



Water Supply District of Acton

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Board of Water Commissioners

Meeting Agenda

Monday, May 6, 2019 @ 7:30 PM

- **Comments from Citizens**
- **Approve minutes of April 22nd meeting**

OLD BUSINESS:

- Baldco lease on District land off Knox Trail
- Property Tax bill for 585 Main Street

NEW BUSINESS:

- Discussion of Commissioner emeritus
- Outdoor watering restrictions for 2019
 - The District's calendar-triggered outdoor water conservation program begins on May 1st and expires on October 1st each year, under typical conditions

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

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Board of Water Commissioners
Meeting Minutes
693 Massachusetts Avenue, Acton MA
Monday, April 22, 2019

AGENDA

Annual Appointments and Board Realignment Comments from Citizens Approve Minutes of March 25th Meeting

OLD BUSINESS:

1. Execute engineering agreement with Wright-Pierce for permitting and design of the Acton Center Water Treatment Plant project.
2. Authorize District Manager and District Treasurer to act for the District for the purposes of financing the ACWTP through the Massachusetts Clean Water Trust.

NEW BUSINESS:

1. Reserve transfer request to budget account #15280 – Lights, Power and Fuel
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Present at Tonight's Meeting:

Commissioners: Stephen Stuntz, Erika Amir-Lin
District Manager: Chris Allen
District Treasurer: Mary Jo Bates
District Counsel: Mary Bassett
Finance Committee: David Butler
District Moderator: Dick O'Brien
Green Acton: Kim Kastens, Lucy Kirshner
District Clerk: Bill Stanford

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. Stuntz, Acting Chair.

Annual Appointments and Board realignment

Mr. Stuntz made a motion to appoint the following, each for a 1-year term:

District Counsel – Mary Bassett
District Auditor – Maureen Mara
District Treasurer – Mary Jo Bates
Assistant District Treasurer – Chris Allen
Assistant District Clerk – Helen Argento
District Secretary – Lynn Protasowicki

Ms. Amir-Lin seconded the motion. Mr. Stanford swore in those in attendance, including David Butler to the Finance Committee.

Comments from Citizens

Lucy Kirshner asked the Board if the School District will be subject to mitigation for the new school being constructed in West Acton. Mr. Allen indicated that all projects that will be connected to Acton Water are required to provide a Water Impact Report, for review and Mitigation calculation.

Kim Kastens updated the Board on Green Acton's interview with EPA as part of the Grace 5 year evaluation. Green Acton's comments were: Communication with the public has not been good; there is confusion about

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what happens next; and will there be 1.4 dioxane remediation. Ms. Kastens thought they were open to listening and gave good faith answers. EPA indicated that there will be a public meeting for stakeholders in the fall or winter. Ms. Kastens also informed the Commissioners that Concord has applied for Ch. 91 approval for water withdrawal at Nagog Pond. Carolyn Kiely is trying to get a copy of the application and Green Acton or some of its members will most likely comment on it.

Approve Minutes of March 25, 2019 Meeting

Ms. Amir-Lin motioned to approve the minutes of March 25, 2019 as presented. Mr. Stuntz seconded the motion and it was unanimously approved.

Old Business

1. Execute Engineering agreement with Wright-Pierce for the permitting and design of the Acton Center Plant

Mr. Allen presented the Commissioners with the General Services Agreement for the design and permitting of the Acton Center Water Treatment Plant (ACWTP). The cost is \$587,610, which is less than originally projected. Mr. Stuntz made a motion to approve the agreement and Ms. Amir-Lin seconded the motion. It was unanimously approved, and the contract was executed.

2. Authorization to act for the District for financing of the ACWTP through the Mass. Clean Water Trust

Mr. Allen asked that the Commissioners authorize him and Ms. Bates to act for the District for the purpose of financing the ACWTP through the Mass. Clean Water Trust. Mr. Stuntz made a motion to authorize Mr. Allen and Ms. Bates to act on behalf of the District for financing the ACWTP through the Clean Water Trust. Ms. Amir-Lin seconded the motion and it was unanimously approved.

Additional Old Business

Mr. Allen updated the Commissioners on the spring flushing, which is still in progress.

The bi-annual leak detection survey of the entire piping system has been completed and the report should be in soon.

Mr. Allen and Atty. Basset have been researching the Ch. 97 impacts on the land that the District owns off Lawsbrook Road where a solar array is planned to be located. The information has been provided to Peter Bay of EDF, the project manager. The Grid Interconnect Study has been completed and it appears that the project will qualify for SMART Block 2.

