



ARLINGTON FINANCE COMMITTEE
MINUTES OF MEETING
O'NEILL ROOM
7:30 PM 2/15/17

ATTENDEES:

Deyst*	White	Caccavaro*	Kellar	McKenna*
DeCoursey*	Wallach	Harmer*	Gibian*	
Tosti*	Foskett	Bayer	Duvadie	
Russell*	Beck	Jones*	Deshler*	
Franclemont*	Howard*	Fanning*	Carman	Diggins*

*Indicates present

VISITORS: Conservation Commission members David White, Chuck Tirone, Susan Chapnick; Spy Pond Committee Chair Brad Barber, Friends of Menotomy Rocks Park members Judy Weinberg, Ellen Reed, Assistant DPW Director Teresa DeBenedictus

MINUTES of 2/1/17 Approved as corrected. Unanimous

MINUTES of 2/8/17 Approved as corrected. Unanimous

ART 48: WATER BODIES: White provided a handout (Ref 1) that described each water body that needs work in FY18. Residents associated with each water body described the particular need.

Reservoir: White said the Res needs more water chestnut weeding. Work was done by Mysic River Watershed Association (MRWA) volunteers this year.

Hill's Pond: Reed & Weinberg recommended continuing treatment for algae and providing electricity to run the aeration pump. They will apply for CPA funds to do an in-depth assessment.

Mill Brook: Tirone urged DPW to pretreat storm water run off. MRWA is applying for CPA funds to reduce illicit discharges.

Retention Ponds @ McClennen Park: Tirone reported that the recent survey revealed that the brown sludge is iron and manganese. This material is not hazardous to humans but may be harmful to wildlife. He discussed follow on work.

Spy Pond: Barber says phragmites are no longer a problem. CPA funded a shoreline erosion assessment now under way.

DeBenedictus walked the FinCom through her spreadsheet (Ref 2) that contains a history of water body funding, an explanation of the \$55,000 FY18 funding request and a 2 year prediction. VOTED \$55,000. Unanimous. Tosti noted that this consolidated budget presentation including all interested parties is a good model for other resident groups.

ART 42 SEWERS: PubWks SubCon Gibian recommended borrowing needed funds from MWRA at no interest. VOTED \$800,000 Unanimous.

ART 43 WATER: PubWks SubCon Gibian recommended borrowing needed funds from MWRA at no interest. VOTED \$1,100,000 Unanimous.

BUDGETS

FINCOM: GenGov SubCon McKenna recommended the budget as printed. Voted \$10,300 Unanimous

BOARD OF SELECTMEN: GenGov SubCon McKenna recommended the budget as printed. Voted \$252,700 Unanimous

ELECTIONS: GenGov SubCon McKenna, noted that there would be at least one local election in FY18 and probably a Fall special town meeting. He recommended budgeting both by adding \$5,036 to the printed bottom line. VOTED \$72,624 Unanimous.

McKenna also described the difficulties overcome by the BoS & Town Clerk while running the early voting for the Presidential election. Almost a third of the registered voters voted early. This is considered a very successful effort, though expensive.

ACCOUNTING: GenGov SubCon McKenna recommended the budget as printed. The increase is \$10K to cover fraud assessment (considered prudent) and \$5K to cover elementary school assessment (regular state requirement). VOTED \$78,000 Unanimous

TOWN REPORTS: GenGov SubCon McKenna recommended the budget as printed. VOTED \$3,500 Unanimous

TOWN CLERK: GenGov SubCon McKenna recommended the budget as printed. He explained that the vacant position may be filled. VOTED \$277,326 Unanimous

BOARD OF REGISTRARS: GenGov SubCon McKenna recommended the budget as printed. VOTED \$3,500 Unanimous

LEGAL: GenGov SubCon Howard reported that Heim believes the legal expense budget, supplemented by \$25K from a previous STM article will be enough to cover Mugar & other expenses. Howard will verify that the Mugar Legal Defense item on P243 in the Budget Book is not required. The Assistant Claims Coordinator has been replaced at the same grade Step 5. There is a saving of \$4352. VOTED \$484,585 Unanimous.

VETERANS: HumSer SubCom Franclemont recommended the budget as printed. No transfer requests expected. VOTED \$443,200.

