

Water Supply District of Acton

693 MASSACHUSETTS AVENUE
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Board of Water Commissioners
Meeting Minutes
693 Massachusetts Avenue, Acton MA
Monday, January 14, 2019

AGENDA

A. Comments from Citizens

B. Approve Minutes of December 12, 2018 Meetings

C. OLD BUSINESS:

1. Review DRAFT Fiscal Year '20 Budget and Proposed Annual Meeting Warrant.
2. Update on Pilot Study for the Conant I & II Wells Treatment Technology.

D. NEW BUSINESS:

1. Re-appointment of Matt Mostoller as the District's Representative to the Water Resources Advisory Committee.
2. Actuarial Valuation of Other Post-Employment Benefits (OPEB).
3. Commissioners Annual Report for 2018.

Executive Session: To discuss strategy with respect to potential litigation in the case of Town of Concord vs. Town of Littleton, as an open meeting may have detrimental effect on the litigating position of the District.

Present at Tonight's Meeting:

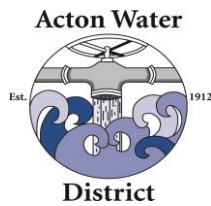
Commissioners: Ronald Parenti (Chair), Stephen Stuntz, Erika Amir-Lin
District Manager: Chris Allen
District Treasurer: Mary Jo Bates
District Counsel: Mary Bassett
Commissioner's Secretary: Lynn Protasowicki
Finance Committee: Chuck Bradley
District Moderator: Dick O'Brien
Green Acton: Kim Kastens
WRAC: Barry Rosen

The Board of Water Commissioners meeting was called to order at 7:30 PM on Monday, January 14, 2019 at the Acton Water District office by Mr. Parenti.

A. Comments from Citizens

Kim Kastens stated that moving forward Green Acton will have a representative attend the Water District open meetings. She noted that it will either be herself, Carolyn Kiely, or Lucy Kirshner.

Ms. Kastens stated that the Acton/Boxborough Regional School District (ABRSD) is looking to build a new elementary school at the current site of Gates School. There have been some discussions of conservation and sustainability. She would like to see more discussion about energy efficiency and water efficiency.



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Mr. Stuntz asked if the new building would be a Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design (LEED) building. She stated that the School District may be trying for an energy efficient building but may not apply for an energy efficient certification. She did not hear about LEED certification in any of the discussions.

She stated that it would be a great time for the District to get involved in this project. Mr. Allen stated that he'd have Matt Mostoller, Environmental Manager, contact the School District to begin the dialogue.

She mentioned that Lucy Kirshner will be the Green Acton liaison with the ABRSD on this project.

B. Approve Minutes of December 10, 2018 Meetings.

Ms. Amir-Lin motioned to approve the minutes of December 10, 2018. Mr. Stuntz seconded the motion and it was unanimously approved.

C. Old Business

1. Review DRAFT FY'20 Budget and Proposed Annual Meeting Warrant.

Enclosed in tonight's packets to the Commissioners is a copy of the draft budget for fiscal year (FY) '20 budget and the proposed Annual Meeting Warrant. Mr. Allen stated that the draft budget has not been altered since last time it was presented to the Commissioners which was in December. The revised budget now includes six month actual numbers.

The District Finance Committee reviewed draft budget for fiscal year (FY) '20 budget and recommended approval of this budget. The District Finance Committee also voted to wait to approve the Warrant Articles until Friday, 1/18/19 so that they can review them further, and raise any questions. There may be a need for the Finance Committee to meet again prior to approval.

Mr. Allen informed the Commissioners that there are two new Articles on the Warrant. These include:

Article 14: To see if the District will vote to appropriate \$9,242,000 for the construction and all related costs of a water treatment facility at the Acton Center site off Post Office Square in Acton.

Mr. Allen stated that this project was approved for full funding by the Drinking Water State Revolving Fund (DWSRF). Acceptance of this funding entitles the District to a 2% loan on a 20-year Promissory note. Current market rates are above 3%.

Article 15: To see if the District will vote to appropriate the sum of \$650,000 for engineering work on the Acton Center Water Treatment Facility.

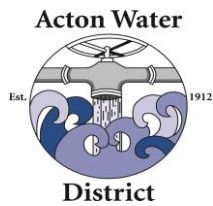
The Commissioners went through some of the Warrant Articles and asked for clarification where needed.

The assignment of Articles is as follows: Mr. Parenti, Mr. Stuntz and Ms. Amir-Lin however Ms. Amir-Lin will end with Article 16.

At the next open meeting on January 28, 2019 the Commissioners will vote on the Budget and Warrant Articles.

