

White's Pond Study Committee

Minutes of June 6, 2011

Members present: Dick Downey, Ellen Duggan, Peter Reed, Herb Symes, Jim Fulton,
Paul Boothroyd, Eugene Redner

Members absent: Jason Kreil

Others in attendance: none

Agenda Item 1

Meeting called to order by Chairperson Dick Downey at 6:00 p.m.

Agenda Item 2A

Motion to accept May 23, 2011 minutes made by Peter Reed

Motion seconded to accept May 23, 2011 minutes made by Herb Symes

Motion was passed unanimously.

Agenda Item 2B Review Action Items

i. Jim Fulton Report on MWRA Rate Information

Jim stated that a letter was sent out to MWRA seeking rate information. In a discussion with Mike Sullivan, Jim was advised that it could take 2-3 weeks for a response.

- NEW ACTION ITEM

Jim will report on the progress of obtaining MWRA rate information.

ii. Jerry Flood to Report on W/C Estimate for Possible Summer Hill Test Well.

Jerry was not in attendance at tonight's meeting to report on this action item.

- NEW ACTION ITEM

Jerry will report on W/C estimate of a possible test well on Summer Hill

iii. Dick Downey Report on Status of Legal Rights to Sell Water

Dick reported that he is still awaiting a response to this matter.

- NEW ACTION ITEM

Dick will report on the status of the legal rights to sell water.

iv. Dick Downey Clarification of Which Well in Gov. Land is Not Potable
Dick reported that Bob Chapell of W/C/ reported that both wells in the Tuttle Hill area were potable but that other issues make these wells not suitable.

- NEW ACTION ITEM

Dick will follow up with the Board of Assessors regarding the status of 400 foot well locations.

- NEW ACTION ITEM

Peter Reed will transpose the well locations with the town's GIS System

v. Dick Downey to Send Out 5/12 Gantt Update

This action item was completed and the Gantt Chart was sent out to all members.

vi. Peter Reed to do Calculation on Different Combinations of Water Sources That Meet Our Permit Limit and The Amount of "Head Room" in Percent.

Discussion took place in which Peter reviewed the various gallons per day out put of the current well sites. After further discussion regarding the well out puts, Peter stated that he would gather more detailed information for the committee.

- NEW ACTION ITEM

Peter will develop a spread sheet showing existing source capacities and proposed source capacities.

vii. Dick Downey to Send Outline in Mark-Up Mode

This action item was completed when Dick sent the Report Outline to all members.

viii. Jason Kreil to Send Out Ellen's Index

As Jason was not present at tonight's meeting this item will need to be completed.

- NEW ACTION ITEM

Jason to send to all committee members Ellen's Index.

Agenda Item 3 – Jerry Flood Gathering Operations Costs

As Jerry was not present at tonight's meeting this item will be discussed at next meeting.

- NEW ACTION ITEM

Jerry to gather data to develop operation costs for each well site.

Agenda Item 4 – Review Citizen Input

There has been no new citizen input from either e-mails or meeting attendance.

Much discussion did take place regarding a citizen's inquiry to Mike Sullivan as to why Maynard currently has a town wide water restriction in place.

Jim mentioned that DEP allows 2 methods to use in determining water restrictions. One monitored ground levels and one method monitored river flow levels. Jim questioned why we do not seem to use the river flow level alternative. The river flow measurement information could provide good historical information for future determinations. Jim suggested that the citizen should go to the Town and ask again, why we have a ban in place, when DEP gives us two choices.

Peter suggested that we go to Jerry and ask about USGS measurement of the river level. Jim felt that it is important for the citizens of Maynard to know that even if White's Pond were to be brought back on line, this would not mean that water bans would no longer be put into place. We do not want to mislead people in this regard. Citizens should be made aware of the factors that bring about water restrictions and that even an over abundance of water is not going to end water restrictions in the future. Peter agreed with Jim in this matter. Dick responded that he will include this information in the Outline for factual information.

Agenda Item 5 – Updates to Outline Document – Attachment 1

Dick will add water ban factual information into the document.

Dick stated that the final report will go to the Selectmen and hopefully will be read and acted upon by them.

Jim asked if W/C's report will show the effect upon water rates with any of their recommendations. Ellen read W/C's report responsibilities and said it was generic with regard to costs. Jim again stated that we need to include the effect upon water rates spread over time in our report. Dick responded that we can ask W/C for the information but we as a committee could come up with the information, if W/C doesn't provide it.

Peter voiced his concern that we are not the professionals in this area and he would feel more comfortable with W/C making the conclusions. Dick was concerned that asking W/C to take on this task would cause the study to exceed budgeted costs.

Dick asked about possibly having committee members take on the responsibility of writing specific parts of the final report. Peter suggested that we go home look at sections of the Report Outline for final report possibilities, by individual committee members.

Ellen suggested that our next meeting could be a "working" meeting for the committee to begin putting together the final report. Ellen also said she would like to see the opinion from counsel regarding water sales and the risks of losing White's Pond if we do not bring it back on line. It was determined that our June 20th meeting would be a "working" session towards developing a Final Report.

Agenda Item 6 – Other New Business

Eugene reported that he had spoken with the Town of Lincoln Water Commissioner. Lincoln currently gets water from a well field and a surface pond. Lincoln uses a Siemens membrane filtration system to treat the Flint's Pond surface water. He reported that it is a robust system needing little attention for 8-10 years. The commissioner is going to get operating cost information for Eugene.

- NEW ACTION ITEM

Jerry Flood to obtain information with regard to how much water the Fire Fighting Academy draws from White's Pond.

Eugene expressed concern that W/C is behind on the latest Gantt Chart.

- NEW ACTION ITEM

Dick will get an updated Gantt Chart from W/C for our next meeting.

Ellen spoke regarding the history files. She explained that she did subjective marking of documents that she thought would be helpful to our group and future groups. If we identify the documents, we should notify W/C as to their whereabouts for aiding W/C in its research.

- NEW ACTION ITEM

Dick will get the historical water documents information from Jason Kreil and in turn will get the information over to W/C.

- NEW ACTION ITEM

Dick to ask Dave Griffin for information regarding the actual number of visitors there has been to our web site.

Meeting Schedule – it was decided that the meeting schedule is fine for the present time, as scheduled.

Paul Boothroyd made a motion to adjourn the meeting.

Peter Reed seconded the motion to adjourn.

Motion passed unanimously.

Meeting adjourned at 7:53 p.m.

Next Meeting - June 20, 2011 - 6:00 p.m.- Maynard Town Hall – Room 201