

## **WATER RESOURCES COMMITTEE**

### **MEETING NOTES**

**Tuesday, November 27, 2018**

**7:15 PM**

**Town Hall, DPW Room**

#### **Topic**

**Call to order 7:20pm**

**Tonight's note taker - Becky**

Attendees:

Becky Malamut

Martha Cook

Shirley Young

John Boehmke

Chris Eck

John Danehy

Kevin Cafferty

Joanne Wyckoff

#### **Water system update**

Water Dept updates - Kevin

- Bid opening for GC to do work on WTP and green sand filtration at Wells, 4 different bidders, will bring to BOS on Dec 4, hope to start work Dec 5. Will take a few more days before WTP is shut down, likely end of December (though they're hoping for Dec 15)
- Having an issue with sewer right now, use is usually 1mgd but it's 3.4-3.5 mgd now with all the rain and flooding
- Sean's working on Tier 2 letter, should go out soon.
- Next round of ice pigging will be a separate area. He will meet with company mid-December to make a plan. Will use hydraulic study and also work their way out from the wells.
- Dolan Wells still waiting on analyticals, water was clean, need to set up pumps to see how much we can get.
- Brief discussion about brown water testing, Martha asked about results from the 150 home test and Becky provided update that results are still being compiled.
- Kevin provided summary of meeting with Tom Cook, Weston & Sampson, and NSRWA. NSRWA recalculating what they need for the herring, Weston & Sampson will determine how high reservoir needs to be in May to ensure enough water through September if there's no rain. Martha commented that this likely won't be a permanent disconnect, it should be temporary until all Wells are back online and reservoir is raised. Next meeting will likely be in January.
- For Asst Supervisor, job description has been put together and is with HR
- For water system study, money was approved but he needs to figure out where it's coming from. The 75k approved at Town Meeting is in addition to the 200k Toll Brothers gave the town.
- Tighe & Bond is working on the WTP study, ie. new plant or add dual system

- They are adding hydrants to 4 dead end streets to assist with flushing and brown water issues.

#### Brown water updates

- Status of FAQ
  - o Kevin provided response to drilling “past” manganese from Tighe & Bond geologist. Going deeper doesn’t always answer the question. Kevin asked for a write-up from Tighe & Bond and will pass on when he gets it. Geologist also said that if you have manganese at 100 ft you will likely have it at 300 ft.
  - o John B asked Kevin if they asked Dolan Well people to drill deeper (they only went down to 40 ft or so because that’s where the aquifer is). Said he hasn’t but he could, if he has more money. Not sure if they found manganese, won’t know until the analytics come back.
    - John D thinks we should take a look at going deeper if the analytics show higher levels of manganese. What makes more sense \$-wise – drill deeper or add more filtration?
    - John B asked about process for starting to look in the West End. John D said they’re looking at some properties and will look at some old properties that were reviewed 10+ years back
    - Kevin’s hopeful that Dolan Wells and bringing current wells back online will give us what we need. He’s still under DEP permits, so we can only drill as many wells as the permits allow
    - John D referenced a second 85 mg reservoir that was proposed in a brochure from 1968
  - o Becky to send FAQ to Kevin, Jim and Sean to review. Will wait for TA’s report before sending to residents

#### Water offsets update

- Becky and John B had a call with the Alliance for Water Efficiency, re: practical ways to set the mitigation fee. Hope to have numbers to share at the December meeting.
- According to John D, connection with Cohasset will only cost us the residential rate they pay for their water. Becky to send Cohasset residential rate to John so he can run more numbers.
- John D thinks he has short, medium and long-term costs for Dolan Well and West End projects

#### New initiatives – School Fields

Becky suggested that the new in-ground system at Cushing would be a great opportunity for the town to be an example, re: rainwater capture. Kevin said he talked to Sean about this and there was a concern that there could be backfill into the water system. There may be a backflow preventer or something they can implement to protect against this but it may be too far into the process to make this change. He will check with contractors and get back to us.

- If the pipes are not in, John D would like to look into what the costs would be to add gutters, backflow preventer, we would then pitch it to the School Committee to add that into their budget (Dec is right in the middle of their budget).
- Also, Kevin thinks the tanks are only 10,000 gallons and that’s drained in one day, is there enough of a benefit to saving that much / little water?

Kevin suggested that the WRC provide BMP’s to School Committee to consider when they

re-do parking lots

John D suggested creating a long range plan of how we can capture and store more rainwater around town

**Open discussion**

- December meeting will be Mon Dec 17. Becky to book room at the library

**Approve minutes**

Becky moved to accept the October minutes. Martha seconded. All in favor.

**Recent correspondence**

Becky delivered hard copies of the WRC info letters in other Committee and Board mailboxes

Conversation with John D about the WRC's concerns that we don't fully understand all causes of brown water problem and suggested looping a study of the causes of brown water into the water system study. John B to follow-up with Steve Pritchard to see if this is on his list. John D suggested inviting Brad Washburn to our meetings. He can answer lots of questions, provide grant suggestions, etc.

**Adjourn** – Becky moved to adjourn, Martha seconded, 10:32pm