

WATER RESOURCES COMMISSION

MEETING MINUTES

Wednesday, January 13, 2021

7:00 PM

Held via Zoom

<u>Topic</u>
<p>Call to order</p> <p>Attendees</p> <p>WRC Members:</p> <p>Bruce Arbonies</p> <p>Emily Simmer</p> <p>Freya Schlegel</p> <p>Joanne Wyckoff</p> <p>Becky Malamut</p> <p>Jackie Bohn</p> <p>Public via Zoom:</p> <p>Kelly Duckworth</p> <p>Stephanie Burke</p> <p>Paul Bartkiewicz</p>
<p>Water system updates</p> <p>We got the WMA Grant for video and lawn signs!</p> <p>Mark wasn't able to attend last minute, I read notes from last week's BOS Update:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">- Updated Master Plan to be complete 1/15/21, we will have a chance for another round of comments- Dolan Well – In process of DEP approval<ul style="list-style-type: none">o Freya asked what we need carbon filter for at Dolan wells? Have they done a pump test during drought conditions? Is there a backup for dry winters?- Well 17 – 12/12/21 completion date- Well 18B – working on designs to make this a permanent seasonal water source. It was brought back online in 2019 with a green sand filtration system that requires daily backwash – we used a tanker to haul the backwash in 2019, designing a disposal lagoon for future use- New WTP – Tighe & Bond selected as OPM, request out now for designer- Two new pipe replacement projects this year
<p>Outdoor water use bylaw – approve language</p> <p>Becky made motion to accept language as is and include Town Counsel's advice on Sections 1 and 10. Freya seconded. All in favor via roll call (Jackie was not on the call yet).</p> <p>Paul B commented again that there's no meaningful way for public to participate in the conversation on something of this size if we can't make documents available ahead of time.</p>

Citizen petition – rebate program – Stephanie Burke

Stephanie presented her citizens petition for the Spring Town Meeting. The petition could require all buildings to meet WaterSense standards over time and creates a framework for a rebate program.

Lots of MA towns already have rebate programs, some were mandated by the state and some were voluntary. She kept rebate program details open so the Town could decide what was best.

We could start with a limited program, first come first serve, to fund 100 families, ie. The idea is that we'll be able to fund the program through savings in treatment costs, labor, etc. Town will also save money as a result of the mandate program

Joanne commented that there are a lot of dates in the doc, is the Town going to manage this?

Bruce had questions about how the program would work but that has been left open for the town to decide.

Freya also asked about funding for this, people will want to know before they vote.

Paul commented that it's important to work with the town on the program and suggested a cost-benefit analysis to show the Town potential savings. Conservation is by far the cheapest way to increase demand (ie. not finding new sources).

Water conservation outreach strategy – timeline

Emily and Jackie walked us through their strategy doc, including rain barrels, videos, competitions between neighbors, and outreach to harbormaster, pool companies and restaurants.

Next steps- schedule meetings with DPW / Water Dept, develop content for videos and/or flyers

Becky to reach out to CPC and Building Committee to see about including rainwater capture and reuse at the new library park that has been proposed and the Senior Center.

Approve December minutes

Bruce motioned to accept minutes sent via email. Joanne seconded. All in favor via roll call (Jackie present for this one)

Recent correspondence

Becky shared noted from her calls with DPW & Scituate Concerned Citizens, re: Scituate Landing Dump. She hopes to continue to be part of the process.

Open discussion

Next meeting – Feb 24

Adjourn