COA TRANSPORTATION EF: HumSer SubCom Franclemont recommended the budget as printed. The van is not used as much as it was. May be phased out. She will request retained earnings. VOTED Revenues \$99,335, Expenses \$99,335 Unanimous

AYCC EF: HumSer SubCom Franclemont recommended the budget as printed. The large increase in admin fees is a one time expense. She will inquire about the loss of grant revenue. VOTED Revenue \$630,000, Expense \$630,000

COMMITTEE:

The O'Neill Room plaque is still missing. Fanning has contacted original source. They are looking.

Next mtg Wed 2/22..

RESERVE FUND Balance: \$1,465,000

Peter Howard 2/16/17 Revised 2/22/17, 3/20/17

Ref 1 Water Bodies Assessment & Recommendation Report

Ref 2 Water Bodies Program Analysis 2/15/17

Water Bodies Assessment and Recommendation Report

Arlington Conservation Commission February 2017

The Arlington Conservation Commission has carried out an assessment of fourteen water bodies in the Town of Arlington, which include five lakes and ponds and nine streams. A majority of these are negatively impacted by polluted runoff and stormwater discharges due to the highly urban nature of Arlington and surrounding towns. Most of these water bodies also have excessive aquatic invasive plants that degrade water quality, impede recreational use, and degrade aesthetics. In determining which waterbodies could benefit from management measures using Town funding, we have taken a triage-based approach:

1. Water bodies that are in generally good shape that do not need much help, or whose issues are being addressed by other agencies or funding sources, e.g., Upper & Lower Mystic Lakes and Upper Mystic River
2. Water bodies with some issues that could benefit from directed intervention, e.g. Spy Pond, Arlington Reservoir, Hills Pond, McClennen Park Detention Ponds (Reeds Brook)
3. Water bodies that are in poor shape with many issues that would need major efforts and thus funding to improve, e.g. Mill Brook, Alewife Brook.

Based on our analysis and discussions with various community groups we have identified the following five priority locations for the coming year:

- **Arlington Reservoir** – Town-owned water body in Arlington and Lexington with aquatic invasive water chestnuts that form dense, impenetrable mats at the water's surface, which impair public use and water quality. Recommend continuation of current management practices to mechanically remove water chestnut plants. In addition, the Mystic River Watershed Association (MyRWA) has been organizing hand harvesting events in the more shallow areas. Once the water chestnuts' seed bank is further depleted, the harvesting efforts and costs will be reduced.
- **Hills Pond** – A small pond in the heavily used Menotomy Rocks Park with water quality and invasive plant problems. Recommend continuation of chemical treatments to control algae and other detrimental water plants. Last year we recommended review of the current management practices for greater use of non-chemical treatments, such as aeration. To that end, we recommend maintenance of a formerly existing aeration pump system for the pond to improve water quality, which is dependent on DPW's provision of electricity and a mounting for the pump from other funds. Additionally, we recommend that an in-depth assessment of this water body be performed to develop a best management program for the future, and Community Preservation Act (CPA) funds will be sought for that purpose.
- **Mill Brook** – The very poor water quality (EPA/MyWRA 2015 rating of D) is primarily due to storm water runoff; however, the brook and its adjacent shore provide valuable wildlife habitat and opportunities for nature views. Some areas are attractive natural areas and efforts should be made to enhance public access. A possible effort might be invasive plant control along the banks and adjacent areas. In addition, the Working Group recommends that the Town DPW prioritize pretreatment stormwater improvements in the drainage area of Mill Brook to improve the water quality, since this is the most highly impacted Water Body in Arlington. Currently MyRWA is

pursuing CPA funds for improving public access, investigating illicit discharges and monitoring water quality near Wellington Park.

- **McClennen Park Detention Ponds on Reeds Brook** – These are small constructed ponds that have major value for storm water control and provide wildlife habitat. A preliminary review indicates that there may be seepage from the landfill material – which was capped but not lined, as evidenced by the brown color of the ponds in certain locations. In 2016 the Arlington Conservation Commission provided oversight of a contractor’s assessment of these ponds, which included document reviews at DEP and on-site sampling of the surface water and sediment (performed in December 2016). Depending on the findings, additional testing and evaluation may be needed. It may be that any solution will be beyond the resources of the Water Bodies fund and may require a combination of CPA and Town financing towards the broader goal of improving the site’s aesthetic, recreational, and wildlife functions.
- **Spy Pond** – Heavily used by public for recreation with invasive plant problems in and around the pond that impair use; also erosion along portions of the shoreline. Recommend assessment, updating or creating the operation and management plan, and continuation of aquatic invasive plant management practices. Additionally, last year we recommended assessment, design review, and implementation of shoreline erosion control, which was initiated in 2016 using CPA funding for an assessment of shoreline erosion and evaluation of design options. Currently, a project sponsored by the Conservation Commission to address implementation of erosion control based on the 2016 study is seeking CPA funding.

