



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 September 14, 2022
Time: 7:00 PM
Location: VIRTUAL
Signature: Sue Croft
Attendees: Steve Gang, Scott Horsley, Tom Kehoe, Sue Brown, Helen Bethell, Jeff Cochand, Peter Colarusso, Fred Wales, Randi Augustine, Joe Sabella, Gordon Turner, Francie Caudill, Mike Carvalho, Olga Hayes, Sarah Creighton, Ann Harrison, Chuck Dam, Lynn Atkinson, Sue Croft

MINUTES

- Steve Gang called the meeting to order, welcomed attendees and reviewed the agenda. There were no announcements.
- Steve reviewed the information given to the Select Board during their Sept 7 meeting regarding the thermal study and water usage data at which the SB approved the proposal from Danna Truslow and Scott Horsley (see next item below).
- Scott Horsley gave an update regarding the work that was done earlier in the day for the thermal survey around Gravelly Pond. The day started with a tour of the Water Treatment Plant. Scott showed attendees a map of the shoreline around Gravelly Pond and pointed out where they drove the metal probes to take groundwater temperature readings and samples. Five locations around the pond were previously identified; today three of those locations were sampled. Two more locations will be done early next week and possibly more if volunteers from the Task Force can get trained and equipped. Scott explained that standard groundwater temp is around 50 degrees F and that if any location shows significantly different temps between surface and groundwater, it indicates that groundwater is flowing into Gravelly Pond. Today's testing revealed one location with significant temperature differences, one location with moderate differences, and one with essentially no difference. The significant temperature differences were found closest to the landfill sites east of Gravelly Pond. Next steps are to finish the survey and provide a final report within the next couple of weeks and compare to existing mapping around Gravelly Pond to determine groundwater flows. It was mentioned that pumping from Round Pond into Gravelly Pond could impact groundwater flows. Scott explained that part of the goal of this project is to amend the protection area around Gravelly Pond. After working at Gravelly Pond, Chuck Dam and Nate Desrosiers accompanied Scott Horsley on a tour of the LSW and the adjacent areas including the Elementary and Middle/High Schools.
- Steve gave an update from Group 1 (Usage) mentioning a case study from Cotuit (where Scott Horsley lives) to model conservation rates and that some of Scott's grad students at Harvard have undertaken additional case studies. He also discussed the possibility of a pilot group who may be eligible to test new residential "smart" meters for the town.

- Gordon Turner gave a brief update from Group 4 (Contaminants) stating that they are communicating with the school to discuss salt usage and replacing the turf fields. They are also communicating with the fire dept to discuss using non-PFAS foam.
- Steve provided an update from Group 5 (Citizen Awareness) explaining that the online survey is being refreshed and that it would be beneficial to release it soon to tie in with the Task Force coverage in this week's Cricket and prior to the town meeting in Nov.
- Tom Kehoe provided an update from Group 6 (Authority) saying that they have been comparing water usage from neighboring towns with an eye to reduce using finished water for irrigation. He also mentioned the possibility of making the water bills more user friendly to include a comparison of water usage to neighbors and even previous bills. Group 6 will hold its next meeting in conjunction with Group 1 to focus on possible rate changes and other conservation steps.
- Mike Carvalho gave a quick update for Group 3 (Climate Change) saying that he had reached out to a state agency with questions and was waiting to hear back.
- Gordon Turner pulled up a map of all the private wells in MBTS (residential, commercial, and monitoring). There was discussion that the Board of Health is involved when a new private well is drilled but there is a gap in monitoring these wells by the state after they have been drilled.
- Chuck Dam highlighted that when the town decides to replace meters that billing should be addressed at that time as well since new technology would allow for app based real time billing.
- Steve asked that groups that have yet to add their tasks/milestones to the Task Force timeline please do so as soon as possible.
- A vote was taken to approve the amended work proposal from Scott Horsley and bring to Select Board for final approval. The vote to approve was unanimous.
- A unanimous vote was taken to approve the minutes from the Aug 24 meeting.
- The next meeting will be held on Oct 5 from 7:00-8:30 PM.
- The meeting was adjourned at 8:10 PM.