Town of Acton

Annual Town Meeting Warrant

Monday, April 3, 2017

The Annual Town Meeting will convene at 7:00 PM in the Acton-Boxborough Regional High School Auditorium
36 Charter Road
Resolved that Town Meeting requests the Board of Selectmen to commission a long range (twenty year, future looking) study to establish the Town’s quantitative water needs, risks to the security and quality of its water resources, and the measures needed to protect those water resources.

Or take any other action relative thereto.

**Motion**

Move that the Town adopt the non-binding resolution as set forth in the Article.

**Summary by Petitioner**

This article encourages the Town of Acton to undertake a systematic study that can identify the Town’s likely water needs and resources over the next 20 years, as well as current and emerging threats to the Town’s water resources. The possible threats to be evaluated include drought, groundwater pollution from chemicals, and reduction of groundwater resulting from diversion of Nagog Pond water.

Direct inquiries to: Robert Sekuler: rsekuler@mac.com / (978) 807-4843

Selectman assigned: Janet K. Adachi: bos@acton-ma.gov / (978) 929-6611

**Recommendations:**

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**Article 27 # Non-Binding Resolution – Water Resource Sharing**

Resolved that Town Meeting requests the Board of Selectmen to engage with the Towns of Littleton and Concord, the Acton Water District and the Commonwealth of Massachusetts to reach an accord on equitable access to water from Nagog Pond.

Or take any other action relative thereto.

**Motion**

Move that the Town adopt the non-binding resolution as set forth in the Article.

**Summary by Petitioner**

This article encourages the Town of Acton to initiate negotiations with two neighboring towns and with the Acton Water District in order to reach an accord on sharing water from Nagog Pond. Currently, only the Town of Concord draws water from the pond, despite the fact that the pond is located entirely within the borders of Acton and Littleton.

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Article 28 # Non-Binding Resolution – Affirming Acton’s Right
(Majority vote)

Resolved that Town Meeting requests the Board of Selectmen to petition the Legislature of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts to affirm Acton’s right to draw water from Nagog Pond, as defined in Section 10, Chapter 201 of the Acts of 1884, and to initiate the processes required for Acton to exercise that right.

Or take any other action relative thereto.

Motion
Move that the Town adopt the non-binding resolution as set forth in the Article.

Summary by Petitioner
This article encourages the Town of Acton to petition the Legislature. In 1884, the Legislature granted Concord the right to draw and use water from Nagog Pond, which lies in Acton and Littleton. Notwithstanding its grant to Concord, the Legislature’s resolution granted Acton and Littleton priority rights to draw water from Nagog Pond, should the towns need that water. Population growth since 1884 as well as possible threats to Acton’s water resources makes it urgent that the Legislature initiate the process it foresaw in 1884.

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