



WATER RESOURCES ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Meeting Minutes
October 16, 2019
7:30 PM

Conference Room, Acton Water District, 693 Massachusetts Avenue

Present: Ron Beck, Barry Rosen, Lucy Kirshner, Ronald Parenti (Associate), Joan Gardner (BOS Liaison)

Absent: Robert Sekuler, Matthew Mostoller

Chairperson: Ron Beck

Clerk: Ron Beck

1. Opening

Chair Ron Beck opened the meeting at 7:30 PM

2. Regular Business

- A. Approval of Meeting Minutes – Approval of minutes were deferred.
- B. Citizens Remarks/Comments – None of note.
- C. Discussion of meeting Barry Rosen and Ron Beck had with the GIS department at the Town of Acton – Ron Beck reviewed the highlights of the discussion held at Town Hall. GIS contains a number of layers, some of which are not fully documented and some of which have not been fully explored.

We discussed our interest in understanding development potential from both undeveloped parcels and lots subject to potential redevelopment, and our goals. After the GIS Department gave an overview of its available data and we gave an overview of our goals, we arrived at a common interest in performing a buildout analysis for undeveloped lots and impact of that on water demand and future water use. Summary points from that discussion include:

- One sensitive data point is understanding of number of residents per parcel. The Town Clerk views that data as subject to privacy concerns and is reluctant to have that data recorded on the GIS.
- GIS department suggested that we enumerate the questions we'd like answered and they would evaluate when this could be performed.
- In principle they would be willing to conduct the analysis. They stated that there would be a lot of support for doing a buildout analysis because there are a number of departments in town and other interested parties from whom that information would be useful.



We then spent the bulk of the meeting time trying to define the questions we would go back to the GIS department with namely:

- Inventory undeveloped lots. Apply criteria of size/buildability for inclusion in analysis.
- Inventory of re-developable lots. Criteria would include lot size, current zoning, and frontage, which would lead to expansion options (such as going from single family to 40B)
- Technical District.
- Inventory agricultural lands that could be converted to residential uses.
- Open space inventory.
- Kelly's Corner and West Acton water use / development capacity.
- Historical use of parcels.
- Water use per parcel / per person.

We agreed that this would be a good initial focus for our efforts, and that if we could produce this deliverable, it would set us up for success in progressing with the study.

Next, we briefly discussed population projections, water use per person, and water loss from the water system. We discussed relating buildout analysis to water use per parcel and per person, population density trends and implications, and correlating other projects with school population projection.

Next step would be to formulate action on the GIS activity at next meeting.

No votes were taken, this was in the form of a discussion.

3. New/Special Business

None

4. Adjournment

On a motion by Lucy Kirshner and seconded by Barry Rosen, the meeting was adjourned at 8:45 PM by a unanimous vote.