

**WATER RESOURCES COMMITTEE
TOWN HALL
Meeting Minutes ~ October 17, 2005**

Members in attendance: Dave Irwin, Chair; Tom Burns, Vice-Chair; Mike Blanchard; Malcolm Brown; Bob Hunter; Rick Mattila; Joan Meschino; Ed Petrilak.

Also in attendance: Arnold Wallenstein; Paul Weisman, Wright-Pierce; Mark Kalpin, Hale & Dorr.

Meeting called to order by Chair at 7:21p.m.

Public Input: None.

Approval of Minutes: None.

Chairman's Topics:

Water Sampling will be held on November 1, 2005 at Cohasset water treatment plant. D. Irwin will attend. As there will not be a quorum of committee members, the meeting will not be posted as a public meeting.

DOE Grant of \$96,000 has been awarded to UMass for the benefit of HMLP on October 1, 2005. The news release has all the salient details. UMass has one year to expend the award money. The grant is to create a computer generated program to evaluate four off shore windmills for powering a desalination plant.

It was suggested that the WRC find a non-committee member to take minutes as the study begins and the information becomes more technical and more detailed. The concern is that the committee member taking the minutes will not be able to fully participate in the discussion.

Wright-Pierce Update: P. Weisman reported that W-P obtained the final signature on the contract and returned it to the Town via regular mail on October 7th. W-P is in process to sign up all the subcontractors as discussed.

W-P Task Progress: W-P is reviewing all available information received from the Town on October 3rd. W-P has approached Aquarion regarding technical information and a possible meeting if necessary. Originally it was anticipated that the WRC would have Aquarion in at the November meeting; however, J. Musich is already in communication with L. Bingaman and much of the information flow has already occurred. Members questioned what if any merit there was to having Aquarion attend with the task accomplished.

The geotechnical survey is scheduled for October 21, 2005. Data is expected back within a week's time. W-P will collate the data in its first technical memo to the committee which will be presented at the regularly scheduled meeting on November 14, 2005. All other task items are in process per the schedule.

The WRC advised W-P of the grant award to UMass. P. Weisman will contact UMass regarding possible collaboration and sharing of resources.

P. Weisman noted that W-P has not yet received the digitized parcel information from Assessor's Office as requested.

Schedule: First technical memo is due November 14th and will be presented during regular scheduled meeting so long as the weather is conducive for geophysical survey. Target completion of the overall project remains May 2006 for now.

Legal Analysis Scope: M. Kalpin reviewed the current scope of legal analysis and agrees that the scope makes sense as currently laid out. He identified several task items could be moved up in the schedule. Task 10 involves critical questions which the WRC might want to evaluate earlier in the process, e.g. permitting agencies. Two non-engineering tasks will be pulled forward: Task D Analysis of Franchise Rights and Task I. Both are incorporated currently in Task 10B however both need to be fleshed out to indicate whether the Town wants a partnership. It is currently implied but no prelude to when we would evaluate ownership structure. W-P will pull forward to Phase II. W-P will draft change order proposal for November 14th meeting. Cost will depend on level of analysis. Anticipated cost is between \$5,000 and \$10,000. M. Kalpin has reviewed the Diemert Reports and found that it contained much valuable information.

The WRC will include M. Kalpin at the next meeting with the regulatory group as he is especially concerned about possible DTE issues.

P. Weisman presented a press release prepared by W-P. Town Manager approval is required before any press release is issued involving the Town. It will be posted to the Town's web site and disseminated to the local press.

MOTION by E. Petrilak, **SECOND** by M. Brown, to authorize J. Meschino to finalize text of press release, obtain appropriate approval and disseminate to the press. **APPROVED**, unanimously.

New Business: None.

Old Business: None.

Items for Discussion: M. Brown reported on his visit to the desalination plant in Curacao.

Next Meeting: Monday, November 14, 2005
7:00 p.m. at Town Hall

MOTION by M. Brown, **SECOND** by R. Mattila, to adjourn meeting. **APPROVED**, unanimously.

9:00 p.m. meeting adjourned.

Approved: _____