allen will draft a letter stating that the abatement has been denied and email a copy to the Commissioners for their review prior to sending it to the Indian Village residents.

NEW BUSINESS

Finalize FY09 Budget and Warrant

Warrant

Ms. Bassett stated that an additional warrant article has been added (Article 16) to authorize the Commissioners to enter into a long-term written lease for a telecommunication tower and associated building on land owned by the District on Great Hill. She said that the Great Hill leasing will be expiring next year and will need to go out to bid. She stated that she was concerned that only one company would bid and that the bid would come in low. It was stated that Crown Castle would have an advantage since they currently are the owners.

Mr. Stuntz suggested that the article should mention that the Town of Acton presently uses the tower for public safety police and fire communications. He also felt that a copy of the lease should be attached. Mr. Stuntz will discuss with the Acton residents at the Annual Meeting the uses for the tower.

The Commissioners discussed Article 18 which would grant an easement to the Town of Acton for use as a sidewalk on Main Street on District property located inside the Zone 1 groundwater protection area. Mr. Allen and Ms. Ceraso have met with Andy Magee (Board of Selectmen member) and at this point no final plan is available. Mr. Allen will contact Mr. McGee to see if a final plan will be available for the Annual Meeting.

The Commissioners were assigned to individual Warrant Articles (1-18) in rotation as follows:

1. Stephen C. Stuntz
2. Ronald R. Parenti
3. Leonard A. Phillips

FY09 Budget

The Commissioners reviewed the FY09 Budget and the following line items were discussed:

- Health/Life Insurance line item has increased 2%, but an \$18,000 savings occurred due to a change in employee health insurance plans.
- The Engineering line item increased due to the model engineering.
- The Bonds, Interest, Fees line item increase is due to the treatment plant and Indian Village upgrades.

The Final approved FY09 Budget amount is \$2,919,065.00.

Mr. Phillips moved to accept the Warrant Articles and Mr. Parenti seconded the motion. All the Commissioners were in favor of accepting the Warrant Articles as presented.

Mr. Parenti moved to accept the FY09 Budget and Mr. Phillips seconded the motion. The motion was approved unanimously.

ADDITIONAL BUSINESS

Mr. Allen discussed the expense incurred for distributing the Annual Report and spoke of possible ways of reducing this expense. He said that it cost \$10,000 to generate the report and one suggestion would be to reduce the printed amount of reports by 10% or have it available on the AWD website and also copies available at the AWD office. He suggested having a customer survey on the AWD website and asking residents for their email addresses. Mr. Bradley thought it would be a good idea to ask the Acton residents if they prefer the Annual Report via hard copy, email, or on the AWD website. Commissioner Phillips recommended continuing the printed versions, but suggested reducing the production costs by revising the design from 4-color printing to 1-color printing on less expensive paper.

It was agreed that the Annual Report will continue to be distributed as a hard document to the Acton residents and perhaps a poll in the future would take place asking the residents how they would like to receive the Annual Report.

Mr. Stuntz moved to adjourn the meeting and Mr. Parenti seconded the motion. The meeting adjourned at 8:28 pm.