



TOWN OF BOXBOROUGH Meeting Minutes

Boxborough Water Resources Committee Meeting Minutes for July 28, 2021

Approved September 29, 2021

Voting members present: Les Fox, Chair; Bryon Clemence, Clerk; Mark Barbadoro; Bryan Lynch; Stephen Schmitt.

Voting members absent: None.

Non-voting members present: John Neyland.

Others present: None

Public participation: None

The Water Resources Committee (WRC) held its regular meeting on July 28, 2021. The Chair called the meeting to order at 7:32 PM in the Morse-Hilberg Meeting Rooms at Town Hall, 29 Middle Road, Boxborough.

Public Input, Emails, and Correspondence. Discussed under specific items below.

1. Approval of meeting minutes. The Committee approved the minutes of June 29, 2021, by a vote of 5 to 0 (moved by Barbadoro, seconded by Schmitt).

2. Grants and funding opportunities. Clemence summarized information from the Town Planner about Action Grants from the state Municipal Vulnerability Preparedness program (MVP). Schmitt asked if more than one application could be submitted, and Barbadoro asked if the town was ready to purchase land. Lynch noted that EPA has grants to consolidate water supplies. Fox discussed the federal funds available under the American Rescue Plan Act of 2021 (ARPA). Infrastructure is eligible, but more information is needed. The Town Administrator has scheduled an ARPA workshop for Monday, August 16, 2021.

3. Groundwater monitoring. Barbadoro reported that new owners with Planning Board special permits are redirected to the monitoring requirements. The Committee discussed whether these wells are suitable for monitoring groundwater levels town-wide. Clemence suggested having a consultant determine that. Clemence to complete the Request for Quotes and provide it to the Town Administrator and Procurement Officer, along with questions about the funding amount and requirement to accept the low bid (approved 5 to 0 on a motion by Fox, seconded by Schmitt). Three firms of interest are Geosphere, Nobis, and Weston & Sampson. Clemence shared an updated graph of groundwater levels at 360 Burroughs Road, compared with the USGS sand and gravel well in Acton.

4. Board of Health (BoH) Biosafety Committee update. Lynch reported that the biosafety regulations are in place, and the BoH had met the three Vibralogics members of the Biosafety Committee. Vibralogics will hire a consultant for compliance with the regulations. The other tenant, Aranta, shares some of the biosafety facilities. The town's Health Agent and Plumbing Inspector are involved, as well.

5. PFAS tracking update. Clemence presented a graph of PFAS6 levels vs. time. Recently acquired data showed an increase at one site and a decrease at another. More data is needed. Fox to contact DEP; Lynch to speak with the Fire Chief about possible uses. Fox received a request from the Sustainability Committee for WRC staffing at their Fifer's Day booth. Fox and Clemence should be available.

6. Steps toward new source development and Intermunicipal Agreement (IMA). Fox presented an updated list of 14 steps for developing a new water source in the western part of town. He reported that LWD is still interested in working with Boxborough, while planning to test at the Amazon site, as well.

The Committee discussed land acquisition and the possibility of acquiring everything at once vs. acquiring the primary parcel(s) first. Fox to discuss with the Town Administrator and appraiser.

7. WRC input on Cisco campus redevelopment and protection of water resources. Lynch and Neyland reported on the status of Campanelli's groundwater discharge permit from DEP and the town's position on it. Clemence to prepare a map, but needs the location of the discharge site (vs. the wastewater treatment plant). Fox reported that the Harvard Ridge condominium was now under an Administrative Consent Order from DEP, according to its Board chairman. He will contact DEP for more information.

8. Other business. Clemence noted revisions needed to the WRC webpage; Fox to coordinate. Barbadoro reported that the state Board of Ethics had found no conflict of interest.

9. Future meeting schedule. The Committee scheduled its next meeting for Tuesday, August 24, 2021, at 7:30 PM.

10. Adjourn. The Committee adjourned at 10:48 PM on a vote of 5-0 (moved by Clemence, seconded by Lynch).

List of documents and other exhibits used at the meeting. Draft minutes for June 29, 2021; "Request for Quotes" for groundwater monitoring consulting services; "Water Levels at 360 Burroughs Rd. Mon. Wells" (graph); "Boxborough PFAS6 (ppt)" (graph); "Alternate Well Sites" (map); "Steps toward new western source development," Rev. 1: July 27, 2021" (table).

Respectfully submitted,

Bryon Clemence, Clerk