

White's Pond Study Committee

Minutes of April 25, 2011

Members in attendance: Dick Downey, Ellen Duggan, Jason Kreil, Paul Boothroyd, Herb Symes, Jim Fulton, Eugene Redner, Peter Reed

Others in attendance: Vic Tomyl

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

Motion made to accept April 11, 2011 minutes by Paul Boothroyd

Motion seconded by Jason Kreil

Motion to accept the April 11, 2011 minutes passed unanimously.

Vic Tomyl requested that the members of the committee wear name tags so audience members will know the participants taking part in the meetings of the WPSC.

Dick said we would look into getting name tags.

REVIEW PAST ACTION ITEMS

1. Ellen and Paul research of Water Usage Reports at Jerry Flood's office. Ellen and Paul reported that they spent 2 hours on a Wednesday researching reports. They compiled a list of old water studies that they found. They also found an old book of deeds and easements. Paul informed the committee that he found information that the town of Maynard leased well water at one time, to the town of Sudbury. In 1964 during a water drought, well water was pumped into White's Pond to keep the water level up at the pond. There was also a report of water being taken from Taylor Brook.

Dick asked what do we do with this information?

Paul stated that we are just scraping the surface with this research and that this information will provide a good back round into water usage history. It could reinforce that we should not wait until we have a water crisis before we act.

Jim added that this would give us good historical value as we move forward.

Ellen stated that some of the information may be beyond the scope of our committee but may be useful to future water committees.

Eugene felt that we need to focus on White's Pond.

Vic stated that he gets the impression that the ultimate recommendation is going to come down to money and that going in too many directions of research with this committee, could create more confusion amongst the voters.

Dick replied that the committee is going to make a recommendation with regard to White's Pond and that we want to provide answers to all the voters questions.

Dick feels that the research needs to be divided by the committee members.

Peter asked if maybe the research room could be available after work hours so that some committee members could be available to help with the research?

Ellen suggested that maybe one of our scheduled meetings could be devoted to researching the archives.

Dick responded that he will look into obtaining after hours time to do our research.

Herb asked if the WPSC is actually going to make a recommendation regarding White's Pond? He thought that the selectmen were going to make the decision.

Dick replied that the selectmen expect some recommendation from the WPSC.

Ellen said that she had the impression that Woodard & Curran is going to make the final recommendation as to what direction the town will take with regard to water.

Dick stated that the W/C report is not going to be sufficient to make a major decision on Maynard's water needs.

Peter suggested that W/C revisit their scope and see what an expansion of that scope might cost.

Jason stated that W/C will give a report on White's Pond ground and/or surface water and the cost. The selectmen will make their decision on that report.

Dick again stated that he wants the voters to make a decision based upon good information based upon a thorough study from our committee.

Ellen said that we are seeing this project as much bigger than what the RFP and scope of work is designed to do.

Peter asked if we could obtain information from W/C on the possibility of gravel and deep rock wells drying up.

Dick, we will catalog what the reports say and we will ask W/C about the longevity of gravel wells versus deep rock wells and the scope of the final report.

2. Dick completed his action item when he sent the committee members attachments 1-3.
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Review of Committee's Tour of Water Sites

Dick reported that he put a power point presentation of our tour on the town website. Members reported that they were most impressed by the professionalism and knowledge displayed by Mike Abbondanzio, who led our tour of the Rockland Ave. treatment facility. Members were impressed by the high level of technology involved with the operation. Members would like to find a way for the general public to witness the operation of our water system. It would certainly provide them with an appreciation of the work performed at these facilities, by our town employees.

- ACTION ITEM
Jerry Flood to obtain data for operating costs of the wells.
 - ACTION ITEM
Ask Bob Chapell from W/C if he could provide the committee with water rate comparison information regarding the MWRA.
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Agenda Item #4 – Need Jerry Flood to give the committee the corrected and updated information on water use chart.

Agenda Item #5 – Have received no further citizen input other than from attendance at our meetings.

Agenda Item #7 – Other new business

Peter mentioned that attachment #1 was very comprehensive and should be good information for Jerry Flood.

Dick then asked the question as to whether the committee should get into management recommendations?

Jim followed, would our suggestions be welcomed?

Dick asked should we recommend updates, modernization etc., to help management in a positive manner?

Jason felt that we need to modernize our reporting methods.

Herb asked how well maintenance was currently being scheduled?

Paul asked if this was within our scope?

Agenda item 7C – Review meeting schedule

Dick is going to ask Woodard & Curran if they could meet with us on Monday May 9th rather than May 11th. The committee could then meet on May 11th in order to construct our progress report for the upcoming town meeting. Dick thought it would be best to meet with W/C prior to drawing up our progress report.

The regular committee meetings will be going back to Monday evenings after the May 11th meeting.

Agenda item 7D – Ratify all previous actions and votes of the committee

Jim Fulton made a motion to ratify all past votes, decisions, and actions taken by the WPSC prior to April 25, 2011.

Paul seconded this motion.

The motion passed unanimously.

Paul provided the following reports to Dick for possible inclusion on the website:

Report of Superintendent Lent dated August 17, 1964

Report of Drinking Water Town of Maynard up to 1977

Agenda item 7E – MWRA Report

Paul informed the committee that neither he nor Ellen has found the old MWRA report. Jim asked if it was possible to get from W/C information pertaining to costs, fees, etc., related to a possible connection with MWRA?

Dick will ask W/C for this information and also information regarding the scope of their final report.

Peter made a motion to adjourn the meeting

Jim seconded the motion to adjourn.

Motion to adjourn passed unanimously.

Meeting adjourned at 7:58 p.m.

Next scheduled meeting May 9th at 6:00 p.m. - Maynard Town Hall - Room 2001