2. Update on Pilot Study for the Conant I & II Wells Treatment Technology.

Enclosed in tonight's packets to the Commissioners is a summary report from Mr. Allen to the Commissioners outlining the Acton Center Water Treatment Plan project. In his briefing to the Commissioners tonight he



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informed them that the treatment technology pilot study for the Conant I & II Wells has been completed and that the pilot report will be available in mid-January. He noted that the engineer, Wright-Pierce, has recommended Green Sand Plus media filtration for the removal of iron and manganese from these water sources. When he receives the DRAFT pilot study report he will share with the Commissioners.

Additional Old Business

Mr. Allen informed the Commissioners that he spoke with Peter Bay of EDF Renewables, the solar array developer today. He mentioned that the developer is still having issues with EverSource. The project in Maynard with the utility interconnection agreement had been signed by the deadline. EDF is pushing forward with more civil engineering at Lawsbrook. Thereafter, a grid interconnection study will ensue, and the timing may result in qualification for a higher block of the SMART program...the higher the block the more financial benefit to the District. The developer stated that they are planning for a fall 2019 construction startup at Knox Trail, and possibly spring of 2019 for Lawsbrook.

D. New Business

1. Re-appointment of Matt Mostoller as the District's Representative to the WRAC.

Mr. Parenti motioned to re-appoint Matthew Mostoller as the District's Representative to the Water Resources Advisory Committee (WRAC). Mr. Stuntz seconded the motion and it was unanimously approved.

2. Actuarial Valuation of Other Post-Employment Benefits.

Enclosed in tonight's packets to the Commissioners are the key highlights of the Other Post-Employment Benefits report. Ms. Bates stated that the District is 83% funded; compared to Middlesex Retirement account which is 49.27% funded.

Ms. Bates stated that \$195,841 is the unfunded liability. The District will need to decide when to begin funding the retiree health insurance payments from the fund and how to best maintain the fully funded status once we reach that point. -

3. Commissioners Annual Report for 2018.

Mr. Allen reminded the Commissioners that the Commissioners Annual Report is due January 28, 2019.

Mr. Parenti moved to adjourn the open meeting at 8:12 PM and motioned to enter into Executive Session at 8:15 PM to discuss strategy with respect to potential litigation in the case of Town of Concord vs. Town of Littleton, as an open meeting may have detrimental effect on the litigating position of the District and to reconvene in open session. Mr. Stuntz seconded the motion and it was unanimously approved by roll call vote.

Board of Water Commissioners
693 Massachusetts Avenue
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EXECUTIVE SESSION MINUTES
January 14, 2019

Mr. Parenti moved that the Commissioners enter into executive session at 8:16 pm, pursuant to MGL, Ch. 30A, sec. 21A (3) to discuss strategy with respect to potential litigation in the case of Town of Concord vs. Town of Littleton and Town of Littleton vs. Town of Concord, as an open meeting may have detrimental effect on the litigating position of the District. It was seconded by Mr. Stuntz.

Roll call vote: Mr. Stuntz, aye, Mr. Parenti, aye, Ms. Amir-Lin, aye.

Mr. Stuntz also moved that after the executive session that the Board reconvene in open session.

Roll call vote: Mr. Stuntz, aye, Mr. Parenti, aye, Ms. Amir-Lin, aye.

Present:

Commissioners: Stephen Stuntz, Ronald Parenti, Erika Amir-Lin

District Manager: Chris Allen

District Counsel: Mary Bassett

Environmental Manager: Matthew Mostoller

District Treasurer: Mary Jo Bates

Attorney Bassett briefed the Commissioners on the Nagog Pond Lawsuits. The Land Court judge should allow the District's Motion to Intervene. Concord has objected to the intervention of the District. Littleton has motioned to remove the case from Land Court to the Supreme Judicial Court. Concord has filed a motion to dismiss Littleton's lawsuit because Littleton is not currently withdrawing water from Nagog Pond. A hearing on that motion has not been scheduled. Attorney Bassett still maintains that the District is the public water supplier, and not the Town of Acton.

The Commissioners instructed District Counsel to continue to take appropriate legal actions to preserve the District's rights in both cases.

Mr. Parenti made a motion to adjourn the Executive Session and entered into open session at 8:50 pm. It was seconded by Ms. Amir-Lin and unanimously approved.

Roll call vote: Mr. Stuntz, aye, Mr. Parenti, aye, Ms. Amir-Lin, aye.

Mr. Parenti made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 9:29 pm. It was seconded by Ms. Amir-Lin and unanimously approved.