

Water Subcommittee Meeting

5/3/16
8:00 PM to 9:35 PM
Utilities Department Conference Room

Attendees: Jim Engel, Ingrid Miles, Ed Rauscher, David Standley, Tim Corrigan, Vicki Halmen

Agenda

Citizen Queries	Chair	5
Approval of Minutes	Chair	5
Special Permit Request within Zone II	Vicki	15
Commercial Customer Analysis	Vicki	20
Browns Well Manganese Evaluation Update	Vicki	20
Master Plan Scope	All	20
Updates	Vicki	5
Other Business	All	5

Additional Information

Observers:

Water Subcommittee Meeting

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Attendees: Jim Engel, Ingrid Miles, Ed Rauscher, David Standley, Tim Corrigan, Vicki Halmen

J. Engel called the meeting to order at 8:02 PM.

Agenda

Citizen Queries

Chair

5

Discussion: None.

Conclusions:

Action items:

Person responsible:

Deadline:

Approval of Minutes

Chair

5

Discussion: No discussion.

Conclusions: E. Rauscher moved to approve the minutes of the January 14, 2016 Water Subcommittee meeting, D. Standley seconded the motion. Minutes were approved 3-0. I. Miles abstained.

Action items: Post minutes on website

Person responsible: Vicki

Deadline:
ASAP

Special Permit Request within Zone II Vicki**15**

Discussion: A Site Plan Review/Special Permit application has been filed with the Planning Board for additional development at 199 High Street. The proposed work is entirely within Water Supply Protection District Zone II, as such, the Water Commissioners have the opportunity to provide comment to the Planning Board.

V. Halmen explained that the proposal renders greater than 20% of the property impervious. The proposal includes onsite stormwater management to ensure no negative impact to the aquifer. V. Halmen and the Planning Board's review engineer have reviewed the proposal and find it acceptable.

D. Standley stated that the Conservation Commission has already heard the proposal and were agreeable to it.

Conclusions: E. Rauscher moved to recommend approval, I. Miles seconded. Vote was unanimous in favor.

Action items: V. Halmen to send memo to Board of Water Commissioners

Person responsible: Vicki

Deadline:
ASAP

Commercial Customer Analysis**Vicki****20**

Discussion: An update on water use data from the commercial customer class, particularly during the summer months, will be provided.

V. Halmen provided updated data on commercial water use. The 2013-2015 average data does show a small overall increase in use in the commercial class. However, the summer demand, particularly July & August show nearly a 50% increase from the 1999-2001 average data. It was discussed that some residents see the seasonal rate structure as unfair to residential customers, while commercial customers have no incentive to be responsible with their water use. It does appear the commercial class is growing, but the overall impact is small. It was discussed that including commercial customers in the plan would be damaging to company business plans. It was felt the seasonal program should be left as is, targeting residential customers. It was decided that an educational mailing be sent to commercial customers notifying them of the increase in summer use and urging responsible use.

Conclusions:

Action items: Prepare letter for commercial customers

Person responsible: Vicki

Deadline:

Browns Well Manganese Evaluation Vicki
Update

20

Discussion: An update on activities related to Browns Well and Manganese will be provided.

V. Halmen provided an update on activities related to the Manganese at Browns Well. Test wells were installed at Browns and across the street on the Town owned former Woodworth property. Quality and flow were favorable at the Woodworth site, however, more extensive testing would be required if this site is to be considered. Also, DEP is not in favor of this site due to its minimal protection (less Zone 1 town ownership than Browns).

Beaver trapping has occurred along the Muddy Run. DEP did determine a threat to the public water supply due to beaver. A consultant is evaluating the area to determine the best course of action to restore the Muddy Run back to its pre-beaver water levels. We will then request permission from the Conservation Commission to execute the plan. D. Standley expressed concern over breaching of dams. He would like to see a more comprehensive approach to the area. J. Engel commented that beaver in the watershed are concerning, specifically due to the threat of cryptosporidium and giardia.

Options for Browns Well currently include: Green sand plant on-site, pump well water to water treatment plant for treatment, locate a new well site, and possibly consider wastewater reuse.

Conclusions:

Action items: Request permission from the Conservation Commission to address beaver dams along Muddy Run

Person responsible: Vicki

Deadline:

Master Plan Scope

All

20

Discussion: The scope of the Water System Master Plan (funded in FY17 & FY18) will be discussed. A scope must be developed as well as the framework for a Request for Proposal for engineering consulting services.

A discussion of possible items for consideration in the scope took place. Those included a forward looking plan that considers population growth, regulatory requirements, climate change, watershed management to improve water quality (flora & fauna). The possibility of wastewater reuse was mentioned. The plan should evaluate current plant and infrastructure and provide recommended improvements. Recommendations will need to be prioritized. Criteria used for prioritization must be established. Funding the recommended improvements must be evaluated and should be phased.

Conclusions:

Action items: Set another meeting to further discussion

Person responsible: Vicki

Deadline:
June

Updates		Vicki	5
Discussion: Updates on Lead & Copper sampling, installation of the new SolarBee and the Linebrook Road project will be provided.			
V. Halmen explained that the March round of Lead & Copper sampling was successful and compliant with state/federal standards. A second round of sampling will be conducted in September. If that round is also favorable, we will return to full compliance and the 2014 violation will be resolved.			
A second solar powered mixer has been installed in Dow Reservoir and is fully operational.			
The Linebrook Water Main Replacement Project has been awarded to C. Naughton Corp. and will begin in June. This is a combined project with DPW, as they are making stormwater upgrades.			
Conclusions:			
Action items:		Person responsible:	Deadline:

Other Business		All	5
Discussion: V. Halmen mentioned that annual hydrant flushing is currently underway.			
V. Halmen is watching the Ipswich Mills Dam Removal Project closely and will meet with Ipswich River Watershed staff to discuss how the project is progressing and identification of possible water supply impacts.			
Conclusions:			
Action items:		Person responsible:	Deadline:

Additional Information			
Next meeting was set for June 23 rd at 7PM			
Meeting adjourned at 10PM.			
Observers:			