WLSD Planning Committee - Special Meeting

Monday, August 16, 2010 @ 3:00 p.m. @ Turri, Inc Offices, Torrington, CT Minutes

Attending: Members Ray Turri, Chip Roraback, Jim Mersfelder and Ken Green Guest: Paul Dombrowski of Woodard & Curran

- 1. The August 2 Planning Committee meeting minutes were reviewed and approved.
- 2. The Committee reviewed the W&C work over the past week which was principally the visit to the DEP by Paul Hogan. Paul Dombrowski reviewed this visit in an email to the Committee last week and the discussion tracked the email which included the following notes:
- 1. When Paul Hogan visited the records room, all files had been removed and were located and only made available at the desk of Ann Straut-Esden. Ann was at her desk during Paul's review of the files. The review of files included a cordial discussion with Ann. She indicated that recent interactions with WLSD has been very positive and productive. Ann thought that we were reviewing DEP files as preparation for our RFQ response and Paul Hogan did not correct her. During their discussions, Ann noted that DEP really wants the Facilities Plan Update completed by the end of the year. She also noted that she thought the connection to Torrington would end up being the best solution for WLSD.
- 2. Our review of the files and Ann's comments confirmed that DEP does not have complete files on WLSD wastewater correspondence. Neither the 1995 Ridge and Furrow Wastewater Disposal Facilities Report on Hydraulic Capacity Analysis nor the 2002 Wastewater Treatment Plant Upgrade and Modification of Non-Point Source Discharge System were in DEP's files. Paul Hogan collected a few additional documents and we will provide WLSD with a CD of all the documents we receive from either WLSD or DEP.
- 3. Paul Hogan met with Paul Stacey to guery him on a number of permitting topics. The topics discussed were generic in nature and although applicable to WLSD's situation, Paul Hogan did not directly mention WLSD in the discussion. The discussions with Paul Stacey confirmed Ann Straut-Esden's prior comment (during our meeting of July 16th) that Paul Stacey is likely to be flexible and progressive in working toward a solution. Discussions with Paul Stacey indicated that WLSD is likely to have multiple options to accomplish a groundwater discharge into a GA or GAA groundwater without providing a 21 day travel time to the Bantam River, provided that the update to the Water Quality Standards is enacted in their current form. The current Water Quality Standards do not allow a travel time of less than 21 days in a GA or GAA zone therefore, it is important for the new Water Quality Standards be finalized. Mr. Stacey confirmed that a groundwater discharge in this location without 21 days travel time would require a higher level of treatment and that permit limits for a new treatment system would be determined by DEP during a permit review process.

- 3. Paul Dombrowski also had a telephone conversation with Torrington WCPA. Torrington is not interested in any further meetings with WLSD and its consultants until we address the issues outlined in their letter to the DEP in 2005 (a summary of which is attached).
- 4. The next steps for W&C were discussed which principally are reviewing the documents of past consultants' work (W&C now has all the past documents and will scan them and put them on a disc for WLSD and return the originals). W&C will then be in a position to comment on past work and determine what further work needs to be done. This review will also position W&C to begin preparing the strategy for our DEP visit in late August/early September.
- 5. We discussed the scheduling of a community information meeting for October 2 which date was agreed by all present.
- 6. The committee discussed the note on the Town of New Hartford's new plant and its funding. The note is attached.
- 7. The Committee discussed the need to begin work on reviewing financing options for whatever alternative is selected. We agreed it was important to start the work ASAP and the Finance Committee and Planning Committee would share the work. It was agreed to meet on August 18 with Paul Dombrowski and John Daniels of W&C to discuss the various financing programs available. The committee discussed and agreed it would be worthwhile to write to federal, state and local politicians to solicit their support and help in pursuing financing.
- 8. The committee briefly discussed the Town of Harwinton's contract with Torrington and Ray Turri will scan and email the contract to all members and Paul Dombrowski.
- 9. The next meeting has not yet been scheduled.

Respectfully submitted Ken Green, Chairman August 20, 2010