

## White's Pond Study Committee

### Minutes of February 7, 2011 Meeting

Committee members in attendance: Dick Downey, Ellen Duggan, Jim Fulton, Jason Kreil, Peter Reed, Herb Symes

Committee members absent: Paul Boothroyd, Eugene Redner(non voting member)

Also in attendance: Mike Sullivan Town Administrator, Gerry Flood Supt. of DPW, Bob Chapell & Jim Rivard of Woodard and Curran

Meeting called to order at 6:08 p.m. by Mike Sullivan

Mr. Sullivan read the charge from the Board of Selectmen regarding the purpose and responsibilities of the White's Pond Study Committee. Mr. Sullivan then sought volunteers to serve as committee chairperson and secretary. After discussion among the committee members, it was decided that these positions would be filled after a future meeting. Dick Downey volunteered to act as chairman for this first meeting and Herb Symes acted as secretary until such time as these positions are filled permanently.

Bob Chapell and Jim Rivard of Woodard and Curran introduced themselves to the committee, and highlighted their expertise and experience. They also noted the various projects that they have worked on for the Town of Maynard, for the last four years.

Jim Rivard stated that the committee's task is to look at all potential options to increase water sources for the town, determine cost estimates in that regard, and to submit a final report to the Board of Selectmen prior to the annual town meeting in May 17, 2011. \*\*\*

Jim Rivard then explained that it was his and Bob Chapell's responsibility to help the committee scope the final report, evaluate all the options, and hear from the committee various town issues, ideas and concerns and to help answer the various questions.

Mike Sullivan responded to a committee members question regarding if there were any problems with committee members communicating with each other through e-mails. Mike responded that as an "Ad Hoc" committee there would be no problem with members e-mailing each other.

Gerry Flood was asked as to how we got to this situation?

Gerry explained that we had one well go out of service and that we had to buy water from Acton on an emergency basis which also proved to be very costly. When this well was out of service the town was in a very precarious situation with regard to supplying its water needs. The Rockland Ave. well is our primary well and if that were to go out of

Service we (Town), would be in big trouble trying to supply the town with water. Gerry has spent the last two years getting our water plants up to standard.

The committee asked Gerry Flood to provide two action items to the committee for our next meeting: 1. Provide a status report regarding our current wells.

2. Provide some history regarding White's Pond, when it was closed? Etc.

The committee members began asking various questions of Gerry Flood and the representatives of Woodard and Curran such as:

1. Could another town petition the state to take over White's Pond if the town of Maynard is not utilizing the resource? Answer- That is always possible.
2. Is there any interest from the town of Stow for purchasing water? Answer- Yes. Also other towns would have to be asked. Our primary concern should be how to increase water for Maynard's use.
3. When and why was White's Pond closed? Answer- mid 1990's. Problems with pollution from goose droppings. Preliminary designs for White's Pond were twice defeated at Town Meetings and town resorted to developing Rockland Ave. wells.
4. How is filtering surface water different than filtering well water? Answer – More expensive to filter surface water but we need to look at all the options.
5. Is Woodard and Curran currently working with any other towns with surface Water? Answer – Yes - most are currently up and running and not looking for new surface water sources due to the scarcity of new surface water sites.
6. Bob Chapell discussed the possibility of drilling test wells at White's Pond for well quality and capacity with the aim of negating the need of a treatment plant at White's Pond. This could be another option.

Dick Downey said the final report should be finalized by the week of May 10<sup>th</sup> in order to be ready for the May 17<sup>th</sup> town meeting.

Gerry Flood said that the final report is an exploratory report for options to go forward with in the future.

\*\*\* Jim Rivard said our work is done when we look at all the options and come up with an estimate of costs. He clarified that they are on a 6 month contract beginning 1/7/11 and thus the report made at May town meeting would be an "interim report".

The committee then went into a brain storming session that developed goals and questions to be explored by the committee.

The Committee then scheduled two future meeting dates:

1. February 14, 2011 at 6:00 p.m. in room # 202
2. February 28, 2011 at 6:00 p.m. in the Gianotis Room(#201).

Meeting adjourned at 8:08 p.m.