



WATER RESOURCES ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Meeting Minutes
November 10, 2021
7:00 PM
Virtual Meeting

Present: Barry Rosen, Matthew Mostoller, Ronald Parenti, Ron Beck

Chairperson: Ron Beck

Clerk: Matthew Mostoller

Others in Attendance: Joe Robb, Kim Kastens, Andrea Becerra, Mike Geis

1. Opening

Chair Ron Beck opened the meeting at 7:03 PM.

2. Regular Business

- A. Approval of Meeting Minutes – The meeting minutes from the Water Resources Advisory Committee’s (WRAC) October 7, 2021, meeting were unanimously approved by a roll call vote with corrections on a motion by Ron Parenti, seconded by Ron Beck. The meeting minutes from the September 23, 2021 WRAC meeting were approved unanimously by a roll call vote with corrections on a motion by Matthew Mostoller, seconded by Ron Beck.
- B. Public Remarks/Comments – None.
- C. Prepare for meeting with Select Board – Ron Beck recapped the issues leading up to not being on the November 1st Select Board agenda. David Martin reviewed the slides provided prior to the meeting and offered feedback to Himaja Nagireddy who in turn discussed the feedback with Ron Beck. Committee members discussed the feedback and agreed the Select Board appears to have a poor understanding of the issues outlined, which may be partly due to a complete turnover of the Board since the initial Town Meeting vote. Additional concerns included the differing roles of the Town and Water District for water resources management, the interrelationship between water quantity and quality, and recent decisions by the Town regarding PFAS funding which presents an overall negative tone to the issues of water. Ron Parenti emphasized that this study is looking well beyond the issue of PFAS that specifically complements Acton Water District planning, emphasizes the entities working on issues together, and addressing alternatives. Matthew Mostoller expressed concerns about ongoing dismissive attitudes from the Town when it relates to water resources especially given that the Town has the tools to control and protect the community’s water future. The group does not like the tension that is developing between groups on this important topic. The justification for a higher allocation of funding needs to be clearly articulated. Andrea Becerra was hopeful that dialogue could continue and sees the frustration the group is experiencing and thought it was good to air our concerns. She noted that stormwater issue should have



broad support at the Town level although Barry Rosen noted past negative feedback on this subject. Discussion around how to move forward occurred with a decision that getting the WRAC in front of the Selectboard was important. We have devoted significant effort preparing and should make a presentation to enable further dialogue to occur and hopefully reach consensus on moving the study forward. Matthew Mostoller responded to a question from Kim Kastens about potential funding form the Water District for the study. He mentioned the Board previously indicated support if the scope provided something not already covered by our planning efforts. It would need to fill the gaps and require specificity to support buy in. Joe Robb offered to assist Ron Beck with proposed costs for the level of effort being discussed.

4. Adjournment

The committee discussed working towards a December 20th meeting with the Selectboard. A regular meeting of WRAC will be held on November 16th to continue preparing. Andrea Becerra will be available to host that meeting. Changes to the PowerPoint should be sent to Ron Parenti in a different color for discussion at the next meeting. On a motion by Barry Rosen and seconded by Matthew Mostoller, the meeting was adjourned at 8:50 PM by a unanimous roll call vote.