



WATER RESOURCES ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Meeting Minutes
December 12, 2024
7:00 PM
Virtual Meeting

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

Chairperson: Joe Robb

Clerk: Ron Parenti

Others in Attendance: John Mangiaratti (Town Manager), YuTao Wang (Public Works Engineer), Alissa Nicol (Select Board Liaison), Katy Orciuch (AWD Environmental Compliance Manager), and Kim Kastens

1. Opening

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

2. Regular Business

- A. Public Remarks/Comments – John Mangiaratti introduced YuTao Wang, who is a new Public Works Dept. engineer. Mr. Wang will be providing staff support for the WRAC and assist in the Committee's Stormwater Feasibility Study. Committee members welcomed Mr. Wang to the meeting and thanked Mr. Mangiaratti for providing the technical assistance requested by the WRAC at the Select Board meeting of 18 November.
- B. Review Minutes from 7 November 2024 – At Barry Rosen's request, the draft minutes for the 7 November meeting were modified to more accurately reflect the discussion about the inclusion of a WRAC opinion statement in the Stormwater Feasibility Study. A motion to approve the modified minutes was made by Barry Rosen, seconded by Ron Parenti, and subsequently approved unanimously by the Committee members.
- C. Review of Select Board Feasibility Study Briefing on 18 November 2024 – Barry Rosen reviewed the presentation that he and Joe Robb made to the Select Board on 18 November detailing WRAC's plan to perform a stormwater feasibility study. Rosen informed the Board and the Town Manager that the Committee would be asking for some staff and legal assistance during the course of this study, which is estimated to take about four months to complete. The Board voted unanimously to support the proposed stormwater investigation.
- D. Discussion of Feasibility Study Scope and Report Outline – A draft outline for the Stormwater Report was provided to the Committee by Ron Parenti. In the subsequent discussion, the general report flow and intended content for each of the report sections was discussed. It was decided that the first section should be an executive summary that clearly establishes the need for a new approach to stormwater management, and provides



a general overview of the sections to follow. Committee members agreed on the following draft outline.

1. Executive Summary
2. Description of the Stormwater Infrastructure
3. Overview of Applicable Stormwater Regulations
4. Arguments for Increased Capital Improvement and Maintenance Spending
5. Sustainable Stormwater Management Options
6. Required Enabling Regulations for Sustainable Management Options
7. Summary of Input from Outreach Discussions with Interested Parties
8. Conclusions

E. Feasibility Study Task Assignments – Following the approval of the report outline, Committee members turned their attention to the task of assigning authorship responsibility to each section. To comply with the regulations of the Open Meeting bylaw, responsibility for each report section and subsection was assigned to a single individual. Members agreed on the following list.

- Section 1 – Ron Parenti
- Section 2 – Ron Parenti
- Section 3 – Barry Rosen
- Section 4 – Joe Robb
- Section 5
 - Subsection 5.1 – Barry Rosen
 - Subsection 5.2 - Barry Rosen
 - Subsection 5.3 - Dave Boccuti
 - Subsection 5.4 - Dave Boccuti
 - Subsection 5.5 - Dave Boccuti
- Section 6 – WRAC Legal Advisor
- Section 7 – Mike Geis
- Section 8 – Ron Parenti

This draft report outline and author assignments were formulated with the understanding the outline structure and section authors may change as the study progresses. Committee members briefly discussed the information needed to generate the current expenditure data that would be included in Section 2, and the best methods for obtaining the resident feedback that will be discussed in Section 7.

F. Summary of the 19 November BOH Road Salt Discussion – An investigation of the Town's use of road salt is one of the tasks that the Select Board has given the WRAC, and this debrief of a recent Board of Health discussion on this issue was added at the request of Alissa Nicol. The attendees at the BOH meeting included Corey York, Matt Mostoller, Kim Kastens, Dave Boccuti, and Alissa Nicol. Kastens summarized the presentation made by York, in which he described the methods the DPW currently uses to minimize the use of road salt while maintaining the required level of road safety. The



DPW continues to explore methods to reduce salt use, and periodically calibrates the salt spreading equipment, monitors the amount of salt use following each snow event, and is using a mixture of magnesium chloride and a corn derivative rather than sand. Mostoller spoke about increased sodium levels measured by the Water District, which correlate with measurements of sodium in local streams made by Green Acton and OARS. Kastens spoke about Green Acton's recent monitoring result, and emphasized that sodium levels in local streams have tripled since the first measurement were made in the 1970s. She noted that the Town of Lincoln recently published a report detailing that town's efforts to manage road salt use.

G. Any Other New Business – None.

3. Adjournment

Committee members agreed to hold their next meeting on 16 January 2025 at 7pm. The primary topic for that meeting will be a discussion of the progress on the Stormwater Feasibility Study. A motion to adjourn the meeting was made by Ron Parenti and seconded by Matt Mostoller. This motion was unanimously approved by Committee members at 8:50 pm.