

Windham Economic Development Committee
Infrastructure Sub-Committee
Meeting Minutes, Tuesday, May 7, 2013

FINAL

PRESENT: Bob Young, Sy Wrenn and Ralph Valentine,

Meeting called to order at Windham Planning Dept. by Ralph at 8:10 AM.

The minutes of April 23, 2013 were reviewed. Motion by Bob second by Sy to approve as submitted, motion passed 3-0.

Sy reported that he had reviewed the Route 28 Access Management Overlay District as it may have any relation to water infrastructure, and it did not.

Bob reported that in addition to Kleinfelder as a potential firm to provide a quote of the Exit 3 Water Study, 3 other firms are Wright-Pierce Engineering, Arcadis Engineering and Underwood Engineering.

Tom Carrier, Deputy Director Town of Derry Dept. Public Works arrived and there was a broad discussion about water sources and needs in the general Derry/Windham area. Tom brought some maps and one report. The maps showed Derry's existing systems, and conceptual systems. The report was the Interconnectivity and Mutual Aid Report, Final Draft, Phase 1, Prepared by the Nashua Planning Commission in May 2005.

Derry could be a viable source of water for Windham. Using round numbers, Derry can buy up to 2.9 Mgalpd from Manchester, with peak use at 1.6 to 1.8 Mgalpd. They have a lot of capacity which could be purchased by another municipality. The most efficient route from Derry to Windham would be south on Route 28. Derry will be providing water as far south on 28 as the Robert Frost Farm by late 2014.

Tom believes a dialogue between our sub-committee and both Dave Paris of Manchester Water Works (MWW) and Don Ware of Pennichuck would be beneficial.

Tom finished about 9:15

Frank Giordano of the Salem Dept. Public Works arrived at 9:15 and there was again a broad discussion about water sources and needs as relates to Salem and Windham. Frank reported that there were a number of Windham property owners sourcing water from Pennichuck's Windham well(s) who sought to obtain water from Salem due to high salt content. They were denied that request. Canobie has been Salem's water source since the 1800's. There is interconnectivity

with Methuen, but Methuen treats water differently than Salem. That is a large conflict to resolve, not to mention the interstate challenges. (Ma DEP is very protective of their water.)

Salem is trying to increase the amount of water available for emergency use. NH DES is pushing Salem to go to Methuen. Salem is researching water rights from bodies of water within the Town of Salem.

Frank suggested we talk to Sarah Pillsbury and Brandon Kernan, a hydrologist, both at NH DES for more information.

Frank said at one time he heard about a proposed treatment plant in Nashua that could eventually feed Salem and Plaistow. Sy seemed to think that was a near match to what John Boisvert had referred to in past discussions, which was for Pennichuck to build another Merimack River crossing, send water cross country thru a PSNH utility easement, then along Route 111, feeding both Windham and Salem and possibly further.

Frank excused himself at about 10:05

The Sub Committee is now realizing that the water issue is more regional in nature, and that further discussions with NH DES, MWW and Pennichuck are warranted.

The next meeting has not been scheduled. Ralph will connect with some of the contacts referenced today to check on their availability to attend a future meeting.

Motion to adjourn by Sy, seconded by Bob, motion passed 3-0.

Meeting adjourned at 10:15 pm.

Ralph Valentine