

Water Supply District of Acton

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Commissioners Meeting
Water Supply District of Acton
Meeting Minutes
April 22, 2013

- Agenda:**
- A. Comments from Citizens
 - B. Approve Minutes of April 8th Meeting
 - C. OLD BUSINESS:
 - Update on the South Acton Water Treatment Plant project.
 - D. NEW BUSINESS:
 - Authorize Reserve Fund Transfer to Legal Account.
 - Discussion of Alternative Energy Technologies
 - E. EXECUTIVE SESSION: For Discussion of Pending Litigation

The regular bi-monthly meeting was called to order at 7:30 p.m. on Monday, April 22, 2013 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 Counselor: Mary Bassett

Environmental Manager: Matthew Mostoller

Commissioners Secretary: Lynn Protasowicki

Finance Committee Member(s): David Butler

WLMAC: Paul Malchodi and John Cipar

A. Comments from Citizens

There were no comments from citizens at tonight's meeting.

B. Approval of Minutes from April 8th Meetings

Mr. Stuntz moved to accept minutes of the meeting held on April 8, 2013 and Mr. Parenti seconded the motion and it was unanimously approved.

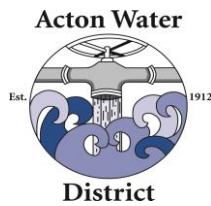
C. OLD BUSINESS

Update of the South Acton Water Treatment Plant Project.

Mr. Allen provided an update of the South Acton Water Treatment Plant project to the Commissioners. He stated that the plans for the design of the plant are 60% completed. He is currently in the review and comment phase of these plans. MassDEP has reviewed the 60% design plans and provided their comments.

Some changes that will need to be made in the design include:

- 1.) The aeration tower. Mr. Allen met with the Town of Acton, Board of Health of Acton, Police Department and Fire Department, it was determined that the height of the aeration tower currently designed in the plans is too tall and will need to be changed, or a zoning variance will need to be granted



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by the Town of Acton. In the design the plans are for the tower to be 38.5 feet but zoning in that area allows for only 36 feet.

- 2.) A second lavatory to be added. The State of MA plumbing code requires both Men's & Ladies' lavatories for industrial buildings.

Mr. Allen received a memo from Wright-Pierce regarding the wastewater connection. Wright-Pierce is working directly with Woodward & Curran, who oversee the wastewater treatment plan for Acton. In the memo, the engineer provided a cost summary and recommendations on the best way to connect to the wastewater treatment plant. Based on the recommended configuration, the impact/privilege fee is \$78,000 and the construction to connect will cost \$80,000. Based on conversations with the Acton Board of Health, Mr. Allen mentioned to the Commissioners that the sewer line may need to be cleaned before it can be connected.

Mr. Parenti asked Mr. Allen if in the design of the South Acton Treatment Plant there is a meeting room (because there had been some discussions of this). Mr. Allen stated that he decided not to include a meeting room because of security reasons and building footprint limitations.

Mr. Phillips asked Mr. Allen if there is Photovoltaic (PV) (solar panel) potential. Based on the building's proposed orientation, it doesn't appear to have good southwest facing roofs which are typically where you want to have solar panels located. Mr. Allen will check with the engineers.

Mr. Allen stated that the NStar Energy Efficiency division and the Wright Pierce electrical engineers are discussing options for best energy efficiency. Mr. Phillips stated that LED lighting is fast moving so he encourages the engineers to be as progressive on lighting as they can be.

Mr. Malchodi asked Mr. Allen about staffing at the new water plant. Mr. Allen believes that it will be rated as a Treatment 2 (T2) facility – 4 hours/day to be manned while operating by staff.

Other Old Business:

Mr. Malchodi mentioned that the WLMAC recently met with the Finance Committee, Mr. Mostoller, Ms. Bates, and Mr. Parenti. Part of the discussion was over some concerns that the WLMAC had regarding excessive levels of staffing at the new South Acton Water Treatment plant. Mr. Malchodi stated that it was a very productive meeting and many of the questions WLMAC had were answered.

D. NEW BUSINESS

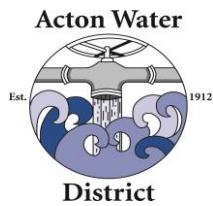
Authorize Reserve Fund Transfer to Legal Account.

Mr. Allen informed the Commissioners that the legal account was down to a zero balance. The funds being transferred are for the rest of the fiscal year.

Mr. Stuntz made a motion to move \$25,000 from the reserve fund to the legal account. The vote was unanimously approved.

Discussion of Alternative Energy Technologies.

Mr. Phillips informed the Commissioners of a company called Rentricity. This company created a system that has turbines inside a pipe that is attached to an electrical generator. He stated that the Town of Keene, NH has been using this system for about a year and has allowed them to reduce the water pressure flow and at the same time create power to run the pumps. Mr. Phillips suggested that this system may or may not be applicable to the new South Acton Water Treatment Plant (SAWTP). Mr. Allen stated that he has asked Wright-Pierce to do



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some fact checking for him on the company and their system. At first glance this type of system does not seem viable for the SAWTP. It will, however, be fully vetted.

Mr. Malchodi asked if wind power was ever considered to help run the South Acton Water Treatment plant. Mr. Phillips stated that there are issues with using wind power: \$2,000 kilowatt/install; heavy maintenance; and the "flicker" and "shadowing" effects; besides the heavy visual impacts of wind turbines

Mr. Allen stated that alternative energy technologies are very important and an area that he continues to research and prioritize.

E. EXECUTIVE SESSION

There was no executive session tonight.

Counselor Bassett gave a quick update to the Commissioners about the pending litigation. A hearing date of May 28, 2013 is scheduled on the District's Motion for a pre-judgment attachment of the AS&G real estate to secure payment of the \$70,000 that the District will incur in removing materials and encroachments from the Disputed Area and to have the court to order the bank to release its security interest.

Mr. Stuntz made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 8:35 p.m. and it was unanimously approved.