

West Acton Sewer Action Advisory Committee
April 11, 2019, 7:30 p.m.
Acton Town Hall, Room 9

Minutes

Present: Committee members David Martin, Chairman; Ann Chang, Joanne Bissetta, Garry McCarthy, Samuel Rice; Town Engineer Paul Campbell;

Absent: Committee members Jon Cappetta, J. D. Head, Peter Henry, David Wellinghoff

Visitors: Ronald Parenti, Michael Geis, Al English, Leo Fotchman.

Paul Campbell, due to the lack of a current chairman, called the meeting to order at 7:30 p.m to begin the meeting. Agenda Item #3, WASAAC organization discussion was taken out of order to be discussed by the committee prior to the other items of the agenda.

Agenda Item #3 – WASAAC organization discussion

A reorganization of the committee was discussed. The previous chair, Ms. Janet Adachi, was no longer a committee member due to her stepping down as Selectmen. Mr. Martin stated that the charge for the committee from the Selectmen is that the Selectmen liaison must be the chair however the charge can be changed by the Selectmen. There was discussion of having a vice-chair. Ms. Chang moved to nominate Mr. Martin as chair, Mr. McCarthy seconded and it was approved unanimously by voice vote.

Regular Business

Agenda Item #1 - Public Comments

- The funding mechanism for the preliminary design using enterprise funds to be voted on under consent was inappropriate. There was discussion of Town Meeting.
- Comments on pro-sewer side citing the CWRMP is not well researched. Committee should reexamine the CWRMP. There was discussion of the CWRMP.
- Question on whether empty lots are assessed a sewer betterment. There was discussion about the betterment process. Mr. Campbell to follow up with comment upon further research

Agenda Item #2 – Review of meeting minutes

Approval of 3/14/2019 minutes. Ms. Chang moved to approve the minutes, Ms. Bissetta seconded, approved unanimously by voice vote.

New/Special Business

Agenda Item #4 – Review of Annual Town Meeting & Potential Next Steps

The sewer enterprise vote at Annual Town Meeting was discussed. Members of the committee felt that voting for the sewer preliminary design funds with the sewer enterprise funding under the consent agenda was confusing however it was not inappropriate since the enterprise account was the source of funding for the design. Mr. Campbell spoke about his efforts to provide information to existing sewer users to address questions brought up at Town Meeting.

There was discussion regarding the survey and preliminary sewer design. Mr. Campbell stated that the Water District agreed to share costs for the survey of West Acton. He stated that Town Meeting allocated funds after July 1 but that it was possible to start the survey sooner by having the Water District begin the survey during the current fiscal year. A motion to recommend to the Town Manager that he begin the preliminary design and survey as soon as practical was made by Mr. Rice, it was seconded by Ms. Chang and approved by a unanimous voice vote.

Agenda Item #5 – Topics for future discussion

There was discussion regarding the timeline with the school project in West Acton, the school project's potential timeline and possible public outreach efforts for the West Acton sewer project.

After discussing the agenda items, a motion to end the meeting was made by Ms. Chang, seconded by Mr. Rice and approved by a unanimous voice vote.

Paul Campbell, clerk for meeting

Documents Discussed

- Draft minutes, 3/14/2019

Discussed documents and other material for 4/11/2019 meeting and public information session available on Town of Acton website at:
<http://doc.acton-ma.gov/dsweb/View/Collection-10671>