

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
April 28, 2014

Agenda:

- A. Comments from Citizens
- B. Approve Minutes from the April 14th Meetings
 - 1. Board Realignment & Annual Appointments
 - 2. Joint Meeting with the Town of Acton Board of Health (BOH)
 - a. Proposed Groundwater Protection District By-Law Amendment and Hazardous Material By-Law.
 - b. Other Topics Related to the Supply of Water and Impacting Public Health in the Town of Acton.

The Board of Water Commissioners meeting was called to order at 7:30 p.m. on Monday, April 28, 2014 at the Acton Water District Office by Mr. Stephen Stuntz.

Present at Tonight's Meeting:

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

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

Environmental Manager: Matthew Mostoller Commissioners Secretary: Lynn Protasowicki

WLMAC: Barry Rosen & John Cipar Water District Clerk: Chip Orcutt

Present from the Acton Board of Health:

Michael Kreuze Doug Haley Joanne Bissetta William McInnis

A. Comments from Citizens

Present at tonight's meeting is Debby Andell, 8 Mohawk Drive, Acton. She stated that she is representing Green Acton and just here to listen in on tonight's meeting.

B. Approve Minutes from the April 14th Meeting.

Mr. Stuntz moved to accept minutes of the meeting held on April 14, 2014 and Mr. Parenti seconded the motion and it was unanimously approved.

1. Board Realignment & Annual Appointments

Mr. Stuntz made a motion to appoint:

Mary Bassett as District Council

Mary J. Bates ad District Treasurer

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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Maureen Mara as District Auditor Chris Allen as Assistant Treasurer Lynn Protasowicki as Board Secretary, each for a 1 year term.

Counselor Bassett swore in Chip Orcutt as District Clerk. Mr. Orcutt swore in Mr. Stuntz following his re-election.

Mr. Stuntz made a motion to elect Mr. Phillips as Chairman. It was seconded by Mr. Parenti and unanimously approved.

- 2. The joint meeting of the Board of Water Commissioners and the Acton Board of Health (BOH) was called to order at 7:35 p.m. on Monday, April 28, 2014 at the Acton Water District Office by Mr. Leonard Phillips.
 - a. Proposed Groundwater Protection District By-Law Amendment and Hazardous Material By-Law. Mr. Phillips gave a brief history of what lead up to the decisions behind amending the Groundwater Protection District By-Law and why the District decided to take no action on the proposed amendment to the By-law at the Annual Town Meeting held on April 7th & 8th. The Board determined that they needed to look at Zone 3 land because it affects the overall Town and they determined that the Hazardous Material By-Law should be addressed as well.

Mr. Haley gave an overview of what the Hazardous Materials Control By-Law is. The by-law has been in place since 1988, he stated that there are 156 locations with hazmat permits. There are 50 conditions that each business must adhere too and each year these locations are inspected for these conditions. He stated that the Water District holds one of these permits. Mr. McInnis mentioned that these conditions are public knowledge and he will make sure that the Commissioners receive a copy. Mr. Haley stated that when looking at the by-law there are certain normal uses that a facility needs for regular working conditions that should not be prohibited or changed.

Mr. Haley suggested that a sub-committee be formed with one representative from the Water District, Planning Board, Board of Health, and the third party consultant to work together to work on the changes to the by-laws.

Mr. Stuntz made a motion to create the new sub-committee and both Mr. Phillips and Mr. Parenti seconded. The motion was unanimously approved.

b. 16 Knox Trail. Acton

Mr. Allen gave the background history and update to the BOH regarding the Assabet Sand & Gravel purchase. Mr. Mostoller brought out a map to show the area of land that purchased.

c. South Acton Water Treatment Plant Update

Mr. Allen gave an overview of the South Acton Water Treatment Plant project. Informed them of the wells that will be connected to the plant; he spoke about water flushing in the South Acton area in the Fall and Spring of next year; he spoke about water main replacements; and he informed them of the updating of the meter technology throughout the town.

Mr. McInnis inquired about the numerous breaks in the area of Duggan/Mary Shepard. Mr. Allen mentioned that the District is having Cortec evaluate the reasons why there have been the breaks.

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d. Reducing or Waiving Connection Fees

Mr. McInnis mentioned that they haven't had any issues or questions regarding residents complaining about the connection fees when they want to go from using their well to connecting to service line. He wanted to bring it up because it was discussed at the last joint meeting. The Commissioners stated that if complaints did come up about connection fee that they would look at each request on a case by case basis.

e. "Brown" Water

Mr. Kreuze would like to know why and how the brown water occurs in South Acton. Mr. Allen stated that the new South Acton Water Treatment Plant will solve the brown water issues in this area of Town. He also stated that there will be two aggressive flushings that will take place in the South Acton area, this fall and next spring. The flushings will clean-up any existing sediment in the pipes. Overtime the duration of brown water will subside because all the mineral content in the pipes will be filtered out with the new system. Mr. Kreuze asked if residents will be notified that the flushing will happen and that they may experience brown water. Mr. Allen stated that they will use the Connect CTY System to notify all residents in the South Acton area.

f. Concord Ice Rink connection

Mr. Allen explained the situation with Valley Sports Arena in Concord. The ice rink is on the Concord/Acton line and they are drawing water from Concord to make ice however the ice is not solid enough. The owner approached the Acton Water District to help with a solution. The owner of the ice rink hired a contractor to use directional drilling to connect to Acton's water service and now the rink is successfully making ice.

g. Capacity Issues

Mr. Kreuze asked if the District is concerned with capacity. Mr. Allen stated that there is always a concern. The town uses 1.9 million gallons per day (permitted use). During the summer months we peak at over 3 million gallons per day. Next August the District's permit is up for renewal. The District is very aggressive with conservation especially during the peak summer by asking residents to water on odd/even days. It's very important that there are collaborative efforts between the Water District, Board of Health, and Planning Board when it comes to new home construction in town.

Mr. Phillips ended discussion by thanking the Board of Health for attending tonight's meeting. The Commissioners look forward to continuing to work with the BOH. Issues to think about as the District and BOH move forward in their collaboration and new sub-committee:

- Form a reasonable plan for protecting water in Zone 3.
- What defines a Zone 3?
- Regulations on discharge before it get to water supply.

Mr. McInnis made a motion to adjourn the joint meeting at 9:10 p.m. and was unanimously approved.

Mr. Allen informed the Commissioners that he will contact Roland Bartl, the Planning Director, about the new sub-committee and how they would like him to be a part of it.

Mr. Phillips made a motion to adjourn the Board of Water Commissioners meeting at 9:15 p.m. and was unanimously approved.

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