

WLMAC MEETING NOTES OF JANUARY 11, 2011

Present: John Cipar, Paul Malchodi, Chuck Olmstead, Barry Rosen.

Note Taker: Paul Malchodi

Chairperson: Barry Rosen

Called to Order: Barry called the meeting to order on Tuesday, January 11, 2011 at 8:10 PM (ET).

Old Business:

1. Accept Minutes: Chuck Olmstead moved to accept the minutes of 11 November 2010 which was seconded by John Cipar. The vote to accept the minutes was unanimous.
2. Follow-up on Maynard request for zone two protection: Paul told the group that he had a discussion with Lauren Morton. He explained that the Acton selectmen appear to support the idea of providing zone two protection for land in Acton that would protect of Maynard's bedrock well sites.
 - 2.1. Lauren indicated to Paul that the selectmen supported the idea but felt that more information to the town would need to be provided before the issue could be brought to town meeting for a zoning approval request. Some of the questions that may need to be answered by the town are:
 - 2.1.1. From where did this request come? How did it originate?
 - 2.1.2. Who originated it?
 - 2.1.3. What land is affected and what is the current zoning of that land? What would be the effect on these lands if they were rezoned?
 - 2.1.4. Roland also asked Maynard how the current zone two protection looks for the Maynard portion of the zone two protection area.
 - 2.1.5. When did the wells become operational and what other protections are afforded these wells?
 - 2.1.6. Do we have protection in any adjacent towns that provide zone two protection for any of Acton's well sites?
 - 2.1.7. How did Acton request these protections and how were they granted?
[Roland thinks we were turned down without consideration.]
 - 2.1.8. How deep are these wells and how was the zone two protection area determined?
 - 2.2. Barry told the Committee that he thinks the town should be the one answering most of these questions as it is the body that understands which land parcels would be included and any effect (changes in land-use) that would be involved with those parcels. He thought that Roland and Doug would be able to answer many of these questions since their two departments were directly involved in the request from Maynard. The WLMAC will share whatever information it has to help move this issue forward.

- 2.3. Paul will copy a number of e-mails from the WLMAC notebook which the Committee had used during their earlier discussions of the Maynard request.
- 2.4. Paul will continue his discussions with Lauren and/or the Acton selectmen. The WLMAC will add the "Maynard request" as an old business/review item to its next agenda.
3. Meeting schedule for 2011: The WLMAC adopted a new meeting schedule for the first half of 2011. We reviewed the meeting dates for the first half of the year which calls for the WLMAC to meet on the second Tuesday of each month through June 2011. The Committee will assess how this change of meeting day is working for the membership later in the year.

New Business:

4. Summary of AWD Board of Commissioners meeting of December 6, 2010:
 - 4.1. The former District manager (James Demming) was at the meeting to thank the Board for their assistance in obtaining Jim's full retirement benefits.
 - 4.2. There was a presentation by a company called Earthtone Technologies which is a cell phone antenna aggregator. They would like to erect an antenna on water district property at the Wampus Hill site. They propose a 60 – 40 revenue split with the Acton Water District. The Commissioners will seek approval from the voters for this new structure to be erected. In the meantime, the Commissioners will have an RFP prepared.
 - 4.3. Chris explained that he had another discussion with the owner of Assabet Sand and Gravel regarding the encroachment onto Acton Water District land.
 - 4.4. The finance committee, a board and legal counsel discussed the proposed legislation that the water district would like filed by our state representative. The water district would like some changes made into the method that is allowed by the state of Massachusetts for the water district to invest certain funds.
5. Summary of AWD Board of Commissioners meeting of January 10, 2011:
 - 5.1. A major discussion item of this meeting concern the proposed special legislation by the town of Boxborough. As explained by Chris, Boxborough did not seem to understand the implications of this special home rule legislation that they had asked to be filed by their legislative representative. They seem to be very surprised after Chris, Mary and Matt explained what the filing of this legislation would do. The chairman of the Boxborough Board of Selectmen stated that she would discuss this issue at the Selectmen's meeting which was scheduled for this evening. At that meeting, she would ask the selectmen to delay the filing of this special home rule legislation. Since the legislation filing request was passed at their last town meeting, it could not be canceled by the selectmen – only delayed. It would have to be discussed at the next town meeting and the town would have to vote to cancel the filing of the special legislation.

- 5.2. Chris updated the Board on the town of Acton's response to the Water Infrastructure Finance Commission which included written statements from the Acton Board of Selectmen, Matt Mostoller and Barry Rosen.
- 5.3. Assabet Sand and Gravel: Chris explained to the Board that his meeting with the Massachusetts DEP had been postponed due to weather. He expected to re-schedule the meeting with the DEP representative shortly and expected to be able to report to the Board at the next district meeting.
- 5.4. The finance committee and Mary Jo requested that the Board add an expense line to the budget to begin building a fund to cover the currently unfunded liability for retirement expense of District employees. The Board agreed with this and voted to add this new expense line to the 2011 budget which will be presented at the annual District meeting.
6. DRI List for Acton Water District Board Meetings: The WLMAC created a designated responsible individual list to cover the remainder of Acton Water District meetings through June 2011. Almost all the meetings had volunteers for coverage. As Greta was not present at this meeting, the committee will forward a copy of the list to her after the meeting to see if she would be able to cover the remaining meeting.
7. Next WLMAC Meeting Date: The committee surveyed itself to determine if the next scheduled meeting date was still appropriate. All of the members agreed that this was still a good date for all present even though it is possible that some business travel could change one's plans. The next meeting of the WLMAC will be held on Tuesday, February 8, 2011 at the Acton Water District headquarters building beginning at 8:00 PM.
8. Agenda Continuation: Due to the lateness of the hour, the WLMAC membership decided to postpone the remaining item on the agenda and to add it to the agenda of the next meeting.
9. Action Item: *Barry will send a copy of the DRI list to Greta and ask her to respond to the remaining uncovered meeting remaining on the list.*

Adjournment:

A motion to adjourn the meeting was made by Chuck Olmstead and seconded by John Cipar. The motion was passed unanimously and the meeting adjourned at 9:50 PM.