



# AMESBURY

MASSACHUSETTS

**RECEIVED**  
By City Clerk at 11:15 am, Mar 03, 2023

**City of Amesbury**  
**Lakes and Waterways Commission**  
Meeting Minutes for January 19, 2023  
7:00 PM  
Location: Virtual Webcast Meeting

Attendees: Tom Murphy - Acting Chair, Peter Manor - Acting Director-DPW, Cindy Roberts, Tom Volper, Kate Mallory, Bernadette Lucas, and Art O'Dea  
Completing Minutes: Art O'Dea

## I. Administrative Business

### A. Call to Order

- This meeting is being conducted under the Act Extending Certain COVID-19 Measures Adopted During the State of Emergency, signed into law on June 16, 2021, by Governor Baker. Public access to participate has been made available.
- Tom Murphy called the meeting to order at 7:09 PM and stated a quorum has been met.

### B. Review of Past Minutes

- A draft of the minutes of the meeting of November 17, 2022 were previously distributed and one correction was made at Section IV(C). Tom Murphy moved to accept the minutes as revised and Bernadette Lucas seconded the motion, with all in favor.

## II. Engineer's Update

### A. Engineer's Report

- Peter Manor gave a report on the status of the city's waterbodies. The winter drawdown at Lake Attitash is complete and the drawdown at Meadowbrook is continuing. Tuxbury Pond is high due to the amount of rainfall but under control.
- A beaver dam has been established downstream of the Newton Road Weir in the Powwow River and it is being monitored.

## III. Harbormaster Update

### A. Status

- No update available. Tom Murphy noted he would check in with Chief Bailey to confirm he is the appropriate point of contact for matters relating to the Harbormaster before the commission.

## IV. Conservation Commission Activity Update

### A. Conservation Commission Activity

- Michael Ebert was not able to attend but prior to the meeting he reported to the group that no current matters before the Conservation Committee have an impact on the city's waterbodies.

## V. Current Business

### A. Membership Status

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- Tom Murphy, as Assistant Chair, offered the position of Chair to the group; no one was interested at this time.
- No update has been received to date from the Mayor's office regarding the vacancies on the Commission.

B. 604(b) Grant Status

- Peter Manor reported the work is progressing to develop the watershed-based plan of water quality restoration recommendations funded predominately by the Commonwealth under a 604(b) grant. He noted the target completion date of the plan is June, 2023.

C. Open Spaces ad hoc Committee Update

- Tom Volper noted that no action has yet been taken by City Council to move forward with a kick-off meeting of the ad hoc committee, and that he would continue to monitor for activity.

D. Request from Recreation Director

- Tom Murphy reported he responded to Kathleen Crowley, Amesbury Recreation Director indicating the LWW Commission will participate in the re-opening celebration of the Lake Gardner beach that is tentatively planned for June, 2023.

VI. New Business

A. Tuxbury Pond

- Peter Manor noted the Building Department is aware of and coordinating with the Town of South Hampton, NH on a potential issue relating to the campground facility that borders the City. It has been observed that non-portable structures are installed in an area near Tuxbury Pond where only portable structures (e.g., campsites that can be removed during winter) are permitted.

B. Communication to local Fertilizer Application Contractors

- Cindy Roberts initiated a discussion and review of the letter distributed last year by the city to local lawn care companies that service Amesbury to inform them of the requirements relating to the application of fertilizer and the impact on our waterways.
- Cindy then made a motion the Commission renew its recommendation that the city distribute a letter substantially in the form of the reviewed letter to lawn care companies that service Amesbury to inform them of the applicable requirements, and to consider distributing a similar document to all residents of the city. Kate Mallory seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.
- Cindy volunteered to distribute a list of lawn care suppliers to the group for review and comment that will be included with the recommendation to the city.

C. Lake Attitash

- Cindy Roberts reported that in December, the Conservation Committee approved an extension to the order of conditions relating to invasive weed control that is coordinated with the DPW.

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- Cindy also provided an update on the pilot proposal under consideration by the Lake Attitash Association on the installation and maintenance of filtration elements in the structures feeding water into Lake Attitash. Requests for quotes and permitting activities are underway with an expected presentation to the DPW.

VII. Adjournment

- Tom Murphy asked for a motion which was duly made and seconded. The meeting was adjourned at 8:30 PM.
- The next meeting is planned for February 16, 2023 at 7:00 PM