

Woonsocket Water Treatment Plant Project Advisory Committee

March 3, 2011

7PM

Woonsocket City Hall

Committee members present: Chairman James Cournoyer, Vice-Chairman City Councilman Daniel Gendren, City Councilman Christopher Beauchamp, Alan Rivers, Paul Levreault, Matthew Tessitore, Owen Bebeau, Secretary.

Guests: Jim Marvel (former Water Superintendent)

The committee asked various questions to Mr. Marvel The following topics were discussed:

- Explanation of proposed project scenarios**
- Mr. Marvel informs the committee of his background. He states that his perspective will be based on his plans that were in place at the time of his retirement.**
- Mr. Marvel worked on the year 2004 plan to build on the North Smithfield site next to the reservoir.**
- The Water Department paid approximately \$500,000 to CDM for the 2004 study, which recommended the North Smithfield site.**
- A 30 inch pipe had been put into place to support this site use.**

- **DEM, at the time, did not have an issue with backwash.**
- **Mr. Marvel was asked if he felt that the current site could handle a new backwash order. He felt that money would be an issue and an engineering study needed to be done.**
- **DEM consent agreement discussion.**
- **Mr. Marvel recommended that the City check into hydraulic connection with Lincoln and/or Cumberland instead of piping to Pawtucket.**
- **Question of stimulus money available. Answer: probably not. Recommended checking into Clean Water Action for funding. They may have funding available.**
- **Mr. Marvel stated that it is best to have your plant next to the water supply.**
- **Crook Fall Brook pipeline took longer than scheduled. Just the nature of construction. Permitting took time and money. Piping permitting along the Blackstone River will take time.**
- **Mr. Marvel stated that the old pumping station needs to come down if we were to build a new one at that site, as there is not room at the existing site.**
- **He also stated that he did not believe that the PUC would fund the cleanup of the firing range.**
- **He stated that water plant should meet maximum daily flow plus fire flow.**
- **Mr. Marvel suggested to the committee factors to consider with Pawtucket piping: price alternatives; purchasing water needs less processing for Woonsocket; is it cheaper to produce your own water.**

- **Stated that water would have to be purchased daily from Pawtucket to keep water moving in line.**
- **East Providence, which has a pipe from Providence, has a by-product issue.**
- **Discussion of selling water north of Woonsocket.**
- **Mr. Marvel noted that commercial water use continues to decline across the state.**
- **Mr. Marvel has felt that Woonsocket should be buying North Smithfield water assets.**
- **Mr. Marvel reminded committee that the current water plant site is in a flood plan.**
- **Discussion of firing range. It was noted that other community police departments are using the City range.**
- **The Design/Build/Operate model was discussed.**
- **The year 2005 pilot study was discussed.**
- **Mr. Marvel noted that unforeseen problems will arise in construction of either option.**

Minutes of the February 9 and February 23 meetings were approved unanimously.

There will be a tour of the Water Plant on March 4 at 9AM

Next tentative meeting date is March 10, 2011.

Meeting adjourned at 8:31PM

Respectfully submitted,

Owen Bebeau

Secretary