

CAPITAL IMPROVEMENTS PROGRAM (CIP)  
WATER/WASTEWATER TOUR  
April 26, 2013

ATTENDING: Murray Campbell, John Bianchi, Joe Lukeman, Dan Paradis, Superintendent Jeff Chartier

Mr. Campbell stated that we need to get the CIP included in major expenses such as the new water tank, the Downtown project. Mr. Chartier explained that most of their expenses are paid by the users. When the Downtown project was first discussed, they had planned on the users paying it all, then it was decided that it should be a 90/10% split and at town meeting, the voters determined that it should be a 50/50% split. Mr. Chartier went on to say that they are doing a Smart Meters project now (these can be read from the street and will take about 4 hours to do the town instead of the week that it takes now. This project is being paid by the users. Mr. Campbell asked if they will need changes to the computer and Mr. Chartier stated that the new software is included with the meters. They will be doing the replacements over a few years, starting with the downtown, including Freudenberg. Mr. Chartier added that the EPA has a new no lead law. We have about 200 (about 18%) seasonal meters that we may be forced to change to the new smart meters before we can put them in again. He is hoping not as these are the less used ones and he hoped to do those last.

Mr. Chartier explained that initial meters are paid with the application fee and then the Department replaces them when needed. He mentioned that they got a new sludge dumpster from their budget. He is interested in looking into better de-watering of sludge. Our sludge now is like jello but would ideally be more solid. We have a belt press now. Sludge disposal will be more now as the transporter we had sold out and the new owner wants only 12 ton per load instead of the 18 ton we were having hauled. It costs \$315 a load and we averaged 15 a year. Now it will be about 20 a year. The disposal center in Merrimack has been reasonable at \$55 a ton. Mr. Chartier is looking into RMI (Route 132) which would be closer and he is looking into haulers as well. He added that Merrimack makes the sludge into compost which Mr. Chartier prefers to just going into a landfill.

Mr. Campbell asked about the signal equipment. Mr. Chartier stated that it is working well. He would like to take equipment up to the Fowler well also. Mr. Bianchi asked the status of the second well up there and was told that the State says it is okay and we use it for a back-up but the iron and magnesium gives a bad taste. Mr. Bianchi asked if going deeper would eliminate that. Mr. Chartier stated that they looked at it but are weary that it could contaminate the Fowler well. The Storm center well can supply the whole town now to supplement the Fowler well in an emergency.

A discussion followed about the downtown pipes. Mr. Chartier stated that most are being replaced with a 24" pipe so that if sewer ever goes to the Lake, they will not need replacing. They are only going up N. Main Street enough to tie-in. Mr. Bianchi asked about the red lines on the pavement and was told that these are where the telephone lines are. Going towards Summer St., etc. they are using 8" pipes. The pumping station on Central St. is fine for now. We would need new pumps for sewer to the Lake.

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A discussion was held in regard to Freudenberg and their expansion which was thought to be a good thing for Bristol. Expansion on town lines was mentioned and Mr. Bianchi felt that a meter should be placed on the line so we supply the water but they are responsible for the pipes. Mr. Chartier likened it to Bristol Shores where there are 190 units but one meter.

Mr. Chartier went on to say that he does not see the sewer to the Lake issue coming up again any too soon. Last year they replaced the river crossing to Beech St. That pipe was put in in 1896. An 1894 pipe is being replaced with the downtown project. This will make the oldest pipes to be from 1951.

Mr. Chartier told the group that the Bristol Aqueduct Co. originally supplied the water and it came from the Lake in wooden pipes. In 1947, the town bought out the company and changed to wells. They replaced old wooden pipes between 1949 and 1951.

Mr. Paradis asked if the well-head protection is adequate. Mr. Chartier answered that a lot of it is in Alexandria but we lay out best management practices and he tests it often. We have a safety area for 400' around Fowler well and then a 4,000'. As for Alexandria, Mr. Chartier checks them periodically – they have a gravel pit turned to boat storage and a repair shop that is within the designated protection area.

Mr. Bianchi asked if there is any more erosion along the Fowler River near our well. Mr. Chartier stated that they planted trees and mow that area now. The only problem is that they have to relocate beavers every now and then. They have to relocate beavers from the Storm Center as well.

Mr. Campbell asked about any other future needs and Mr. Chartier stated that for water it is just the meter upgrade and for sewer the de-watering of sludge. As to collection/inflow, there is an old clay line on N. Main St. that they plan on replacing. As to the million gallon tank, the new substation has taken care of that need for now. It may come up again in the future if we ever expand toward the high school. The present tank is inspected every 6 years and is structurally sound. The inside ladder is corroding at the bottom but they have never used it so are not worried about it. Mr. Bianchi stated that, at the time it was purchased, it had a warrantee of 100 years.

Mr. Campbell asked about contaminants and was told only the beavers at the Storm Center. Mr. Chartier tries to stay away from chlorination as much as possible. They have a good flushing hydrants program which is a big help with that. He added that, when they replace the meters, they will check the materials of the service line and of the sewer line. When they do the Lake, they will try to document the location of all of the septic systems. He added that they have 4 customers, with holding tanks, which dump into our system here at the plant. They get their own haulers and they pay us as a regular customer.

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Mr. Bianchi asked if the downtown project is on schedule. Mr. Chartier stated that they are a week or two behind where the contractor would like to be. He added that they have not used flaggers, just police, for traffic duty. DOT is asking for temporary patch as they are concerned with liability but Mr. Capone is dealing with that issue. It was mentioned that there is confusion of the markings and detours, especially for anyone who is not familiar with Bristol.

Respectfully submitted,  
Jan Laferriere, recording secretary