



TOWN COUNCIL Work Session

November 21, 2006
4:00 p.m.

At approximately 4:00p.m. in Town Council Chambers, Mayor Dora Sullivan called to order the Work Session of Town Council. In addition to Mayor Sullivan, present were Council members Harris, Burdiss, Bannon, and Evans. Councilman Elliott arrived at approximately 4:30. Also in attendance were William Johnson and Richard Chappell representing Sterns & Wheler, Town Manager Tim Krawczel, Town Clerk Joy Pelletier, several members of staff and approximately six members of the public.

Business

Water Plant - Immediate Optimization/Plant Renovation

William Johnson gave a brief orientation of what to expect from the session then introduced Richard Chappell.

Mr. Chappell began his presentation with a brief orientation of the water treatment process providing a flow chart for ease in following the dissertation. He reported the water treatment plant was designed to remove iron, manganese, and hardness from the water, none of which he stated were health related issues as much as aesthetic issues.

He offered the following recommendations and explained each:

- Replacement of filter media – media usually last 5-8 years, this plant has not replaced for 13 years. Not a catastrophic event, but certainly needs attention.
- Installation of calibration column – accurately determines how much chemical is used and helps determine results in adjustments. The process is currently being monitored manually and is not as accurate.
- Increase chlorine dosage ahead of the filters and, if necessary, post-chlorinate – protects public health.
- Decrease total raw water pumping rate; increase plant operations to about 12 hours per day – greater level of treatment allows better removal of iron and manganese.

- Inspect the softener media for dissolved iron/manganese fouling and replace media if necessary; keep the softener on-line – dissolved manganese is a problem.
- Evaluate the use of anionic polymers for improved iron filtration – used to make smaller particles into bigger particles allowing them to be captured by filter.
- Evaluate increasing the pH of the raw water for improved manganese removal – not presently at bad state, but need re-evaluation after media is replaced.
- Flush the distribution system quarterly for one year then re-evaluate the flushing frequency – will provide a frame of reference for how quickly the media would be lost.

The summation was that the treatment capacity was higher than the plant was built to handle, and putting all the above actions into place is only an intermediate step prior to building a new plant.

During the question and answer period Mayor Sullivan asked for feedback on whether spending the funds to put the recommendations in place would allow the plant to stay in operation for a short time or several years. The response was there were no clear cut formulas until the issue of the media was resolved.

Salt water intrusion was discussed. Mr. Chappell indicated studies suggest there may be a slight amount of intrusion which has been corrected by changes in requirements for the development of new wells. He indicated with the new requirements there would be no significant concerns.

Motion made by John Burdiss, seconded by Chris Bannon and unanimously approved to adjourn the Work Session of Town Council.

Mayor

Town Clerk