



WATER RESOURCES ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Meeting Minutes
August 16, 2023
7:00 PM
Virtual Meeting

Present: Barry Rosen, Ron Parenti, Mike Geis, Joe Robb, and Matt Mostoller

Chairperson: Joe Robb

Clerk: Ron Parenti

Others in Attendance: Alissa Nicol (Select Board Liaison), Francesca Arsenault (Select Board), Kim Kastens, Susan Michell-Hardt, Joe Will, Bettina Abe, John Watlington, and Jody Harris

1. Opening

WRAC chair Joe Robb opened the meeting at 7:05 PM.

2. Regular Business

- A. Public Remarks/Comments -- Several members of the public asked to comment on the draft report issued by Wright-Pierce. Susan Michell-Hardt expressed her concern about the potential use of properties along Wetherbee Street and Morrison Farm for sewage disposal, and noted that the Acton Conservation Trust has been working with the Town to purchase or place conservation restrictions on these properties. Bettina Abe also spoke to express her concern about the use of Morrison Farm and the Wetherbee properties for sewage disposal. John Watlington voiced his opposition to the use of the Wetherbee properties, and recommended using the Grace parcels for a disposal site. Kim Kastens asked if the public would have future opportunities to comment on the content of the report. Alissa Nicol responded that members the public should be able comment on the report during future Select Board meetings when discussions of the Town's sewer system are scheduled.
- B. Discussion of Comments on the Great Road Study Draft Report -- The Great Road Corridor Wastewater Solutions draft report prepared by Wright-Pierce was made available to the WRAC members during the first week in August. Each of the WRAC members subsequently compiled a list of comments and recommendations, and those remarks were presented to the Committee and discussed. With regard to the tasks included in the Primary Scope section of the report (Sections 1 through 6) the Committee compiled a number of comments, but concluded that Wright-Pierce has provided the Town with a well-developed analysis of the wastewater disposal options and cost comparisons. However, the members had a less favorable opinion of the Add Alternative section (Section 7), which covers the portion of the Wright-Pierce study that was funded by WRAC. The members were most critical of the report's treatment of stormwater management. It was noted that there was no mention of the impact of the new PFAS regulations on supply capacity, or the likelihood of a sudden increase in demand due to new housing developments. Collectively, there were about 40 individual comments, and



Ron Parenti agreed to consolidate these remarks and draft a response to be sent to the Town Manager. That draft will be reviewed by the Committee at a future meeting.

- C. Any Other New Business -- Barry Rosen asked for the Committee's approval to work directly with Alissa Nicol on the next version of WRAC's Zoning Report. All of the Committee members expressed their support of this collaboration.

3. **Adjournment**

Committee members agreed to hold the next meeting on 22 August 2023 at 7pm to review the draft of the Committee's comments on the Great Road Study Report. A motion to adjourn was made by Matt Mostoller and seconded by Barry Rosen. Adjournment was approved at 8:15 pm by a unanimous roll call vote.

Meeting Chat File

20:05:38 From Joseph Robb To All Panelists:

Yes I can make 8/22

20:06:08 From Joseph Robb To All Panelists:

apologies to all for my epic challenges with Zoom tonight. Tried reconnecting 6 times!

20:08:03 From Joseph Robb To All Panelists:

Barry I encourage you to work with Alissa to seek funding estimates and schedule us to appear in front of the SB to seek approval and funding

20:08:14 From Joseph Robb To All Panelists:

Let me know how I can help