

Commissioners Meeting
Water Supply District of Acton
Meeting Minutes
May 12, 2014

- Agenda:**
- A. Comments from Citizens
 - B. Approve Minutes from the April 28th Meetings
 - C. OLD BUSINESS:
 - 1. Update on the Town of Concord's Land Acquisition on Knox Trail in Acton.
 - 2. Proposal for Amendment to the Groundwater Protection District (GWPD) By-law.
 - 3. Release Executive Session Minutes as Public Record.
 - D. NEW BUSINESS:
 - 1. License to MA DOT and Town of Acton for Easement for Bruce Freeman Rail Trail Project on District Property in North Acton.
 - 2. Discussion of the DRAFT Water Management Act (WMA) Regulation.
 - 3. Formulate an Agenda for the Meeting with Senator Eldridge on June 2nd.

The Board of Water Commissioners meeting was called to order at 7:30 p.m. on Monday, May 12, 2014 at the Acton Water District Office by Mr. Leonard Phillips.

Present at Tonight's Meeting:

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

District Manager: Chris Allen

District Counsel: Mary Bassett

Environmental Manager: Matthew Mostoller

Commissioners Secretary: Lynn Protasowicki

Finance Committee: Charles Bradley

WLMAC: Barry Rosen & Paul Malchodi

Town Selectmen: Janet Adachi, Chair

A. Comments from Citizens

No comments were made at this evening's meeting.

B. Approve Minutes from the April 28th Meeting.

Mr. Phillips moved to accept minutes of the meeting held on April 28, 2014 and Mr. Parenti seconded the motion and it was unanimously approved.

C. OLD BUSINESS:

1. Update on the Town of Concord's Land Acquisition on Knox Trail in Acton.

Mr. Allen gave an update to the Commissioners on the Town of Concord's land acquisition on Knox Trail in Acton. Enclosed in the packets for tonight's meeting is a copy of the warrant articles from the Town of Concord's Annual town meeting and Special Town Meeting held on May 4th and May 5th, respectively, regarding the article for land acquisition of 37 Knox Trail in Acton; the article to rescind the vote to purchase 55 and 55A Knox Trail in Acton; and the article for Concord Public Schools use of Capital Needs Stabilization Fund for transportation infrastructure which was amended to add a stipulation that the transportation infrastructure be used for continued in-house transportation operations. The three articles passed.

2. Proposal for Amendment to the Groundwater Protection District (GWPD) By-law.

Mr. Allen informed the Commissioners that he communicated via email with Roland Bartl, Acton Planning Director in regards to participating in the new sub-committee with the Acton Board of Health, the Acton Water District, and the outside consultant to work on the changes to the Groundwater Protection District By-Law. Mr. Allen stated that Mr.

Bartl seemed a bit hesitant about participating and invited the District to attend the Planning Boards upcoming meeting on May 20th at 7:30 p.m. Mr. Parenti plans to attend this meeting. The item is on the agenda for 8:15 PM.

Enclosed in tonight's packet to the Commissioners from the WLMAC is a list of suggested goals that the WLMAC crafted that the new sub-committee could use as their basis for revising the Groundwater Protection District By-Law.

3. Release Executive Session Minutes as Public Record.

Counselor Bassett asked the Commissioners if they would approve the February 11th and March 20th, 2013 executive session minutes regarding the lawsuit against Assabet Sand & Gravel. The Commissioners approved the minutes.

Mr. Phillips made a motion to release the Executive Session minutes for public record. Mr. Stuntz seconded and the motion was unanimously approved.

These minutes will be posted onto the Acton Water District website.

D. NEW BUSINESS:

1. License to MA DOT and Town of Acton for Easement for Bruce Freeman Rail Trail Project on District Property in North Acton.

Enclosed in tonight's packet to the Commissioners is a letter from Roland Bartl, Acton Planning Director, regarding a request for a temporary easement at the 941 Main Street, Acton for some clearing, grubbing, and re-grading alongside Main Street to make sight distance safe at the adjacent crossing of the Bruce Freeman Rail Trail over Main Street. Counselor Bassett determined that the District should grant a license for access not an easement. She stated that to grant an easement the District would need voter approval and there is no time to prepare a special town meeting to get the votes. Mr. Phillips made a motion to have Counselor Bassett draft a temporary license for the Commissioners to review and approve, Mr. Stuntz seconded the motion and the motion was unanimously approved.

2. Discussion of the DRAFT Water Management Act (WMA) Regulation.

Mr. Allen informed the Commissioners that an extension was granted from the Massachusetts Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) regarding the public comment period for the draft Regulations for the Commonwealth's Water Management Act. The District had until June 10th to provide their comments to the Mass DEP, and with the extension, until July 10th. Enclosed in tonight's packet to the Commissioners is a letter from Jen Pederson, Executive Director, regarding the extension, an outline of what the letter to the DEP should include, and information about the proposed Water Management Act Regulations.

Mr. Allen stated that the District does well with conservation and does better than most towns in this area. Mr. Phillips asked if the District will get credit for their activities in this area. Mr. Allen stated that we are not sure what the impact will be on us, and what will determine the future impacts. Those conditions are under evaluation, and will be determined after the public comment period.

Mr. Mostoller outlined for the Commissioners some key concerns that the District needs to think about and consider:

1. Initiate projects not under wheelhouse
2. Issues of town boundaries
3. On-going development in town
4. Customers and how they feel about water use
5. Permits that are new to water management
6. Cost

Mr. Mostoller informed the Commissioners that the District is operating under an expired water management act permit and it won't be reviewed for renewal until August 2016.

The Commissioners will provide their comments to Mr. Allen and Mr. Mostoller on the Water Management Act Regulation so that these can then be incorporated into one document for the Mass DEP.

3. Formulate an Agenda for the Meeting with Senator Eldridge on June 2nd.

The main agenda items for the meeting with Senator Eldridge will be to discuss the infrastructure finance bill and the Water Management Act Regulation, and other impacts on the provision of water and the environment that are legislative priorities.

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