



DRAFT Minutes

Water System Advisory Committee Meeting

July 30, 2014 @ 7 pm

Mansfield Town Hall, Town Council Chambers

MEMBERS PRESENT: Kathleen Pacholksi, Willington; Meg Reich, Willimantic River Alliance; Art Hall, Coventry; Robert Miller, Eastern CT Highlands Health District; Gene Koss, Tolland; Thomas Callahan, University of Connecticut; Michael Soares, Mansfield; John McGuire, Mansfield EDC; Mary Ellen Kowalewski, CRCOG.

ADDITIONAL PARTICIPANTS: Matt Hart, Mansfield Town Manager; Maureen Westbrook, Connecticut Water Company; and David Radka, Connecticut Water Company

1. Welcome and Introductions – The meeting was called to order at 7 pm by Maureen Westbrook of Connecticut Water Company. She thanked the members for their willingness to serve on this committee and indicated 10 members are currently appointed and interest expressed from the other 3 organizations. Matt Hart gave opening remarks, expressing that the WSAC was an important goal of the Mansfield Town Council as the agreement was developed and that he views it as having an important role going forward. Members were asked to provide a brief introduction, indicating the organization they represent. In addition, M. Hart asked the staff in the audience to identify themselves: Linda Painter, Mansfield Town Planner; Pete Pezanko, Connecticut Water Company; Jason Coite, University of Connecticut; and John Carrington, Mansfield Town Engineer.
2. Overview of Water Supply Project and Agreements – Maureen Westbrook and Dave Radka gave a brief presentation of the water supply project, how Connecticut Water was selected to serve the area, and key provisions of the Agreement with the Town of Mansfield, including the establishment of the WSAC and its role.

3. Updates on Related Activities in Member Communities/Organizations–

- a. Matt Hart gave an overview of the Town's proposed sanitary sewer project for the Four Corners area, which includes 61 properties in the district, at an estimated cost of \$9M. The project will address environmental concerns and support redevelopment in an area that is reflected in town plans for future development. Design work is being done by Weston and Sampson and the system would be connected to the University's wastewater treatment plant. The WPCA has scheduled a public hearing on the matter for August 21st and the Council would need to act by September 2nd in order to have a referendum scheduled for November 4th, concurrent with the elections.
- b. 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 in the fall and that new zoning regulations would follow after the adoption of the plan. The regulations will ensure the availability of water does not encourage development inconsistent with the Plan.
- c. Tom Callahan recapped the 2011 action of the General Assembly for funding of the utilities and first building in the Tech Park and the 2012 funding for Next Generation CT, which has the goal to increase enrollment and research at Storrs campus. A planning consultant has been engaged to develop a Master Plan for the full build out of Next Generation that will be subject to review and comment and studied through an Environmental Impact Evaluation (EIE).

Work is scheduled to begin on the extension of North Hillside Road to Route 44 and the construction of the Innovation Partnership Building is anticipated to start later this fall.

EIEs have or will be conducted for the Science and Engineering Building and for the New Residential Building for STEM residents.

UConn will be replacing the water transmission line and continues to look for opportunities to maximize use of the reclaimed water plant.

- d. Gene Koss noted activities of the Tolland Water Commission and the growth potential for the system with the Technology Zone designated along Rte 195 and the proposed 87 units of residential construction at Anthony Road. There was some discussion of the recent press coverage regarding the potential sale of the Tolland Water system, and what the process would be for a decision on that.
- e. Mary Ellen Kowalewski explained that CRCOG does not build infrastructure but does regional planning and studies for towns. She noted that with the recent realignment of the COG boundaries, the plans will need to be updated to include 8 new towns, including Mansfield. They are now involved in a Corridor Study to consider transportation in the broader regional planning.

4. Review of Water System Advisory Committee Memorandum of Agreement

- a. The committee members reviewed the components of the MOU regarding membership; their selection by their community or organization; two year terms, with no limit on the number of terms.

In addition they reviewed the MOU that indicates the advisory nature of the committee and their role to provide information regarding plans and regulations of local land use commissions, consistency with Plans of C&D, and future water supply needs that should be considered by CWC in their water supply planning. Further, the WSAC shall make recommendations on best management practices, including water conservation, and shall work with CWC in the implementation thereof. The WSAC shall review and advise regarding specific types of requests for water service in Mansfield as detailed in the MOU.

5. Meetings

- a. There was discussion of rules and procedures for conduct of meetings with agreement that:

- the number of members considered for purposes of establishing a quorum would be the number appointed at that time, not necessarily the full list of entities that would be invited to participate per the Agreement.
- notice of the meetings would be provided to the Town Clerks of each of the participating communities.
- minutes and information related to the WSAC would be posted on the website of CT Water Company, the Town of Mansfield and the Eastern Highland Health District (which serves all participating towns). Additionally, Mr. Hart and Ms. Westbrook will work to coordinate how links could be set for websites of other participants.

- b. It was agreed to defer the election of Chair and Vice Chair, particularly as the MOU stipulates that the chair shall be a representative from Mansfield and only 2 of their 4 representatives were in attendance.

- c. It was agreed that, consistent with the MOU, the meetings would be held quarterly.

6. Process for review of land use applications in Mansfield as detailed in the MOU and Agreement.

7. Future Meeting Schedule

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

October 1, 2014

January ~~2~~ 2015

April 1, 2015

July 1, 2015

7th

8. Public Comment – None

9. Adjourned at 8:30 pm