

# Water Supply District of Acton

693 MASSACHUSETTS AVENUE  
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ACTON, MASSACHUSETTS 01720

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Commissioners Meeting  
Water Supply District of Acton  
Meeting Minutes  
February 24, 2014

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**Agenda:**

- A. Comments from Citizens
- B. Approve Minutes from the February 3<sup>rd</sup> Meetings
- C. OLD BUSINESS:
  - 1. Simplified Proposal for the Town of Acton's Source Water Protection Zoning By-Law.
  - 2. Discussion of the Town of Concord's Land Acquisition at 55 Knox Trail in Acton.
  - 3. Update on South Acton Water Treatment Plant Project.
- 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 and were not reasonably anticipated.

The meeting was called to order at 7:35 p.m. on Monday, February 24, 2014 at the Acton Water District Office by Mr. Stephen Stuntz.

**Present at Tonight's Meeting:**

Commissioners: Ronald Parenti, Leonard Phillips, and Stephen Stuntz (Chairman)  
District Manager: Chris Allen  
Treasurer/Collector: Mary Jo Bates  
District Counsel: Mary Bassett  
Environmental Manager: Matthew Mostoller  
Commissioners Secretary: Lynn Protasowicki  
Finance Committee Member(s): William Guthlein  
WLMAC: Barry Rosen, Paul Malchodi and John Cipar

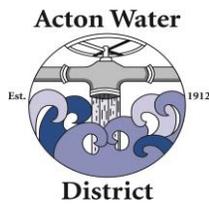
**A. Comments from Citizens**

No comment from citizens at tonight's meeting.

**B. Approve Minutes from the February 3, 2014 Meeting.**

Mr. Stuntz moved to accept minutes of the meeting held on February 3, 2014 and Mr. Parenti seconded the motion and it was unanimously approved.

Mr. Allen asked that edits to the minutes be made on one continuous edited version. He stated that in past edits have been going to Lynn on different versions. All those who typically review minutes agreed to make edits in one version.



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## **C. OLD BUSINESS:**

### 1. Simplified Proposal for the Town of Acton's Source Water Protection Zoning By-Law.

Enclosed in tonight's packet are the WLMAC meeting notes of February 11, 2014 to the Acton Water District Board of Commissioners which include their recommendations for changes to the Acton Zoning By-Law section 4.3.

There was a misunderstanding between the Board of Commissioners and WLMAC. After discussion, Mr. Rosen clarified the position of the WLMAC.

Mr. Phillips would like to know what the plan is with the recommendations that were made from WLMAC regarding Acton Zoning By-Law section 4.3. Mr. Stuntz stated that if the Knox Trail land acquisition doesn't happen then the recommendations no longer matter. He stated that the Acton Selectmen can then handle the changes under special permits. Mr. Phillips stated that in order to pass zoning by-law change it needs to be a part of the warrant for April 7th Town Meeting. Mr. Malchodi reviewed for the Commissioners the changes to Acton Zoning By-Law section 4.3 that WLMAC recommends.

Mr. Parenti asked the question, "should we push through these changes?" Mr. Phillips stated, "what do we have to lose?" Mr. Mostoller responded that he tried to set-up a meeting with the Town Planner, Roland Bartl, after the initial discussions of amending the by-law but it has been pushed off. He wanted to meet with him early on to get a better handle on the amendment process, timelines for public comment and staff review, discussion of the extent of the existing protection by-law and concerns with existing grandfathered uses. He stated that the District could risk losing trust with Town staff and also residents if the changes aren't made in a thorough, thoughtful, and comprehensive manner.

Mr. Phillips motioned to have changes made to Acton Groundwater Protection District (GWPD) Zoning By-Law, section 4.3 and sent to the Town of Acton Selectmen to adopt these changes and Mr. Parenti seconded the motion. Mr. Stuntz was not in agreement.

Mr. Rosen sent a text message to John Sonner, Acton Board of Selectmen and liaison to the Water & Land Management Advisory Committee (WLMAC), to let him know that the Board of Commissioners voted to propose changes to GWPD by-law 4.3 for inclusion on the warrant for Annual Town Meeting in April, and that a formal submittal will be sent to them.

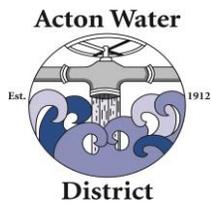
Mr. Stuntz will work on the email to Janet Adachi, Chairman of the Board of Selectman, and other Selectmen and have the Commissioners review before sending.

### 2. Discussion of the Town of Concord's Land Acquisition at 55 Knox Trail in Acton.

Mr. Allen asked Counselor Bassett if she has heard anything in regards to the appeal to the Attorney General on the denial by the Town of Concord for the public records request for the appraisal of 55 Knox Trail. She said no but that she did have a conversation with Jeff Roeloffs, Acton Special Town Counsel, who stated that he met with Steve Ledoux (Acton Town Manager), Chris Whelan (Concord Town Manager) and a member of the Town of Concord School Committee to go over the zoning issues and timing of the 55 Knox Trail land acquisition. Counselor Bassett summarized the information received as follows:

- Buses repair and maintenance currently done in Billerica but will move to 55 Knox Trail.
- There will be 36-40 buses parked at 55 Knox Trail.
- They understand the concerns regarding the fuel storage; however, they would prefer to have fuel on-site.

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.



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- They do not plan to park DPW vehicles; the site would only be used for school transportation.
- Access to Grace Property: Concord believes that they already have access.
- All are concerned about the water.
- Concord plans to meet with Acton Water District and Acton Planning Board before proceeding with any design work for the property. Mr. Parenti stated that we should have our own engineer look at the design.
- Purchase & Sale to be signed by April 1<sup>st</sup>.
- There was no discussion of the appraisal.

### 3. Update on South Acton Water Treatment Plant Project.

Mr. Allen provided an update to the Commissioners on the South Acton Water Treatment Plant project. He stated that the contractor is slightly behind schedule by a couple weeks due to the winter weather impacts we have been having. He informed the Commissioners that the contractor maintains that they will meet the deadline for commissioning the facility. He directed the Commissioners to progress photos on the video screen that show what has been built to-date. He stated that when the contractor works on the electrical portion of the project, that the five wells: Christofferson, Assabet 1A & 2A, Scribner and Lawsbrook, will be out of commission for extended periods, but not at the same time to allow for electrical retro-fits to be completed at those well sites. Mr. Allen informed the Commissioners that he has a progress meeting on Thursday, March 6<sup>th</sup> with the contractor and the engineer, Wright-Pierce, and one of the major items of discussion will be logistics associated with the electrical scope of the contract

### **D. NEW BUSINESS:**

1. The Commissioners reviewed a copy of the new spring Water Words Notice which contains the warrant articles for the Annual District Meeting to be held on Wednesday, March 19<sup>th</sup> at the Acton Public Library. This will be mailed to all customers in the coming weeks.
  2. Mr. Stuntz mentioned that Green Acton would like to see a contact email for the Commissioners on our District web site. Mr. Allen is working with Bob Murch, MIS Coordinator, to get that done.
- Mr. Stuntz made a motion to adjourn 9:20 p.m. and was unanimously approved.