



TOWN OF  
**AMHERST**  
MASSACHUSETTS

Office of the Town Manager  
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To: Town Council  
Town Clerk

Fr: Paul Bockelman  
Town Manager

Dt: September 18, 2019 (revised September 19, 2019)

Re: Water Supply Protection Committee Appointments

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### **Appointments**

With this memo, I refer to the Town Council and simultaneously file with the Town Clerk, the following names of people I desire to appoint as members of the Water Supply Protection Committee in accordance with Section 2.11(b) of the Amherst Home Rule Charter. Terms are effective immediately unless otherwise noted.

#### Three-year term (3):

(expires June 30, 2022) Linda Arsenault, 355 Montague Road  
Anna Martini, 65 Country Corners Road  
John Tobiason, 350 Potwine Lane (reappointment)

#### Two-year term (2):

(expires June 30, 2021) Lyons Witten, 120 Pulpit Hill Road (reappointment)  
Brian Yellen, 13 Norwottuck Circle (reappointment)

Christina Cianfrani and Jack Jemsek will continue as members. Their terms expire June 30, 2020. John Tobiason is also a member of the Board of Health. Jack Jemsek is also a member of the Planning Board.

### **Profiles**

- Linda Arsenault: Linda has extensive regulatory and environmental permitting experience in the petrochemical industry in California. She is eager to bring her knowledge of Federal permitting standards to inform the discussion of the Committee.
- Anna Martini: Anna is a Professor of Geology and Environmental Studies at Amherst College. She holds a Masters Degree and PhD in Geology. Anna has previous experience with local governments around issues of water quality and supply.
- John Tobiason: John is Professor of Civil and Environmental Engineering at the University of Massachusetts. He holds a Masters Degree and PhD in Environmental

Engineering. He is a nationally known expert in drinking water systems, especially treatment processes and is a registered Professional Engineer and a Board Certified Environmental Engineer by the American Academy of Environmental Engineers and Scientists. John was originally appointed on December 10, 2007.

- Lyons Witten: Lyons has over thirty-four years of professional experience in groundwater- and hazardous waste-related consulting projects and holds a Masters Degree in Hydrogeology. His expertise includes hazardous waste site investigations, management of Underground Storage Tank removals, site remediation, and permit filings under numerous state environmental statutes. He has project experience for both public and private clients that involve the interaction of water supply wells and hazardous waste sites. Lyons was originally appointed on December 10, 2007.
- Brian Yellen: Brian is a Research Assistant Professor of Geology at the University of Massachusetts. Brian holds a PhD in Geosciences. He studies sediment transport and water resources focusing on dynamic coastal and river environments that are impacted by sea level rise, climate change, and human-made changes to flow. Brian was originally appointed on March 25, 2010.

### **Summary of Process**

I reviewed all applicants and offered interviews to those who expressed interest. I assembled a team to conduct interviews. The interview team was comprised of Assistant Superintendent of Public Works Amy Rusiecki, Residents' Advisory Committee members Connie Kruger and Jim Pistrang, and Paul Bockelman, Town Manager. Ms. Kruger and Mr. Pistrang interviewed separate candidates at different times.

During the interviews, all team members asked questions and contributed to the discussion during the interview. At the conclusion of the interview, we agreed that the appointments and reappointments listed above would best serve the needs of the Committee.

### **Background Information**

Below is the relevant section of the Charter for your review. Notice was posted on the Town Bulletin Board on February 7, 2019 in accordance with Section 9.12(e) of the Town Charter.

*Section 2.11(b) of the Charter states:*

*Members of Multiple-Member Bodies: The Town Manager shall refer to the Town Council and simultaneously file with the Town Clerk, the name of each person the Town Manager desires to appoint as a member of a multiple-member body. Appointment of a member of a multiple-member body made by the Town Manager shall become effective on the 30th day after the date on which notice of the proposed appointment was filed with the Town Clerk unless approved or rejected by a majority of the full Town Council within the 30 days.*

[In the News Home](#)

The original item was published from 2/7/2019 3:35:00 PM to 3/4/2019 8:40:03 PM.

