

**BOARD OF SELECTMEN AND SEWER COMMISSIONER'S MEETING**

**November 27, 2017**

**Francis Faulkner Room 204**

**Regular Meeting 7:00 PM**

*To view the full meeting, please [click here](#)*

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**TOWN CLERK  
ACTON**

Present: Janet K. Adachi, Katie Green, Joan Gardner, Chingsung Chang, Peter J. Berry, Town Manager  
Steve Ledoux

**Citizen Concerns**

Terra Friedrichs, West Acton – counted 14 town vehicles in the parking lot, Green Acton will be making a statement on sustainability on the school building project, concerned she has not seen a draft no decision on the Concord water treatment plant

Luke Astair, Harvard MA – expressed his desire that the Board does not impose of any bans or restrictions on farming, cultivating, sale (recreational), and hoping that local farms be able to carry (marijuana products), hoping that the product would be available to local stores. Farmers should be able to produce and thrive. Thinks money from sales could go toward busses in town for the train service, snow removal and the schools. Talked about funding not available from tax money for (medicinal operations only).

**Chairman Update/Operational Update**

Ms. Adachi – Hope everyone had an enjoyable Thanksgiving holiday. MA Society for Municipal Conservation Professionals, Wednesday, 11/15: Met in Room 204. Natural Resources Department made presentation about history of Land Stewardship and their continuous work to maintain Town conservation lands.

Acton Nursing Service: kudos for receiving high marks for patient satisfaction. See Town website for full details.

Board of Selectmen extra meeting for continued hearing, Nagog Pond water treatment project, Wednesday, 11/29, 7:00 pm, Room 204. Board to commence deliberations. Accepting no additional information or comment, other than at Board request. Would like to emphasize that in its discussion of the proposed changes to its original permit decision, Board will give careful consideration to all public and other comments received prior to and during the reopened hearing meeting last Monday, 11/20. Some readers of the online Concord Journal apparently are making contrary assumptions, based on the Journal's report of the 11/20 hearing, so want to address those concerns.

Moderator's pre-Town-Meeting meeting, Saturday, 12/2, 10:00 am, Public Safety facility. Special Town Meeting, Monday, 12/4, AB auditorium.

Mr. Ledoux – Town Meeting – town warrant is out – should have translation on the summaries on the town website this week as well as handouts in simple Chinese, Brazilian, Portuguese and Spanish. Took delivery on rental voting apparatus, announcing through the Health Dept and Nursing they are sponsoring a food drive 11/27-12-/15 for non-perishable items. Can be brought to Land Use Wing. Nursing Service is doing a hat and mitten drive for families in need and can be dropped of at the Acton Human Services and Senior Center located at 30 Sudbury Road.

### **Public Hearings and Appointments**

7:10 PM Green Communities Award Presentation | Kelly Brown, Regional Director presented a certificate to the Town of Acton in their accomplishment in reducing municipal energy consumption by more than 20% (29% achieved).

### **Selectmen Business**

2018 License Renewals Ms. Green moved to amend the Entertainment license for Rapsallion by listing it for indoor use only, Ms. Gardner second. All Ayes. All other licenses Ms. Green move to approve and amend the common victualler license for Tailgaiters (closed), Ms. Gardner second. All Ayes (5-0)

Terra Friedrichs, West Acton – suggests a higher minimum wage as a municipality

Finance Committee Point of View Presentation – Steve Noone presented the Finance Committee Point of View for FY19. A copy of the presentation is available on Docushare: <http://doc.acton-ma.gov/dsweb/Get/Document-61500>

Terra Friedrichs, West Acton – Questioned when the Town Manager retires, do we (the town) pay whole pension or share with other communities, Mr. Ledoux explained that under Governor Patrick it was shared, but under the Baker administration it comes out of the current town of employment. Question on capitol over time – how much of budget is spent on capital. Mr. Noone stated no, and gave a brief explanation. Feels buying land is best return investment for the money. Taking care of municipal buildings rather than building new buildings using capital funds. Using new growth revenues and application fees is sort of a “slush fund” for operations. AAA bond rating is based upon your ability to repay loans and wants to make sure we manage our balance sheet.

53 River Street Master Plan Committee Proposed Revised Charge – Mr. Berry explained about the conflict of interests that have come up with an applicant that was a direct abutter that might pose a conflict. State ethics commission uses a zoning act of parties of interest. He asked a list of all abutters from Assessor and found 3 were applicants were within the abutter list radius. There is an exemption that volunteers can apply for a conflict of interest form – BOS would have to vote if the interest was substantial to disqualify the applicant or allow the applicant if their skills or expertise were needed in the committee. 2 solutions possible; recommend nobody who has a conflict can be appointed to the committee, or recommend to advise the applicants to file for exemptions to make a case by case determination for each applicant. Recommends adding a Selectperson as a member of the committee, also add 2 Associate Members for a total of 10 members.

Terra Friedrichs, West Acton – likes idea of having neighbors on the committee.

Charlie Aaronson, Hosmer Street – informed the BOS that attended the Main Street Master Plan Committee meeting approached the VCC with interest in the River Street Committee due to influencing

the committee to increase the value of their property – feels that is a direct conflict of interest. Mr. Berry will bring the proposed changes to Selby in Land Use and update the charge for a future meeting. Proposed Steering Committee to Study Possibility of Agricultural Commission/Committee – MS. Adachi looking for a general endorsement by the BOS moving forward in creating. Some staff of Natural Resources and interested residents are interested in creating such a committee, and one resident is looking to start an organic farm. Feels it is an appropriate time. The idea is to have a bylaw in place for a need for an agricultural commission. Ms. Green mentioned that the Open Space Committee have mentioned (a need for) this a couple times in the past.

Housekeeping; Update Website Information Regarding Liaison Committees – Ms. Adachi requested that Board members check the town website to be sure the members of their committees are correct and up to date.

#### **Consent Agenda**

Ms. Green moved to approve consent items 7-14, Ms. Gardner seconded. All Ayes.

Ms. Green moved to adjourn, Ms. Gardner second. All Ayes (5-0)

Meeting adjourned at 8:50 PM.

Respectfully submitted,



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Joan Gardner, Clerk