

MEETING MINUTES

Date: January 26, 2022 at 5:30 p.m.

Location: **East Hampton Town Hall**
One Community Drive
East Hampton, CT

Meeting Title: Water System Preliminary Design Project
Water Sub-Committee Meeting

Prepared By: Hanna Schenkel and Chuck Adelsberger, Environmental Partners

Attendants: David Cox, Town Manager, Town of East Hampton
Brandon Goff, Town Council Member, Town of East Hampton
Tim Feegel, Town Council Member, Town of East Hampton
Pete Brown, Town Council Member, Town of East Hampton
Scott Clayton, Public Utilities Administrator, Town of East Hampton
Chuck Adelsberger, Environmental Partners
Bill Murphy, Environmental Partners
Hanna Schenkel, Environmental Partners

The Town of East Hampton's (Town) Water Sub-Committee and Environmental Partners (EP) met at the above date and location to discuss the Town's Water Supply Evaluation project and specifically the proposed scope of work for the Preliminary Engineering Report (PER).

I. Introductions and Project History

- The meeting attendees introduced themselves and briefly went over roles for the project.
- As EP's Project Manager, Chuck Adelsberger presented the meeting agenda and briefly discuss the proposed approach for executing the project.

II. Potential Funding

- Chuck discussed several potential funding programs and stated that this is an optimal time for the Town to initiate this project.
- American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA)
 - a. Dave Brown indicated that the Town received \$3.7 million in ARPA funding.

- b. The Town Counsel Sub-Committee is currently deciding how the funding will be allocated.
 - c. Town Council has desire to use some of the available ARPA funds for capital investment in proposed water system improvement and development projects.
- Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act (IIJA) has been enacted and will provide significant funding for water infrastructure project over the next five years. The USEPA will funnel money got the IIJA program through the State Drinking Water State Revolving Fund (DWSRF) Programs.
- Drinking Water State Revolving Fund (DWSRF) Program
 - a. EPA – federal funding is going to trickle down from Infrastructure Bill to DWSRF
 - b. Town believes they should keep track of targeted money.
 - c. CTDPH and CTDEEP recently performed water quality sampling for households in East Hampton with private drinking water wells and found several houses that exceeded the 20 parts per trillion (ppt) limit on PFAS.
 - i. EP would like to obtain water quality data from Cobalt wellfield; however, the Town does not currently take water quality samples. For the next phase of the project, EP recommends obtaining water quality data from each potential groundwater supply site to avoid problems in the future with permitting and to determine required drinking water treatment processes.
 - ii. When evaluating the Cobalt wellfield site, the Town performed an extended duration pump test and took water quality samples during installation of the production well (well drilling and sampling performed by S.B. Church Company). Church may have used one of the Town's pumps while taking water quality samples, but the Town has not performed water quality testing since the well was installed. EP recommended that water quality samples be taken and assessed during the next phase of this project.

III. Connecticut Department of Public Health

- DWSRF Program Compliance-Chuck spoke about his recent discussions with Sara Ramsbottom at CTDPH and that EP has worked with representative on several Connecticut projects that are being funded through the DWSRF program.
- Professional Services Agreement Application Checklist-Sara Ramsbottom mentioned that there is a Grant Funding Agreement that must be executed by both the Town and CTDPH before the Town can receive the approved funding for this project. She will coordinate with the Legal Department at CTDPH and follow up with David Cox to facilitate the signing of the agreement. After the grant agreement is executed, EP will assist the Town with preparing and submitting the Professional Services Agreement Application Checklist so that CTDPH can approve the agreement between the Town and EP.

- CTDPH Drinking Water Contacts for East Hampton
 - a. Lori Mathieu, Environmental Health and Drinking Water, Branch Chief
 - b. Sara Ramsbottom, DWSRF Representative
 - c. Thomas Chyra, Water Quality and Capacity
 - d. Cindy Sek, Rule Implementation
 - e. Thomas Edson, Enforcement

IV. Scope of Work

Chuck reviewed the proposed scope of work for the project and emphasized EP's approach to preparing the PER and coordinating with CTDPH staff. The proposed scope of services are listed below.

