



Water System Advisory Committee Meeting

October 1, 2014 @ 7 pm
Mansfield Community Center

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Kathleen Pacholksi, Willington
Meg Reich, Willimantic River Alliance
Art Hall, Coventry
Robert Miller, Eastern Highlands Health District
Gene Koss, Tolland
Thomas Callahan, University of Connecticut
Joan Buck, Mansfield Conservation Commission
John McGuire, Mansfield EDC
Mary Ellen Kowalewski, CRCOG
Diana Perkins, Windham

ADDITIONAL STAFF IN ATTENDANCE: Matt Hart, Mansfield Town Manager; Maureen Westbrook, Connecticut Water Company; and David Radka, Connecticut Water Company; Jason Coite from UConn; and Linda Painter and John Carrington, Town of Mansfield.

Welcome and Introductions – The meeting was called to order at 7 pm by Maureen Westbrook of Connecticut Water Company. Committee members introduced themselves for the benefit of some members participating for the first time.

Discussion of committee organization and election of officers was moved up in the agenda. It was agreed to defer the election of officers again since the agreement calls for the chair to be a representative from the Town of Mansfield and not all of those members were present. It was noted the Mansfield P&Z has officially declined to elect a representative due to the potential for a conflict of interest, and other commissions were being considered.

The minutes of the July 30, 2014 meeting were approved with one minor correction.

Overview of Water Supply Project– Maureen Westbrook gave an update on the status of the pipeline project. Connecticut Water and UCONN jointly filed an application in April with the

Department of Energy and Environmental Protection (DEEP) for a Diversion permit to allow up to 1.18 mgd of water to be sent to Mansfield and UCONN through the pipeline on an average day basis during the 25 year duration of the permit. We are awaiting the issuance of the Notice of Tentative Determination with the proposed permit and conditions from DEEP. When that is issued there is a 30 day public comment period and a procedure to request a public hearing on the request will be included in the notice.

It was agreed that a copy of the questions and responses to DEEP regarding the diversion permit application would be posted on the CT Water website as was the original application material.

The Company has received the required Stormwater General Permit from DEEP and is preparing an application with Department of Public Health (DPH) for a Sale of Excess Water permit.

Updates on Related Activities in Member Communities/Organizations –

1. Tom Callahan shared that the OPM recently concluded they do not have the authority to approve a 20-year campus Master Plan EIE. OPM has recently approved two separate EIEs for UConn Next Gen projects (the Science and Engineering Building and STEM Residence Hall). UConn expects to undertake an EIE for a proposed Honors Residence Hall on South Campus in the near future.
2. Matt Hart indicated that the referendum question of the funding for the Town's proposed sanitary sewer project for the Four Corners area is on the November ballot. The area that would be served includes 61 properties in the district, at an estimated cost of \$9M.
3. Art Hall of **Coventry** raised questions regarding whether there would be an opportunity for new service connections to the pipeline. Conditions, based on the EIE and the need for consistency with the State Plan of C&D, were included in the Agreements with UCONN and Mansfield and are expected to be reflected in the DEEP Diversion permit. Connections will be allowed for existing uses or those that would otherwise be supported by on-site services unless there was an overriding public health consideration or a decision by PURA.

This prompted further discussion with Rob Miller of the **Health District** regarding how that condition comports with building code requirements and the approval of proposed subdivisions. It was agreed we would review this further at another meeting, and that Matt Hart, Linda Painter, Rob Miller and CWC representatives would try to discuss prior to the WSAC meeting.

Mr. Hall also inquired about whether fire hydrant(s) could be installed on the south side of the pipeline in Coventry. CT Water was going to review and confirm but believed this was acceptable.

4. Gene Koss gave an update on the question of the potential sale of the Tolland Water Commission System and the Town Council's recent decision to explore this further. He affirmed his belief that the system should remain with the Town.

Mr. Koss also commented on the recent construction work by CT Water on the pipeline extension in Town and noted that the construction went well and the contractor's work was well done with minimal disruption to residents.

It was agreed that CT Water would provide WSAC members with a map that shows work that has been completed in Tolland and the work that remains on the pipeline to Storrs.

Process for Review of Applications in Mansfield. Linda Painter provided an update on the Mansfield Tomorrow initiative, which will update the Plan of Conservation and Development. It is expected that the plan will be out for public comment by January 2015, with hearings in February and likely adoption in the spring. The adoption of new zoning regulations would follow, likely out for public comment in summer of 2015.

RWTP. Maureen Westbrook provided a quick overview of the Company's Rockville Water Treatment Plant project.

Meetings

It was agreed that the 1st Wednesday of the month was generally available, with meetings set for 7 pm on the following dates:

January 7, 2015

April 1, 2015

July 1, 2015

There was discussion of other possible locations for meetings if space is not available in Mansfield and members said we could explore Tolland Town Hall, Coventry Town Hall Annex or the Willington Library.

It was agreed the meeting notices would be posted on the website of CT Water and the Health District with links to other members sites as available. There was discussion and agreement that the minutes would be posted once approved with distribution on the websites in the same manner as meeting notices.

Public Comment – In public comment portion, Atty. Arthur Smith inquired about whether a NPDES permit is required for the discharge of the water being moved from Shenipsit Lake to the Mansfield area. Dave Radka and Maureen Westbrook explained that they did not believe that was required for the proposed transfer of water for use in the potable water distribution system.

In response to additional questions about the availability of the DEEP Request for Additional Information on the permit application and the applicant's written response, CWC offered to e-mail certain interested attendees the information, in addition to posting on their website.

5. Adjourned at 8:40 pm