Acton Water

Water Supply District of Acton

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Commissioners Meeting Water Supply District of Acton Meeting Minutes February 4, 2015

Agenda:

- A. Comments from Citizens
- B. Approve Minutes from the January 12th Meetings
- C. OLD BUSINESS:
 - 1. Approve Budget and Warrant Articles for Fiscal Year 2016.
 - 2. Discussion of Financial Planning and Rate Strategy.
 - 3. Execute Amended Administrative Consent Order (ACO)

D. NEW BUSINESS: Any agenda items(s) which did not come to the attention of the Board of Water Commissioners 48 hours prior to this meeting were not reasonably anticipated.

The Board of Water Commissioners meeting was called to order at 7:30 p.m. on Monday, February 4, 2015 at the Acton Water District Office by Mr. Leonard Phillips.

Present at Tonight's Meeting:

Commissioners: Ronald Parenti, Leonard Phillips (Chair) and Stephen Stuntz

District Manager: Chris Allen District Treasurer: Mary Jo Bates District Counsel: Mary Bassett

Commissioners Secretary: Lynn Protasowicki

Finance Committee: Charles Bradley, William Guthlein

A. Comments from Citizens

No comments this evening.

B. Approve Minutes from the December 15th Meeting.

Mr. Stuntz moved to accept minutes of the meeting held on January 12, 2015 and Mr. Parenti seconded the motion and it was unanimously approved.

C. OLD BUSINESS:

1. Approve Budget and Warrant Articles for Fiscal Year 2016.

Mr. Allen stated that there have been no alterations made to the current budget since the last meeting on January 12th, and the Finance Committee had unanimously voted to recommend approval at their meeting of January 15th. The budget and warrant articles are being presented to the Commissioners for their approval.

Mr. Stuntz moved to accept the Budget and Warrant Articles for Fiscal Year 2016 and Mr. Phillips seconded the motion. The Budget and Warrant Articles for Fiscal Year 2016 have been unanimously approved.

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2. Discussion of Financial Planning and Rate Strategy.

Mr. Allen informed the Commissioners that he, Ms. Bates and the Finance Committee met on January 15th, in open session and discussed multiple rate scenarios incorporating various strategies to sustain the District's financial future. Some of which included the fixed rate versus variable rate structure topic that was brought up at the last open meeting on January 12th. Mr. Allen stated that these scenarios are still being worked, and once the Finance Committee settles on a recommendation, it will be presented to the Commissioners.

Mr. Allen informed the Commissioners that the Finance Committee unanimously voted to recommend, effective immediately, raising the impact fee from \$5,040 to \$7,400 (this fee is paid by the developers) and raise the cost of the interim meter reading from \$25 to \$50 (this meter reading is required by homeowners during a closing). The impact fee is based on the depreciated asset value of the entire system. The increase is due to the addition of the \$10-million South Acton Water Treatment Plant.

Mr. Stuntz moved to accept the increase in the impact fee to \$7,400 and Mr. Phillips seconded the motion. The new impact fee of \$7,400 was then unanimously approved by the Commissioners.

Mr. Stuntz moved to accept the increase in meter reading to \$50 and Mr. Phillips seconded the motion. The new meter reading fee of \$50 was then unanimously approved by the Commissioners.

3. Execute Amended Administrative Consent Order (ACO)

Mr. Allen informed the Commissioners that they received the authorization from the Mass Department of Environmental Protection (MassDEP) for the 90 day extension for the South Acton Water Treatment Plant project, and subsequently, the ACO for the Christofferson Well issued back in 2010. The extension now sets the ACO deadline to April 15th. Mr. Phillips, as Chairman, executed the amended ACO.

D. NEW BUSINESS:

1. Mr. Allen informed the Commissioners that he is recommending that the February 9th meeting be cancelled due to its proximity to tonight's meeting, and the prediction of severe winter weather on that date. The Commissioners agreed to cancel the meeting. The next open meeting will be held on Monday, February 23rd.

E. EXECUTIVE SESSION:

Mr. Phillips moved to go into Executive Session at 8:15 p.m. to discuss threatened and pending litigation as an open meeting may have a detrimental effect on the negotiating position of the public body, and then to reconvene in open session. Mr. Stuntz and Mr. Parenti approved.

Mr. Phillips moved to adjourn the meeting at 9:15 p.m. and it was unanimously voted.