- Task 1 – Collect Data, Review Documents and Attend Kickoff Meeting
 - a. Existing and potential water sources
 - b. Available information (including existing water system documents)
 - c. Documented history of the system
 - d. Future water supply needs
 - e. Projected administrative issues
 - f. Description of existing water system components
- Task 2 – Prepare Preliminary Engineering Report (PER)
 - a. Project Planning
 - b. Existing Facilities
 - i. EP will visit sites with Scott after receiving more information from the Town.
 - c. Need for Project
 - d. Alternatives Considered
 - i. Pine Brook is viable, but Bill believes there isn't enough water available for the entire town; however, there may be enough water for downtown area.
 - 1. Town believes that the "Red Barn" property is Town-owned and will confirm whether this is a potential site to be used for future water supply source.
 - ii. Chestnut Hill
 - iii. Loose Pond was studied before
 - iv. Will consider multiple alternatives, probably several at the same time
 - v. The Town is considering a multi-phase approach, or the possibility of redundant sources
 - vi. Ann Marie Petricca and Kevin Rathbun will complete the desktop evaluation for potential groundwater sources.
 - vii. Interconnections

1. Dave indicated that there was discussions today about IJA funding being used for regionalizing water systems and these project would be prioritized for funding.
 2. Portland wants to connect with East Hampton's system, if water supply is available.
 3. The Town suggested that CT Water and Aquarion are feasible options for potential interconnection sources.
 - a. Town already buys from CT Water
- e. Selected Alternative
 - f. Description of the Proposed Project
 - g. Final Report
 - i. Town wants to make sure that EP will be available for public meetings and for communication with the Town's special interest groups when the project moves forward and recommended improvements will be discussed. EP reassured the Town that the Project Team will be available as needed to assist with informing the public about the project and the merits of the recommended improvements.
- Task 3 – Attend Review Meetings with Town and CTDPH
 - a. Request for Information (RFI)
 - i. Recent water quality data of existing sources of water supply, including the Oakum Dock Road Wellfield
 1. Town has little to no water quality data, and does not have an ongoing sampling program for the potential water sources
 2. CTDPH provided \$300,000 in grant funding to the Town to investigate potential future water supply sources and extension of the existing water system. Dave indicated that only EP's contract for \$47,600 has been approved and the balance of the grant funding can be used for the next phase of the project (i.e., hydraulic modeling, test wells and water quality assessment, etc.)
 - a. Oakum Dock may have issues with private property rights.
 - b. The Town will research available easement drawings and descriptions of water system properties including the Cobalt wellfield. The Town will make all easement information available to EP.
 - c. While performing the evaluation and preparing the PER, EP will determine what water quality studies will be required during the next phase of the project.
 - ii. Documentation of the condition of existing facilities
 - iii. Recent water system demands

- iv. Financial status of existing water system facilities, including O&M costs, tabulation of users by category, etc.
 - v. Available GIS data for the existing water system
 - 1. Town has some GIS data and mapping, including Town-owned land and will provide this information to EP.
 - vi. EP will review and discuss the Town's preferences for non-monetary factors when developing a recommendation for the proposed systems in the PER.
- b. Project Schedule
- i. EP to finish PER by April
 - ii. EP will provide the proposed scope of services for the next phase of the project which will include water quality testing, hydraulic modeling, facility sizing, an updated schedule and planning level cost estimates for the selected alternative.

V. Action Items and Next Steps

- EP to prepare RFI Letter to Town
 - a. Town has paper plans and can scan most recent information
 - i. EP will follow up with the Town with an RFI for information about the existing system and then schedule site visit(s) with Scott to review existing facilities and potential sites for new water supplies.
 - ii. Scott Clayton indicated that the water system has changed since PER and previous reports and he will provide updated information.
 - 1. No more pneumatic tanks
 - b. EP will review the population and water demand projects documents in the Town's 2010 Water Supply Plan (WSP). The Town indicated that there has been some development in Town since 2010. EP will compare the population projects and anticipated community growth in the 2010 WSP and compare this information to actual population increases and growth to date.
- EP to communicate with CTDPH on DWSRF requirements and discuss development of PER for East Hampton.
- EP to schedule site visit(s) for reviewing existing water system facilities, taking photographs and evaluating potential supply alternatives with Scott
- EP to develop potential site alternatives.

VI. General Discussion/Questions

- Maguire's 2006 PER is a useful source of information and will be investigated
- Chuck to follow up with CTDPH and Dave on grant agreement.

- Population projections – Jeremy DeCarly
- Next meeting with sub-committee will be in about one month (late-February) and Wednesday nights work for all attendees.