

2229 Main Street Advisory Committee

A. Background

The 1996 Annual Town Meeting recommended that the Town should create a committee of interested citizens and designees from relevant Town Boards to review air monitoring and risk assessment at the Starmet site on Main Street during the removal of the contents of the holding basin. That work has been completed and the committee has made its final report to the Town. In the meantime, the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) has begun consideration of whether the Starmet parcel is appropriate to list as a Federal Superfund site on the National Priorities List (NPL). The NPL is a list of hazardous waste sites that are eligible for Federal funding to pay for extensive, long-term cleanup actions under the Superfund Program. The Board of Selectmen believes that a more comprehensive approach to monitoring of the site is required.

B. Purpose

The Starmet Advisory Committee is to advise the Board of Selectmen regarding matters on the Starmet parcel, to advise other Town Boards regarding matters within the committee's responsibility, and to assist the Town in review and analysis of Superfund site data and EPA recommendations requiring a Town response, particularly regarding the cleanup standards for the site.

C. Membership

The Starmet Advisory Committee shall be a standing committee comprised of seven residents with diverse knowledge and a broad view appointed by the Board of Selectmen for a term of three years. Initial appointments shall be staggered so that no more than three appointments expire in each year.

The membership shall be as follows:

One designee or representative of the Board of Health

One designee or representative of the Natural Resources Commission

Five citizens at-large with a broad range of expertise including hydrology, environmental law, health physics, general science or engineering

D. Organization

The Committee shall elect its own chair and clerk and other such officers, as it deems appropriate. The Committee is responsible for conducting its activities in a manner that is in compliance with all relevant State and local laws and regulations, including but not limited to Open Meeting Law, Public Records Law and Conflict of Interest Law. All meetings will be posted and minutes submitted in the approved timeframe.

Requests for staff and budgetary support shall be directed to the Town Manager.

E. Duties and Responsibilities

- Keep informed about environmental matters and activities affecting the Starmet parcel at 2229 Main Street including legislation, planning, studies, activities performed at the site pursuant to its "Superfund" designation, expansion or change of site usage.
- Review, comment, and advise the Board of Selectmen on:
 - the quarterly stack and other air quality emission reports
 - the semi-annual groundwater monitoring reports required by the Zoning Board of Appeals Special Permit for Building E
 - Town permits required for activities at the site
 - reports generated as a result of Town permits and Massachusetts Department of Public Health reports

- licenses or permits that Starmet would receive from other government agencies, such as Nuclear Regulatory Commission licenses, cooling water withdrawal permits and cooling pond discharge permits
 - documents related to the cleanup of the entire site, such as site assessments, risk assessments, and cleanup plans. This would include the plans for and data from all interim surveys and investigations
 - legal and status issues that arise regarding the investigation and cleanup of the Starmet site.
- Work with
- Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) officials regarding matters for which that agency is not required to secure local permits.
 - Town Staff to generate RFQs, grant requests, and to review bids for any professional services that are required that are beyond the skills of the board members and Town employees.
 - The Local Emergency Plan Committee (LEPC) to determine what level of preparedness Town fire, police, and medical facilities should have for problems at the Starmet site.
- Develop and recommend to the Board a protocol for media contacts regarding issues at 2229 Main Street.
- Submit reports to the Board of Selectmen and the Town including the following:
- Semi-annual updates that could be written reports or appearances before the Board
 - Annual Town Report
- Advise the Board of Selectmen regarding any and all other matters related to the property.

Attachments:

1996 Town Meeting Vote

Final Report of Article 41 Committee

Letter recommending inclusion on Superfund list