



Water Supply District of Acton

693 MASSACHUSETTS AVENUE
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Board of Water Commissioners
Meeting Minutes
693 Massachusetts Avenue, Acton MA
Monday, May 7, 2018

A. Comments from Citizens

B. Approve Minutes of April 23rd Meeting

C. OLD BUSINESS:

1. Discussion of Discounts for Senior Citizens.
2. Email from Resident Regarding Smart Meters and Update on the Meter Technology Upgrade Program.

D. NEW BUSINESS:

1. Commencement of the District's Annual Summer Outdoor Watering Program.
 - The mandated calendar triggered program began on May 1st

Present at Tonight's Meeting:

Commissioners: Ronald Parenti (Chairman), Stephen Stuntz, Erika Amir-Lin
District Manager: Chris Allen
District Treasurer: Mary Jo Bates
District Counsel: Mary Bassett
Commissioners Secretary: Lynn Protasowicki
District Moderator: Dick O'Brien
Finance Committee: Charles Bradley
WLMAC: Barry Rosen

Acton Citizens:

Derrick Chin (Planning Board Liaison to the District)
Carolyn Kiely
Mary Lynn Miller
Kim Kastens

The Board of Water Commissioners meeting was called to order at 7:30 PM on Monday, May 7, 2018 at the Acton Water District office by Mr. Parenti.

A. Comments from Citizens:

Ms. Kastens requested a correction to the minutes of the AWD Commissioners meeting of March 26, 2018, which have already been approved. She is quoted in support of something that she does not support.

After discussion, the Commissioners agreed that the change Ms. Kastens requested can be made. The correction is as follows:

...”Mr. Phillips presented on behalf of the District giving an overview of the history of the Town of Concord and read the statement as approved on March 12, 2018 at the Board of Commissioners meeting.”

The Commissioners voted to approve the change.



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Mr. Rosen would like to know if the District could make the documents that are going to be discussed at the open meeting available in advance to the meeting so that attendees could review these documents prior to the meetings. Mr. Allen stated that it may be possible but that he will need to discuss with Bob Murch, District IT Manager, to see if it can be done and if there are enough memory resources available on the website. He will have an answer available at the next open meeting on May 21st.

B. Approve Minutes of April 23rd Meeting:

Mr. Parenti moved to accept the minutes of April 23rd. Mr. Stuntz seconded and it was unanimously approved.

C. Old Business:

1. Discussion of Water Rate Discounts for Senior Citizens.

Mr. Parenti asked that this discussion be put back on the agenda tonight. Based upon Mr. Rosen's comments at the April 23rd meeting about this subject, Mr. Parenti did a search on the District website and on the Town website and he didn't find much information about discounted water rates for senior citizens. He agrees with Mr. Rosen that the District should have better information about this on its website. Mr. Parenti mentioned that the Town of Ayer has a very nice program. Mr. Allen mentioned that the Town of Ayer is a public works department and is under the town. The District is set-up differently; separate from the Town of Acton.

Ms. Bates explained the current AWD policy. The program is based on the Town of Acton's tax abatement program for low income seniors; AWD only offers a program for people who are approved for a property tax abatement through Town Assessor's office. Ms. Bates stated that she spoke with the Town officials and they are willing to advertise the AWD program within their application and/or on the approval certificate.

Ms. Bates stated that she will write something up summarizing the program and share with Commissioners for their review and comments and once approved it will be posted onto the District website with a link to the Town of Acton website and AWD will include a notice in the next Water Words.

2. Email from Resident Regarding Smart Meters and Update on the Meter Technology Upgrade Program.

Enclosed in tonight's packets to the Commissioners is a letter from resident Paul Elliot of 367 Arlington Street to the Commissioners thanking them for allowing him to have his water meter Transponder placed outside of his home.

Mr. Allen mentioned that there is only one resident left who has not taken part in the upgrading of the meter technology. The District has emailed an automated meter reading (AMR) opt out form to be completed and submitted with the choice of meter reading alternatives, as Option 2 on the form, the District currently stocks the manual reading device that would be mounted on the exterior of the home with no Radio-Frequency (RF) emission. This device would be read quarterly for billing only at a cost to the customer of \$25 per quarter.

D. New Business:

1. Commencement of the District's Annual Summer Outdoor Watering Program.

The mandated calendar triggered program began on May 1st

Mr. Allen informed the Commissioners that the annual outdoor watering program began on May 1st. Enclosed in tonight's packets to the Commissioners is the notice that is currently published in the appropriate area of the District's website. This notice has been put into the quarterly bills, email sent via Water Smart, and sent out on Twitter.



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Ms. Amir-Lin asked if there has ever been an educational initiative and outreach to the private well owners in town? Mr. Allen stated that there has not been but that the District asks these homeowners to put a sign out on their lawn stating that private well water is in use. Private wells in Acton are under the jurisdiction of the Town's Health Department.

Mr. Parenti moved to adjourn the meeting at 8:18 PM and it was unanimously approved.