The microgrid study is still in progress. Mr. Allen has not had any related communication with the consultant in about a month.

D. New Business

1. Reserve Fund Transfer Request to Lights, Power and Fuel

Mr. Allen presented a Request for Reserve Fund Transfer for \$30K to the Lights, Power and Fuel Account. Due to the South Acton Treatment Plant (SAWTP) remaining on a variable electric rate, due to market volatility, the power costs have increased over the winter. Mr. Allen has locked in a fixed kW/hr rate for the next year with EDF, which should be enough time to get the Knox Trail solar array commissioned. This is a planned dedicated renewable power supply to the SAWTP. Mr. Stuntz made a motion to approve the transfer. It was seconded by Ms. Amir-Lin and unanimously approved.

Additional New Business

Mr. Allen informed the Commissioners that the District has agreed to contribute \$50K to the base mapping project that the Town of Acton is undertaking as part of the West Acton Sewer Project. This information, which will map existing conditions in the roadway, will assist the District with engineering a future upgrade to the water main in the roadways in the vicinity of West Acton Center to the Boxborough town line on Massachusetts Avenue/Rt 111 when the sewers are installed.

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Mr. Stuntz would like to add some items for a future agenda:
NEWWA Annual Meeting Affordability of Water information. Why and how to measure effectiveness.
Commissioner Emeritus status for retiring Commissioners to keep them involved.
May 20 will be a joint meeting with the Finance Committee.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:17 PM

All documents referred to in meeting minutes are available for inspection at the office of Acton Water District, 693 Massachusetts Avenue, Acton, MA 01720 (978) 263-9107.

Outdoor Watering Restrictions

As a reminder, our seasonal outdoor water use bylaw is in effect from May 1st through October 1st. No outdoor water use is allowed on Monday. Even numbered properties may use water outdoors on Tuesday, Thursday, and Saturday while odd numbered properties may use water outdoors on Wednesday, Friday, and Sunday. Lawn watering is not allowed between 7 am and 7 pm on your day because a large amount of water is lost to evaporation when watering during this time. Irrigation during windy times should be avoided because much of that water is lost to evaporation in these conditions as well. During the growir season, lawns only require 1 inch of water, this includes any natural rainfall. Irrigation schedules should be adjusted regularly to account for natural precipitation.

Outdoor water use under the bylaw includes, but is not limited to, lawn and landscape irrigation (manual or automatic), filling and topping off of pools, car washing, power washing, watering of fruits and vegetables, and construction dust management.

This is also a good reminder to check your irrigation system and outdoor water systems for leaks, broken heads, and inefficient spray. You should also familiarize yourself with the operation and shutoff for any automated irrigation systems. Remember, it is your responsibility as a property owner to control your irrigation system in compliance with our outdoor water use bylaw. Any property that is observed not following the seasonal outdoor water use bylaw is subject to fines up to \$200 per offense. Do not depend solely on your contractor to properly manage your controller.

Thank you for your continued assistance and cooperation in using Acton's water resources wisely. It takes the entire community enable a safe, sufficient, and reliable supply of water.

For additional information on local hydrological conditions and weekly drought status updates, please visit these links:

Local Groundwater Level Monitoring http://waterdata.usgs.gov/nwis/uv?site_no=422812071244401

Local Stream Gauge Monitoring http://waterdata.usgs.gov/nwis/uv/?site_no=01097300

United States Drought Monitor <http://droughtmonitor.unl.edu/CurrentMap/StateDroughtMonitor.aspx?MA>

OUTDOOR WATER USE BYLAW

EFFECTIVE MAY 1 – OCTOBER 1

- Those of you with even numbered addresses may use water outdoors on Tuesdays, Thursdays and Saturdays.
- Those of you with odd numbered addresses may use water outdoors on Wednesdays, Fridays and Sundays.
- No lawn watering may occur between 7:00 AM and 7:00 PM. (Watering mid-day wastes water to evaporation.)
- No outdoor usage will be allowed on Mondays.

Acton Water District Outdoor Water Use Restrictions

Effective May 1–October 1

- Even numbered houses may use water outdoors:
Tues, Thurs, Sat
- Odd numbered houses may use water outdoors:
Wed, Fri, Sun
- No lawn watering from 7AM-7PM. This restriction applies to lawns only
- No outdoor water use on Mondays (includes new lawns)