



## WATER RESOURCES ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Meeting Minutes  
April 7, 2022  
7:00 PM  
Virtual Meeting

**Present:** Ron Beck, Barry Rosen, Ron Parenti, Joe Robb, and Mike Geis

**Chairperson:** Ron Beck

**Clerk:** Ron Parenti

**Others in Attendance:** John Mangiaratti (Town Manager), Andrea Becerra (Sustainability Director), Himaja Nagireddy (Select Board Liaison), Kim Kastens, and Terra Friedrichs

### 1. Opening

Co-Chair Ron Beck opened the meeting at 7:00 PM.

### 2. Regular Business

- A. Motion to take agenda item out of order – Ron Beck moved that the Committee move the discussion of the Great Road RFQ to the first item on the agenda. The motion was seconded by Ron Parenti and subsequently approved by unanimous roll call vote.
- B. Review of the current version of the RFQ – Ron Parenti provided a comparison between the recommended RFQ revisions that were provided to the Town Manager following the WRAC's previous meeting and the most recent version of the RFQ. He noted that in the revision the term 'sewer' has been replaced by the more general term 'wastewater treatment', as recommended by the Committee, and that an investigation of potable water impacts has been included in the list of tasks in the Scope of Services section of the RFQ. However, the suggested additions to the Background section that describe the challenges that the Water District is currently facing have not been included.

Barry Rosen and Joe Robb made several recommendations to modify the wording of the Add Alternative items listed in the document Introduction. The suggested changes are relatively minor, but are intended to help clarify the directions provided to the contractors that will be receiving the RFQ. John Mangiaratti expressed his opposition to further changes to the document, and emphasized the importance of issuing the RFQ on Monday, 11 April. Overall, the Committee members were pleased with the structure and wording of the new version of the document.

Ron Parenti, who is the WRAC representative on the bid evaluation team, asked the Town Manager about the WRAC's involvement with the consultants following the award of the study contract. The Manager responded that he expected that Parenti would be the only person that would have direct involvement, and that the Committee would be kept informed through its liaison. Ron Beck strongly disagreed with this position, and argued that all of the WRAC members should be permitted to attend kickoff and milestone



meetings with the contractors. Mike Geis suggested that another method of maintaining a close interaction would be to require the contractors to provide interim reports. This issue will likely be the subject of further discussion, but the Committee members made it clear that they expected to closely monitor the progress of the water impacts portion of the study.

- C. Review of meeting minutes from 10 March and 17 March – Ron Parenti moved to accept the minutes of 10 March and the motion was seconded by Barry Rosen. The motion was approved by unanimous roll call vote. Barry Rosen asked for a minor change to the minutes of 17 March. Ron Beck moved to accept the amended minutes, and the motion was seconded by Barry Rosen. The motion was approved by unanimous roll call vote.
- D. Any other new business – Joe Robb asked Himaja Nagireddy about the possibility of obtaining additional funding for an expanded water resources study. Himaja indicated that additional ARPA funding might be made available in the summer of 2022.

Ron Parenti suggested that the Committee discuss options for a new study task at the next WRAC meeting. With regard to this recommendation, several members noted that Town officials appeared to be poorly informed about some of the challenges that the Water District is currently facing, particularly with regard to the rapidly increasing costs of treatment for PFAS remediation. Ron Beck suggested that the Committee begin work on a position paper that would clearly delineate these concerns to Town officials and the public. The Committee agreed to include this topic in the agenda for the next WRAC meeting.

### **3. Adjournment**

The Committee agreed to hold the next virtual meeting on May 5 at 7PM. Following a motion by Ron Beck that was seconded by Barry Rosen, the meeting was adjourned at 8:34 PM by a unanimous roll call vote.