



WATER RESOURCES ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Meeting Minutes
February 24, 2022
7:00 PM
Virtual Meeting

Present: Barry Rosen, Ronald Parenti, Joe Robb, and Mike Geis

Chairperson: Mike Geis

Clerk: Ron Parenti

Others in Attendance: Andrea Becerra (Sustainability Director), Himaja Nagireddy (Select Board Liaison), Kim Kastens, and Terra Friedrichs

1. Opening

Chair Mike Geis opened the meeting at 7:05 PM.

2. Regular Business

- A. Review of meeting minutes from 10 February 2022 – The minutes from the previous Water Resources Advisory Committee meeting were reviewed; a motion to approve was made by Ron Parenti and seconded by Joe Robb. The minutes were approved unanimously by roll call vote of the 4 members in attendance.
- B. Public Remarks/Comments – There were no comments.
- C. Review RFP Scope revision submitted to Town Manager –Parenti noted that the RFP scope revision had been sent to John Mangiaratti on 15 February. Mangiaratti acknowledged that the document had been received, but questioned if there had been a violation of the Open Meeting Bylaw during the revision discussions. Parenti stated that all of the comments sent after the conclusion of the previous meeting had been transmitted directly to him, and that he was the sole author of the revision. Himaja Nagireddy and Andrea Becerra agreed that that this procedure is in compliance with the bylaw, but that the email recipient list should have been limited to John Mangiaratti. Thus far, no comments on the content of the revision have been received from the Town, and no updates on the status of the RFP have been received.

Kim Kastens questioned the likelihood that all of the tasks listed in the RFP can be performed for the \$40k allocated by the Town for WRAC's study, and several other meeting members expressed a similar opinion. It was also noted that vendors would have the option of bidding on the Great Road RFP submitted by the Town without bidding on the Add Alternative RFP prepared by WRAC. A request for additional funds or a reduction in the scope of work might be necessary if the allocated funding is found to be insufficient. Kim Kastens and Terra Friedrichs submitted written comments on the RFP (see the docushare WRAC directory for 2/24/2022). Friedrichs was particularly concerned about the lack of emphasis placed on the potable water portion of the proposed studies, and Kastens asked that greater consideration be given to local wastewater



treatment alternatives to sewers along Rt. 2a in order to maintain adequate aquifer recharge.

- D. Discussion of the next steps to be taken in support of WRAC RFP – At the previous WRAC meeting it was suggested that Task 5 of the Add Alternative No. 1 document, which involves the generation of a series of maps using GIS data, could be performed by WRAC members as a way to reduce the cost of the RFP. It was also suggested that Town staff could assist with this project, but Andrea Becerra noted that there are several ongoing GIS projects that would probably not be completed until August. Mike Geis presented a set of charts that displayed some of the data that he has collected. The included maps show sewer locations, the water distribution network, and water basin locations (see the docushare WRAC directory for 2/24/2022). Barry Rosen and Joe Robb commented that information relating to the location of stormwater and wastewater infrastructure components might be found in prior reports that are available through docushare. While a significant amount of useful data may have been archived, the information relevant to the WRAC study will likely be difficult to locate, organize, and analyze.

Several WRAC members and members of the public provided web links that may contain relevant data; these links are listed below:

MA Watersheds - <https://www.mass.gov/info-details/massgis-data-major-watersheds#overview->

Water Withdrawals, Use, and Wastewater Return Flows in the Concord River Basin - <https://pubs.usgs.gov/sir/2008/5158/includes/sir2008-5158.pdf>

Acton GIS Sewer Service Map -

<https://link.edgepilot.com/s/47d4b50f/H4zvjrIZLEeFdlrkkTfMTg?u=https://actonma.mapgeo.io/datasets/properties?abuttersDistance=300%26latlng=42.47718%252C-71.444969%26panel=themes%26themes=%255B%2522c1b6c350-0f93-4a14-9fd5-9a932151fdc9%2522%255D%26zoom=13>

Acton ARPA Fund Allocations - <https://actonma.gov/DocumentCenter/View/7439/2022-1-10-Amended-Approved-Investment-Plan-ARPA?bidId=>

- E. Any other new business – None

3. **Adjournment**

The next virtual meeting will be held on March 10 at 7PM. On a motion by Mike Geis and seconded by Ron Parenti, the meeting was adjourned at 8:32 PM by a unanimous roll call vote.