## In the News

### amherstma.gov - News & Announcements

Posted on: January 29, 2019

#### **[ARCHIVED] Town Manager Continues to Seek Members to Serve on Town Boards and Committees**

The Town Manager is seeking volunteers to serve on numerous Town Boards. Boards and Committees that have or may have vacancies include the Community Preservation Committee, Affordable Housing Trust, Cultural Council, Agricultural Commission, Public Art Commission, CDBG Advisory Committee, Council on Aging, Downtown Parking Working Group, Design Review Board, Historical Commission, Human Rights Commission, Local Historic District Commission, LSSE Commission, Public Shade Tree Committee, Transportation Advisory Committee, and Water Supply Protection Committee.

In addition, the Town Charter calls for the creation of a Ranked Choice Voting Commission to develop and propose a measure to adopt and implement ranked-choice voting in Amherst. Three residents shall be appointed by the Town Council and three residents shall be appointed by the Town Manager. The Commission shall propose a measure to the Town Council by September 1, 2020. The Town is seeking individuals of diverse backgrounds to serve on this commission.

The Town Charter also calls for the creation of a Participatory Budgeting Commission to propose a measure to adopt participatory budgeting or other similar method of resident participation in the budgeting process in Amherst. Two residents shall be appointed by the Town Council and three residents shall be appointed by the Town Manager. The Commission shall propose a measure to the Town Council by September 1, 2020. The Town is seeking individuals of diverse backgrounds to serve on this commission.

The Town Manager seeks residents who have relevant expertise or experience. The Town Manager is especially seeking individuals of diverse backgrounds to serve on all boards, committees, and commissions.

If you are interested in volunteering to serve, please fill out a Community Activity Form at: [www.amherstma.gov/caf](http://www.amherstma.gov/caf)

If you have questions, reach out to our Community Participation Officers at [getinvolved@amherstma.gov](mailto:getinvolved@amherstma.gov)

Updated 2/7/19 3:34 PM





## TOWN OF AMHERST COMMITTEE CHARGE

**Name:** WATER SUPPLY PROTECTION COMMITTEE

**Appointing authority:** Town Manager with approval of the Select Board

**Type:** Committee

**Town bylaw:** No

**Number of voting members:** 7

**Member appointment:** 3 years

Special Municipal Employee status [MGL Chapter 268A, Section 17]: No

Voting members may include: Representatives from the Agricultural Commission (1), Conservation Commission (1), Planning Board (1); a knowledge of geosciences is desirable.

**Non-voting liaisons:**

Staff Liaisons: Conservation Director, Public Works Director, Water Resources Director

**Committee charge summary:**

The committee works with town staff, appropriate consulting and engineering firms, and other town boards and committees to ensure the protection of the Town of Amherst's public water supply. It does this by:

- 1) monitoring the presence or possible introduction of hazardous and/or toxic materials into the watershed or aquifer of the public water supply,
- 2) evaluating proposed uses within the watershed or aquifer for their potential impact on the public water supply,
- 3) making recommendations for protection of lands within the watershed and aquifer of the public water supply,
- 4) reviewing and making recommendations on acceptable closure plans for sand and/or gravel pits,
- 5) analyzing the significance of trends in data monitored in the watershed or aquifer, and
- 6) recommending the timely and efficient implementation and administration of all pertinent ground water management and monitoring plans.

The committee shares its minutes with and makes its recommendations to the Select Board (in its capacity as the Water Commission) and the Town Manager.

12/3/07 - Voted to readopt the Water Supply Protection Committee Charge as amended at the Select Board meeting.

11/07/07 - Voted, as amended, the Water Supply Protection Committee Charge at the Select Board Meeting.

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