

Woonsocket Water Treatment Plant Project Advisory Committee

March 10, 2011

7PM

Woonsocket City Hall

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

Guests: Joel Mathews, Director of Planning and Development

The committee asked various questions to Director Mathews. The following topics were discussed:

- Chairman Cournoyer gave a summary of the project.**
- Director Mathew's involvement with the project had been minimal. His view is of his own perspective and does not represent that of the administration.**
- Director Mathews indicated that former Public Works director had not shared water plant info with him.**
- He understands that the pipeline option is meant to address the discharge issue.**
- He believes that there is no option that will meet the DEM deadline.**

- **Director Mathews is familiar with the bike path as he worked on the project and walked the area with the bike path engineers.**
- **These are Director Mathew's issues with the pipeline: the City would need to negotiate with the Providence and Worcester Railroad for an easement - this will be difficult. The P+W does not own all of the right-of-way along the path. Some of it is privately owned as well as the town of Lincoln owning a portion of it. The City would have to negotiate with each owner for an easement. The DOT would have to be negotiated with as well. The Director feels that permitting would be difficult and lengthy. Part of the path as well as some bridges are in the flood plain. This needs to be taken into consideration. The City would need DEM permission for wetlands passage. DEM took a long time to issue permits for the bike path. Also, the 100 year flood plain would have to be taken into consideration. Director Mathews feels this could be a 2 to 3 year permitting process should the pipeline option be sought.**
- **The Director discussed a possible pipeline alternative. Piping down Manville Road into Lincoln onto Railroad Street and so forth until you get to another section of the bike path in Albion. He feels this could cut down on the permitting process. But, some other issues could arise. Also, you would have to do more negotiating with the Town of Lincoln.**
- **Councilman Gendron wants to look at the best possible option first, and then deal with the DEM consent agreement later. He feels that if project is started, DEM would not push fines.**
- **Chairman Cournoyer spoke with DOT and heard consistent**

concerns that permitting with them will be difficult and lengthy.

- Director Mathews indicated that that the depth of the pipe will be an issue. Construction will have to deal with soil contamination.**
- He feels that EPA money could be available for a site clean up in North Smithfield or other site such as Ocean State Finishing.**
- Other sites in the city were discussed. Chairman Cournoyer would like the City to look at the Logee Street site.**
- Director Mathews stated that it will take time for the North Smithfield site to be remediated.**
- Ocean State Finishing site was spoken about. Councilman Beauchamp would like to know clean up costs for the site.**
- Councilman Beauchamp discussed the 2004 report that CDM had done and that they recommended the North Smithfield site for a new water plant.**

Minutes of the March 3 meeting will be addressed at the next meeting.

Next tentative meeting date is March 16, 2011.

Meeting adjourned at 8:04PM

Respectfully submitted,

Owen Bebeau

Secretary