The ACC and the Town of Arlington was awarded the Natural Resource Damages Assessment and Restoration Program Grant in the amount of \$47,325. The Restoration project will create a native riverbank (riparian) habitat and improve stormwater quality. It is located along the Mystic River at the end of Park Street in the area that was directly impacted by oil released from a tanker truck that overturned nearby on Route 60 in May 2013. The project is expected to break-ground late spring 2017.

The Water Bodies Working Group has collected information for all the water bodies evaluated in support of this report. We recommend that other locations that have not been identified above as a priority for current Town Water Bodies funding should continue to be monitored, and recommendations for actions and funding should be reviewed on an annual basis.

Respectfully Submitted by:

Water Bodies Working Group of the Arlington Conservation Commission:

Susan Chapnick
Chuck Tirone
David White
Draft 2/14/17

Ref 2

Water Bodies Program Analysis
Report Date: 2/15/2017 - THD

The purpose of this schedule is to show activity of the Water Bodies and Phragmites Account over several years, specifically with a 5 year review of revenue and expenditures, current year projection and the three years of budget based on current information available.
 Please note that the difference between fiscal years is one day. The ending balance as of 6/30 each year is carried forward to the top of the subsequent column as the opening, 7/1 balance.

1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9

Water Bodies Account History: 5 Years of Actual, Current Year Expected, 3 Years of Projected

MUNIS #	FY12 Actual	FY13 Actual	FY14 Actual	FY15 Actual	FY16 Actual	FY17 Expected	FY18 Budget	FY19 Budget	FY20 Budget
230 4972	\$ 18,425.23	\$ 19,425.23	\$ 23,890.23	\$ 27,865.23	\$ 58,915.23	\$ 38,435.85	\$ 40,455.85	\$ 29,955.85	\$ 26,455.85
	20,000.00	50,000.00	50,000.00	40,000.00	40,000.00	50,000.00	55,000.00	60,000.00	60,000.00
230 4831	1,000.00	-	1,300.00	1,800.00	800.00	1,800.00	-	-	-
230 5299	-	(22,725.00)	(29,200.00)	-	(41,279.38)	(23,280.00)	(34,000.00)	(37,000.00)	(37,000.00)
230 5299	(20,000.00)	(21,400.00)	(18,125.00)	(10,750.00)	(20,000.00)	(16,000.00)	(16,500.00)	(11,500.00)	(6,500.00)
230 5299	-	(1,410.00)	-	-	-	(500.00)	(5,000.00)	(5,000.00)	(5,000.00)
						(10,000.00)	(10,000.00)	(10,000.00)	(10,000.00)
230 5299	Expenses - McClellenn								
	Expenses - CC Other								
1	\$ 19,425.23	\$ 23,890.23	\$ 27,865.23	\$ 58,915.23	\$ 38,435.85	\$ 40,455.85	\$ 29,955.85	\$ 26,455.85	\$ 27,955.85
	Ending Balance - 6/30								

Phragmites Acct - Spy Pond - supported by donations - for use on phragmites only: 5 Years of Actual, Current Year Expected, 3 Years of Budgeted

MUNIS #	FY12 Actual	FY13 Actual	FY14 Actual	FY15 Actual	FY16 Actual	FY17 Expected	FY18 Budget	FY19 Budget	FY20 Budget
230 4830	\$ 5,361.00	\$ 5,821.00	\$ 4,120.00	\$ 4,120.00	\$ 2,870.00	\$ 2,870.00			
230 5290	Revenue/Donations	100.00	-	-	-	-			
	Expenses	(3,600.00)	(1,801.00)	(1,250.00)		(2,870.00)			
2	\$ 5,821.00	\$ 4,120.00	\$ 4,120.00	\$ 2,870.00	\$ 2,870.00	\$ 0.00			
	Ending Balance - 6/30								

Subtotal of Water Bodies and Phragmites Acct Ending Balances (Above)

