

Groton Water Commission

Regular Meeting of the Board of Water Commissioners

Tuesday, April 9, 2013

2nd Floor Lunch Room – Town Hall

DRAFT Minutes

Present are BOWC Chair James Gmeiner, Member Martin Schaefer, Vice Chair Gary Hoglund, Water Superintendent Tom Orcutt, and Business Manager April Iannacone.

Mr. Gmeiner called the regular BOWC meeting to order at 7:00 pm.

Selectman Jack Petropoulos – Lost Lake Water Quality Testing

Mr. Orcutt informed the Commissioners that Selectmen Jack Petropoulos and Alex Woodle were present before the Board to discuss options of water quality testing at Lost Lake that would hopefully benefit both the Water Commission as well as the Lost Lake Sewer Advisory Committee (LLSAC). Mr. Petropoulos stated that his request of the Commission was just a discussion over whether or not the Water Commission would be willing to try to use an economy of scale approach in their water quality testing of Lost Lake as the Board is about to do baseline testing of the lake before the Sonar treatment. He was looking to see if the Water Department while out collecting their samples might be willing to collect a few extra samples and hopefully obtain a reduced testing rate for a larger quantity of tests. Mr. Petropoulos stated that the LLSAC did not have a funded budget to accomplish these tasks, they had a small amount of funding that had been allotted to the project to help pay for the testing, but the funding they had was not enough to take on a task like this full scale on their own. After some discussion between the Commissioners, Mr. Petropoulos and Mr. Woodle it was determined that the water department testing areas and timing might not meet the needs of the LLSAC and that it would be best for them to speak with the Board of Health to determine the best route to take.

Joachim Preiss – Chestnut Hill Tank Trail

Mr. Orcutt informed the Commissioners that Mr. Preiss had come to him regarding the Trails Committee interest in using part of the land at the Chestnut Hill Tank property to allow for a connection of 2 different sets of trails on either side of the hill as a walk through. Mr. Preiss was present before the Board to update them on the plans for the project as well as request the Board vote to approve the use for this purpose. Mr. Preiss stated that the land they were looking for approval of use on was about a 50 foot section of the side of the property. He showed the Board trail map design drawings to explain the plan. Mr. Orcutt stated that he had looked over the piece of property and does not see any reason to deny the request. Mr. Orcutt believes that the more activity there is on the trails in and around the area, the better self-policed the area will be actually keeping a better eye over the tank and property. Mr. Orcutt also stated that he and Mr. Brackett had determined that there would not be any extra work involved in maintaining the portion of the trail property as they already mow the adjacent area, so a quick mow and possibly weed whacker every once in a while was all that would be necessary. The Commissioners all consented to the request and just informed Mr. Orcutt that they would like to be informed down the road if he is determining there are more problems with the area than in the past.

Mr. Hoglund made a motion to approve the Trails Committee request to constructs a connecting trail as shown and allow marker posts along the trail line. Mr. Schaefer seconded and the motion carried unanimously.

Join Conservation Commission – Baddacook Pond NOI

The Water Commissioners joined the Conservation Commission meeting to be involved in the discussion regarding the Notice of Intent of the Great Ponds Advisory Committee to begin weed harvesting at the Baddacook Pond. The Conservation Commission read aloud the letter written by the Water Commission regarding their concerns and conditions about the harvesting request. Mr. Orcutt stated that he had been out with Bill Strickland to see the sites they are proposing for the harvesting as well as the dumping place for the weeds once collected. The Water Commissioners main concern was the possibility of the weed harvesting exaggerating the problem down the road causing a need for chemical treatment which they were opposed to. The Water Commissioners informed the Conservation Commission that as long as all conditions set by the Division of Fish and Wildlife and the Conservation Commission were met and maintained they would not object to the process taking place.

Fiscal Year 13 – 3rd Quarter Financials

Ms. Iannacone led a brief discussion over the financials at the close of the 3rd quarter of the fiscal year which she believed were in decent shape to the budget projections up to this time of the year.

Mr. Hoglund made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 9:20 P.M. Mr. Schaefer seconded and the motion carried unanimously.

Respectfully Submitted,

April Iannacone
Business Manager

James Gmeiner _____ Date _____

Gary Hoglund _____ Date _____

Martin Schaefer _____ Date _____