

CAMBRIDGE WATER BOARD

MEETING MINUTES

November 13, 2018

This meeting was called to order at 5:05 p.m. at 250 Fresh Pond Parkway, in Cambridge, Massachusetts. Those in attendance were:

Cambridge Water Board (CWB): Ann Roosevelt, Jason Marshall, Richard Johnson, Kathleen Kelly

Cambridge Water Department (CWD): Sam Corda, Fred Centanni, Ed Dowling

Visitor: Chris Dragoon, Cambridge Resident

Mr. Johnson announced that he will be recording the meeting.

A. MINUTES OF OCTOBER 16, 2018 MEETING

Ms. Kelly moved, and Mr. Johnson seconded the motion to approve the October 16, 2018 minutes as amended. The vote was unanimous in favor of the motion.

B. MANAGING DIRECTOR'S REPORT

A resolution was presented for discussion to honor Dr. Harrington on November 28, 2018. After discussion relating to the resolution, the following vote was taken.

Ms. Roosevelt moved, and Ms. Kelly seconded the motion to approve the Dr. Joseph J. Harrington Resolution as written below. The vote was unanimous in favor of the motion

Whereas:

Dr. Joseph J. Harrington began serving on the Water Board in 1994, and before that, between 1989 and 1994, he was a technical advisor to the Water Board under President Don Hornig.

Dr. Harrington was totally committed to helping make Cambridge the best water system in the state with the highest water quality and the best taste.

Because of this commitment, he worked tirelessly to ensure safe, healthy drinking water.

In the 90's, Dr. Harrington championed removing lead products from contact with water. He initiated the purchase of meters, curb stops, valves and other miscellaneous fittings that were lead free, and he supported the removing of lead services throughout the distribution system. As the new treatment plant was being planned, Dr. Harrington spent many hours working with the consultants on the design of the new plant to ensure that it was built with the ability to handle more stringent future regulations.

Then, before construction of the new plant, Dr. Harrington worked with the Massachusetts Water Resources Authority (MWRA) to get them to convert to a high pH in their water. By this conversion, when Cambridge was using MWRA water in our pipes, Dr. Harrington ensured that Cambridge's corrosion control program would not be negatively impacted during construction.

Along with Water Department staff and a former student of his, Dr. Harrington established the Water Quality Advisory Committee to advise on various water quality issues, such as the early implementation of the lead and copper rule, the implementation of chloramination, and the initial planning for the current water plant and its many processes. In addition to establishing this committee, Dr. Harrington contributed to many workshops, both at the Water Department and at the MWRA to address water quality issues in each system.

Dr. Harrington was also very aware of the need to protect the lands in the Cambridge watershed from pollution. He was instrumental in facilitating the purchase of a variety of parcels of land in Lincoln and Weston to protect our watershed. He also negotiated the return of over an acre of land back to the reservation, maintaining the same building “footprint” during the redevelopment of Neville Manor.

But more than all the technical help Dr. Harrington gave, he was appreciated most as a friend to the staff and the other Water Board members. He made everyone feel as if they were on a team, and a team that was providing invaluable service to Cambridge.

Dr. Harrington received the Fresh Pond Stewardship Award in 2006 recognizing his long-standing work and love for the Fresh Pond Reservation.

Resolved:

For all his commitment and devotion to making Cambridge the best water system in Massachusetts, the Cambridge Water Board would like to pay tribute to Dr. Harrington by dedicating a plaque in his honor to be placed in the foyer of the Walter J Sullivan Water Purification Facility.

DCR Greenway Update: Reviewing the plant entrance design to ensure that our larger chemical delivery truck can make the turn into the facility; the design at 3 locations based on existing conditions; Relocating a water blow off such that it doesn't interfere with the new greenway; the greenway interface with adjacent properties. Small trees have been removed and we have been able to save a few trees from being removed.

The near-term future plans are to bring in gravel, excavate trail, remove all stumps and shavings and start the installation of the drainage structures. This work will continue until the weather degrades. At the end of today's meeting we will view the demonstration/pilot lighting located at Danehy Park.

C. OPERATIONS

Transmission and Distribution:

The Maple Avenue water main replacement project runs from Cambridge Street to Broadway.

We have not yet received the final report on the evaluation of the 40" transmission main.

Watershed:

It was asked how close the 443 Lincoln Street redevelopment was to the reservoir shoreline. The project is within the Zone A – it meets all the latest stormwater management controls and is hooked into the local sewer system versus a private septic system.

The Eversource horizontal drilling was to install local electrical distribution wiring and goes under the Salt Depot Brook.

Stony Brook Reservoir is our smallest reservoir and it can fluctuate quite a bit based on water demand and precipitation levels.

Business:

The Cross-Connection Program tests are based on the number of backflow prevention devices that need to be tested on a biannual or annual basis. This testing is regulated by the DEP.

Water Operations:

It was noted and confirmed that the Water Department conducts many tours on an annual basis.

Engineering:

No comments

D. ACTION ITEMS

None

E. MISCELLANEOUS CORRESPONDENCE AND ITEMS OF INTEREST

No comments

F. NEW BUSINESS

None

G. NEXT MEETING DATES/TOPICS

- December 11, 2018: Approved/Election of the President/Draft CIPP/Plastic Pipe Study Report
- January 8, 2019: Approved/TBD
- February 12, 2019 Approved/TBD

DCR Greenway Pilot Lighting Site Visit: The Board adjourned the meeting to tour the DCR Greenway Lighting Pilot at Danchy Park. The basic comment was that the ability to control/direct the light seemed very limited, although, it was difficult to judge this since the grade dropped off dramatically on the backside/intended cutoff side of the lighting fixtures. A suggestion was made that to better see the effects of the cutoff mechanism, the pilot installation should be reset up on level grade.

The Board returned to the Plant and Ms. Roosevelt moved, and Ms. Kelly seconded the motion to fully adjourn the meeting at 6:30 p.m. The vote was unanimous in favor of the motion.