

# WHITE'S POND STUDY COMMITTEE MINUTES

DECEMBER 12, 2011

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

Members absent: None

Audience present: Jerry Flood, DPW Superintendent

1. Meeting called to order by Chairperson Dick Downey at 6:00 p.m.
- 2A. Motion made to approve the minutes of November 28, 2011 by Herb Symes.  
Motion seconded by Ellen Duggan.  
Motion passed unanimously.
- 2B. Review Action Items
  - i. Response to Joann Barilone completed by Dick.
  - ii. Invitation to Jerry Flood to attend tonight's meeting completed by Dick.
  - iii. Peter to send OMR questions to Dick to forward to Jerry completed.
  - iv. Dick to develop water rate impact figures completed.
  - v. Jim to develop gradient table for redundancy completed.
  - vi. Jason to present cost table for matrix. Jason needs to gather more information before completing this task.
- 3A. Meeting with Jerry Flood regarding Old Marlboro Road wells.  
Jerry reported that a 2004 report outlined color issues at the Old Marlboro wells and that the treatment was changed to a green sand treatment. Jerry further reported that the previous DPW Superintendent Doug Camilli had a study done of the water problems. They lowered the water level, removed some obstructions and a couple of beaver dams were removed. These actions helped for a while. Also, some culvert work was done beneath the road to help alleviate the problems. A water quality study in which \$80,000 was appropriated has not been spent. A preliminary study recommended a more detailed study that would cost

approximately \$1,000,000. Selectmen did not want to spend that much money so the initial \$80,000 study was never done. Jerry stated that no real in depth studies have been done and a final solution to the problems at the Old Marlboro wells has never been studied. Hopefully, a pilot study recommended by Woodard and Curran would answer if the recommended solutions would really work. With regard to well cleaning Jerry stated that he doesn't remember those wells ever being cleaned. They will be cleaned this coming Spring (wells & screens). This is long over due and this cleaning may help.

3B. Other Information from Jerry.

With regard to Woodard and Curran, Jerry feels that Bob Chapell has submitted his final report and his obligation to this committee is done. Dick felt that W/C did not address some items. Jim related that Bob said that he would come back to the committee to discuss W/C's final report. Dick said that some questions were never answered. Dick was concerned with the major changes in dollar figures from the preliminary report to the final report and would like to hear from Bob an explanation of those discrepancies. Jerry still feels that Bob has completed his work but that he will ask Bob about this. Peter pointed out some discrepancies in the Final Report Tables 5 and 12. Peter would like W/C to take a look at those tables. Ellen stated that the committee is not asking W/C for more work but is just seeking clarification from W/C/

3C. Jerry's Input and Opinions

Jerry thinks that we have covered about everything. He recommends that we should study Old Marlboro first before saying White's Pond is the way to go. White's Pond is a lot of money and he is not sure the tax payers will go for it. He also stated that he is not sure that an additional well at Green Meadow is feasible due to color problems. If we were to suffer a severe drought he thought that Old Marlboro wells would be affected first. He did think it would be a good idea to go forward with the easement approval process with regard to White's Pond. Jerry mentioned a 50 year agreement by the town to supply water to the State Fire Fighting Academy from White's Pond. Jerry believes that the water is used only for fire fighting purposes and not for drinking. It is not metered and they pay nothing to the town. As a precursor to using White's Pond we would need to test the water there for any and all contaminants. With regard to our current filtering systems Jerry can't answer if what we are doing now will be adequate with any new testing requirements that may come in the future. Jerry said that he will call Bob Chapell with regard to some of the committee's questions.

4. Citizen Input

No input at tonight's meeting.

5. Other New Business

- i. Woodard & Curran – No response as of this meeting.

6. Decision Matrix

There was some discussion as to whether the committee should proceed with the matrix. Jim felt that we should see how the matrix shakes out in order to determine which direction that the committee should go in.

- ACTION ITEM  
Jim to refine cost table for the matrix.
- ACTION ITEM  
Dick to update the matrix.

Peter said that we need to all fill out the matrix and then come to the next meeting, go through the matrix and then make a final recommendation.

- ACTION ITEM  
Everyone to fill out the matrix by December 27<sup>th</sup>.

7. Vote on recommendation

To be done at a future meeting.

8. Final Report

To be worked on at a future meeting.

9. Other Business

Dick will check with the Selectmen regarding reappointment of the committee for 2012.

Next meeting will take place on Jan. 9, 2012 at 6:00 p.m. Town building.

10. Adjourn

A motion to adjourn was made by Paul Boothroyd and seconded by Jason Kreil.

The motion passed unanimously.

The meeting adjourned at 8:25 p.m.