

Water Supply District of Acton

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Board of Water Commissioners
Meeting Minutes
693 Massachusetts Avenue, Acton MA
Monday, October 29, 2018

AGENDA

A. Comments from Citizens

B. Approve Minutes of October 15, 2018 Meeting

C. OLD BUSINESS:

1. Certification of Free Cash/Surplus Revenue from FY '18 Audit
2. Update from 1,4-Dioxane Forum Held on October 25, 2018
3. Follow-up Discussion of Land Acquisition Fee/Bond Debt Fee

D. NEW BUSINESS:

Any agenda item(s) which did not come to the attention of the Board of Water Commissioners 48 hours prior to this meeting and were not reasonably anticipated.

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
WLMAC: John Cipar
Green Acton: Lucy Kirshner
Acton Selectman: Janet Adachi

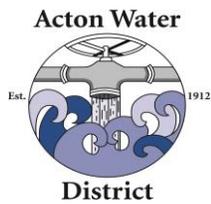
Citizens: Terra Friedrichs

The Board of Water Commissioners meeting was called to order at 7:30 PM on Monday, October 29, 2018 at the Acton Water District office by Mr. Parenti.

A. Comments from Citizens

Lucy Kirshner thanked the District for the support of Matt Mostoller and his presentation at the 1,4-dioxane forum. She stated that all the presentations made at the forum are now on-line at GreenActon.org

Janet Adachi spoke and mentioned that one of the goals of the Acton Selectmen is to strengthen communications with District and other town Boards. She asked the Commissioners and Mr. Allen if they would come up with a statement of things that are lacking that the Board of Selectmen and other town boards can address and work together on. She wants to make sure that the District is getting in earlier on planning conversations with their input. Mr. Allen mentioned that the District was a participant in the 2020 town master plan, does comment on development applications, and attend preliminary site meetings, when invited.



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Mr. Parenti suggested that the District Master Plan be shared with other town boards for their input. Janet asked if the District would share the District Master Plan with Town Managers office.

B. Approve Minutes of October 15, 2018 Meeting

Mr. Stuntz motioned to approve the minutes of October 15, 2018. Mr. Parenti seconded the motion and it was unanimously approved.

C. OLD BUSINESS:

1. Certification of Free Cash/Surplus Revenue from FY '18 Audit.

Mr. Allen stated that the District received from Massachusetts Department of Revenue notification of free cash approval. The amount of available funds or “free cash” as of July 1, 2018 for the District is \$1,319,943. He mentioned that these funds are available for appropriations related to Capital projects and Operations & Maintenance at the 2019 Annual meeting in March.

2. Update from 1,4-Dioxane Forum Held on 10/25/2018.

Mr. Allen mentioned that all District Commissioners attended this forum. The forum went well, it was well organized, and there was good information from the panel, a good learning venue for public engagement. He stated that Kim Kastens did a great job of moderating. He agreed with Lucy Kirshner that Matt Mostoller did a fantastic job with his presentation. Ms. Amir-Lin stated that it was a good event with a good Q&A session.

Mr. Parenti asked for some clarification on the 1,4-dioxane treatment plant at 16 Knox Trail. Mr. Allen stated that the full scale treatment plant will go online by the end of this year; the structure is currently under construction and there are process tanks on-site awaiting eventual installation in said structure.

Ms. Friedrichs asked the District about what the District is doing to detect pharmaceuticals in drinking water. Mr. Allen stated that, with pre-treatment, our current membrane filtration technologies are capable of removing some of these contaminants of concern.

Ms. Kirshner of Green Acton stated that the group would like to plan future public forums and is happy to take on other topics that could help teach/inform the public.

3. Follow-up Discussion of Land Acquisition Fee/Bond Debt Fee.

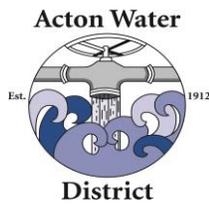
Mr. Allen informed the Commissioners that at their meeting on Tuesday, October 23rd, the Finance Committee recommended establishing a Debt Fee that would replace the current “Bond Debt Fee”.

Ms. Bates stated that the Debt Fee would be anything the District borrows for and will be itemized on the back of the quarterly bill.

Ms. Amir-Lin agrees that it will be helpful for customers to see more thoroughly what they are paying for with a Debt Fee.

Mr. Stuntz motioned to approve a Debt Fee that will itemize what the long and short term debt is allocated for. Mr. Parenti seconded the motion and it was unanimously approved.

Ms. Friedrichs likes the idea of a Debt Fee that would be itemized on her bill. She likes the idea of a Land Acquisition Fee because it shows that she as a customer is supporting buying land, it's an investment in their future.



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585 Main Street, Acton – Ms. Bates stated that she needs signatures from Commissioners on the letter to bond counsel which basically states that the parcel will be maintained “As is” until, at least, the debt is paid off. She informed the Commissioners that the District is not able to take a Conservation Restriction when it is still bonded, but could take a conservation restriction in the future after it is no longer bonded.

Letter to Bond Counsel – Ms. Amir-Lin motioned to sign the letter. Mr. Stuntz seconded the motion and it was unanimously approved.

Ms. Bates will overnight the signed paperwork. She is now waiting on the green light letter from bond counsel. Once received/approved, she will schedule bids for bond. The District needs to accept bids, Commissioners sign bids, and then State approves.

Other Business:

1. Mr. Allen gave an update on the solar arrays project at Lawsbrook and Knox Trail. He mentioned that Chris Smith is the new EPA site manager for the WR Grace and Nuclear Metals Superfund sites. ; *de Maximis* is still doing remediation; EDF Renewables (District’s solar developer) requested in a stakeholder’s conference call last Friday for EPA to issue a “Comfort letter” stating that there are no planned installations of additional wells at the sites that could potentially disrupt the Solar array layout.
2. Mr. Allen gave an update on the Microgrid Feasibility Study. He mentioned that there was a meeting last Friday and in attendance was Chris Allen, Margaret Campbell, Paul Campbell from Town of Acton, and Corey York Town of Acton (there was nobody present representing the Stop & Shop). They went through the “Lay of the land” of the property at 16 Knox Trail. He mentioned that the Powdermill plaza managers have been responsive but have not heard anything from owners of Stop & Shop.
3. Mr. Allen gave an update on the fall flushing in South Acton. He stated that this is almost complete; the last sequence to be finished on 10/30/18. There are some stray areas of North Acton that will be added on to the end of the program that may extend into November.

Ms. Friedrichs has some questions regarding future land acquisitions. She asked, can the District buy zone 4 land? Mr. Allen stated yes. She asked, can the District do a land bank? Mr. Allen stated he is unsure and would need to look into more deeply.

Mr. Stuntz stated that these are all good suggestions.

Mr. Parenti moved to adjourn the meeting at 8:20 PM and it was unanimously approved.