

Windham Economic Development Committee
Infrastructure Sub-Committee
Meeting Minutes, Thursday, March 21, 2013

APPROVED

PRESENT: Bob Young, Sy Wrenn and Ralph Valentine,

Meeting called to order at Windham Planning Dept. by Ralph at 8:12 AM.

John Boisvert of Pennichuck is a guest and will be discussing water sources.

The minutes of Feb. 21, 2013 were approved as submitted 3-0 on a motion by Bob and seconded by Sy.

John brought some plans and a discussion ensued about water sources. John stated that existing smaller water systems in Windham were too small to add much in the way of capacity. He is aware of recently drilled test wells which are not in service, and said they may assist in providing water for isolated uses only.

Here are 4 general options as points of discussion:

Option A would be to source water from Methuen through Salem. This would require approval of the State of MA as well as reconciliation of differences in how water is treated (Methuen vs. Salem). In previous conversation with the State of MA, they were not in favor of any such interstate agreement, but we have no details. One other note of interest: the size of the water pipe near the Hess gas station is large enough to provide water to Windham. We are not sure how much water that is, but the question will be posed.

Option B would be to source water directly from Methuen, going cross country somehow thru Salem, again requiring approval from the State of MA.

Option C is to source water from Derry (which sources from Manchester). Derry has about 1M gpd excess capacity.

Option D is to source water from Pennichuck thru Hudson along Route 111. Pennichuck already has permitting in place to run water thru Hudson. There would be a wear and tear charge paid to Hudson. A storage tank is likely to be needed to support peak fire demand, and it would be located in Windham. Pennichuck would make a "one times first years' annual revenue investment" in the system (including up to 5 years worth of connections).

John suggested we keep our eye on SB 11 which will allow the formation of water & utility betterment districts. Stratham is looking for passage to help with 2 +/- miles of commercial frontage along Route 108.

Other items of note:

25 % of water costs are variable

75 % of water costs are fixed (source and transmission)

The next meeting is tentatively Thursday, April 11, 2013, at 8:00 AM.

At 9:35, there was a motion by Bob, seconded by Sy and approved 3-0 to adjourn the meeting.

Respectfully Submitted,

Ralph Valentine