



Manchester-By-The-Sea Meeting Posting

Notice of Public Meeting – (As required by M.G.L.Ch.30A §18-28)

Board/Committee: Water Resources Protection Task Force

Day & Date: Wednesday, January 25, 2023
Time: 7:00 PM

Location: VIRTUAL

Signature: Sue Croft

Attendees: Steve Gang, Mike Carvalho, Ann Harrison, Ron Mastrogiamomo, Randi Augustine, Jeff Cochand, Danna Truslow, Scott Horsley, Gordon Turner, Lynn Atkinson, Tom Kehoe, Peter Colarusso, Francie Caudill, David Lumsden, Nate Desrosiers, Chuck Dam, John Round, Jessica Lamothe, Fred Wales, Sue Croft

MINUTES

- Steve Gang called the meeting to order and welcomed attendees. There were no announcements.
- Steve gave an update from the 1/17 Select Board Meeting where he gave the SB a presentation which can be found [HERE](#). Steve said that most of the focus was on the recommendations at the end of the presentation and that the recommendation that concerned the SB was the possibility of retiring the LSW as a potential solution should PFAS levels become an issue. This is a solution that could be considered instead of PFAS removal at the LSW which would be extremely expensive. If the LSW were to be retired, the intention would be to replace it with another well in a different location. Steve mentioned that John Round's assistance in preparing this presentation was invaluable and that it was well received by the SB. Tom Kehoe mentioned that the Cricket coverage from this meeting including Steve's presentation was good.
- Danna Truslow gave an update on the second stage of the thermal study. Her presentation can be found [HERE](#). On December 20, 2022, the aerial portion of the thermal study occurred. Sixty infrared pictures from heights between 200-400 ft above Gravelly Pond were taken using a drone. These IR pictures when combined with the water sample data collected in September give further indication regarding groundwater flows due to the contrast between groundwater and surface water temperatures since groundwater temperatures tend to stay around 55 degrees year-round. The pictures were taken starting in the South side of Gravelly Pond and continued clockwise around the entire pond. When asked, Danna said what surprised her about the data was there it showed more inflow on the western side of the pond and less on the eastern side. Danna will be providing a final detailed report of all the data collected.

- Scott Horsley reviewed three USGS maps of Gravelly Pond from 1893, 1956 and 1985 and noted northerly gradients that would likely indicate northerly flow of Gravelly Pond into Chebacco Lake. He is preparing a Protection Recommendations Report and gave attendees some high-level insight to these recommendations which include a protection overlay that is significantly larger than our current water protection overlay district.
- Gordon Turner gave a brief update for the contaminants group saying that the team has finalized their draft recommendations and would like to share their findings with and get feedback from the Task Force. Steve asked if anyone had an update regarding the EPA and potential changes to the PFAS regulations. Peter Colarusso said he heard that the EPA was identifying a plan that would need to be implemented by the end of 2024 but he did not know the specifics of that plan. Chuck Dam said he thought the EPA would release the new PFAS levels in March.
- Tom Kehoe gave an update saying Groups 1 and 6 are currently working on finalizing the overall recommendations to the SB and have a meeting scheduled next Wed. All Task Force members were encouraged to attend that meeting.
- As an update to what group 1 is working on, Steve Gang mentioned case studies that he has been reviewing to gauge response to changes in the cost of water and models for elasticity of demand. He noted that he found a free tool that could potentially be used to model the elasticity of demand. He went on to discuss examples of smart meter use and AMR meters.
- Steve gave attendees a presentation of his Draft Review Preliminary Findings and Recommendations that will eventually be presented to the SB and community. He focused primarily on the 11 recommendations at the end of the presentation. Steve distributed the document and asked that Task Force members review the document and provide feedback. Peter Colarusso asked how many Greenscapes brochures he should get a printing quote for and it was determined that 2500 copies would work. John Round asked if Hamilton has explored drilling a new well closer to Chebacco Lake and outside of the Ipswich River Basin to have access to more water. Steve explained that he thought Hamilton had investigated this possibility but it would be extremely difficult and costly if they could even get permission from the DEP at all, partly due to the fact that Manchester is an excessive user of water.
- Steve Gang told attendees that the Task Force needed to identify an approximate amount of money that would need to be budgeted for 2024 and beyond to continue water protection efforts after the Task Force disbands. He noted that the Task Force is likely to have about \$10k rollover from this year's budget to the next. Beyond that, he made the suggestion that perhaps \$100-120k might be needed in the future to pay for staff, specialists and/or analysts to continue monitoring and other tasks. John Round pointed out that that sum of money is unlikely to be budgeted this year but that it may not all be needed in the first year post-Task Force.
- The minutes from Jan 4 meeting were unanimously approved.
- The next meeting will be scheduled for Wed Feb 15th at 7:00 PM.
- The meeting was adjourned at 8:31 PM.