MUNIS #	FY12 Actual	FY13 Actual	FY14 Actual	FY15 Actual	FY16 Actual	FY17 Expected	FY18 Budget	FY19 Budget	FY20 Budget
Water Bodies Fund	18,425.23	19,425.23	23,890.23	27,865.23	58,915.23	38,435.85			
Phragmites Fund	5,821.00	4,120.00	4,120.00	2,870.00	2,870.00	-			
3	\$ 24,246.23	\$ 23,545.23	\$ 28,010.23	\$ 30,735.23	\$ 61,785.23	\$ 38,435.85			
	Available Balance								

Notes

- 1) Control eurasian watermilfoil -- Treatment with "Sonar" occurs in May, every three years.
- 2) Harvesting water chestnuts -- Mechanical harvesting occurs in July to reduce the seed bed for the following year.
- 3) Control excessive vegetation -- Treatment with "Reward" occurs in May or early June, as needed.
- 4) Control algae -- Treatment with a copper compound occurs in July or August if there is an algae bloom.
- 5) Water bodies and watershed survey -- Checks the health of Arlington's water bodies and invasive plants and animals. FY18 & FY19 needs are uncertain and depend on further studies.

Ref 2

**Water Bodies Program Analysis
Expense Detail - Actual and Projected**

The purpose of this schedule is to provide a breakout of the expenditure detail that is summarized on the preceding tab.

	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
Detail - FY 16 - Actual	SpY Pond	Reservoir	Hills	McClellmen	Other	FY Total	Spent to date	\$\$ available	Comments
treatment/sonar - spend in FY16	37,794					37,794			
treatment/reward		20,000				20,000			
water chestnuts/hand pull									
algae treatment	3,485.38					3,485.38			
water quality testing/plant id/survey	41,279	20,000				61,279.38			
Total	\$ 41,279	\$ 20,000	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 61,279.38			

Detail - FY 17 - In Process	SpY Pond	Reservoir	Hills	McClellmen	Other	FY Total	Spent to date	\$\$ available	Comments
treatment/sonar - spend in FY19	14,000					14,000			
treatment/reward									
water chestnuts/hand pull		15,000				15,000	15,000	0.00	
algae treatment	5,000					5,000			
water quality testing/plant id/survey	4,000	1,000	500			5,500			
phragmites treatment	280					280	280		
ConsCom - other water bodies				10,000		10,000	10,000	0.00	also spent \$2,870 balance
Total	\$ 23,280	\$ 16,000	\$ 500	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 49,780	\$ 25,280	\$ 24,500	

Detail - FY 18 - Budget	SpY Pond	Reservoir	Hills	McClellmen	Other	FY Total	Spent to date	\$\$ available	Comments
treatment/sonar - spend in FY19	14,000.00					14,000			
treatment/reward	10,000.00					10,000			
water chestnuts/hand pull		15,000.00				15,000			
algae treatment	5,000.00					5,000			
water quality testing/plant id/hills treatment	5,000.00	1,500.00	5,000.00			11,500			
McClellmen detention basin				10,000.00		10,000			
ConsCom - other water bodies	0.00	0.00	0.00		0.00				
Total	\$ 34,000	\$ 16,500	\$ 5,000	\$ 10,000	\$ -	\$ 65,500	\$ -	\$ -	

Detail - FY 19 - Budget	SpY Pond	Reservoir	Hills	McClellmen	Other	FY Total	Spent to date	\$\$ available	Comments
treatment/sonar - spend in FY19	14,000					14,000			
treatment/reward	10,000					10,000			
water chestnuts/hand pull		10,000				10,000			
algae treatment	5,000					5,000			
water quality testing/plant id	5,000	1,500	5,000			11,500			
spy permitting	3,000					3,000			
McClellmen detention basin				10,000		10,000			
ConsCom - other water bodies									
Total	\$ 37,000	\$ 11,500	\$ 5,000	\$ 10,000	\$ -	\$ 63,500	\$ -	\$ -	

Detail - FY 20 - Budget	SpY Pond	Reservoir	Hills	McClellmen	Other	FY Total	Spent to date	\$\$ available	Comments
treatment/sonar - spend in FY22	14,000					14,000			
treatment/reward	10,000					10,000			
water chestnuts/hand pull		5,000				5,000			
algae treatment	5,000					5,000			
water quality testing/plant id	5,000	1,500	5,000			11,500			
spy permitting	3,000					3,000			
McClellmen detention basin				10,000		10,000			
ConsCom - other water bodies									
Total	\$ 37,000	\$ 6,500	\$ 5,000	\$ 10,000	\$ -	\$ 58,500	\$ -	\$ -	