

**TOWN OF WATERVILLE VALLEY  
BOARD OF SELECTMEN  
WORKSHOP MEETING MINUTES**

**DATE:** February 12, 2020

**MEMBERS PRESENT:** Mike Aronson, Chairman, Margaret Turner, Vice-Chair and Richard Rita.

**MEMBERS ABSENT:** None.

**OTHERS PRESENT:** Joe Ducharme, PE, BCEE (Regional Manager Hoyle Tanner & Associates), approximately 10 Community Members, Mark Decoteau, Jim Mayhew, Rob Burhoe and Sharon Charron.

**1. The meeting was called to order at 6:00p.m. by Chair Mike Aronson.**

**2. Presentation on the Drinking Water Improvements by Joe Ducharme**

Mark Decoteau introduces Jim Mayhew - WV Public Works Director, Rob Burhoe – WV Water Operator, and Joe Ducharme of Hoyle Tanner & Associates.

Joe Ducharme begins his presentation and provides an overview of the town's water system, well history, regulatory changes, recent improvements, project goals and the recommended project itself. Joe also reviews alternatives that were considered, the project budget and funding sources.

The recommended project involves the installation of 2 water mains across the Mad River: an 8" treated water main and a 6" raw water main. This would create a significant increase in the water system resiliency by conveying raw water from wells #2 & #3 to the Central Treatment Building and to the distribution system following the treatment process. Well #1 building, formerly used to treat raw water from well #3, would be decommissioned as part of rerouting the raw water from well #3 line. Joe reviews the conceptual project budget which totals \$1,000,000 as follows:

- Construction \$715,000
- Construction Contingency \$71,000
- Engineering Design / Permitting / Bidding \$124,000
- Engineering Construction Services \$90,000

Joe provided physical descriptions and photographs of the present water main for treated water that crosses the Mad River. The line is contained in a concrete encasement and at one time was below the riverbed and unseen. It is estimated that pipe was installed in 1972. Over time, the riverbed has eroded, and the concrete encasement has been exposed. In addition to the normal erosion one would expect in any river bed over time, Tropical Storm Irene and other high water events have increased the rate of erosion to the point where the concrete encasement is breaking down, the rebar is exposed and thus has become major concern at present time. This water main crossing over the Mad River is one the most important parts of the Town's water system as it brings all treated water from the west side of the river to the east side for distribution to about 95% of the town. It was noted that all three of the Town's current water wells are also on the

west side, along with the new treatment building. When the Town's water wells were established, many sites were tested for suitability and a large number (hundreds) of test wells drilled with little or no success. Hence, the current wells are very important sources and the likelihood of finding other suitable well locations is not seen as an option. The Town has 2 wells on Town property (well #2 & well #3) and another in the National Forest (well #4). Well #1, the Town's original well, was taken offline many years ago as it was a very low producing well. Additionally, over time it had started to produce water with higher levels of iron and manganese, which were removed during treatment. Once wells #2 and #3 were operating, well #1 wasn't used except for emergencies. Well #4 is the newest well, and once operational, well #1 was decommissioned and removed from the system.

The public present questions and all are answered to their satisfaction. Those questions included, but are not limited, to the timeline of the project, estimated costs, permitting, alternative solutions & costs thereof, the water treatment process, water testing requirements/results, previous e-coli hits and resulting mediation of well #3, and whether or not the project could be split up and the effects of such on funding and/or grants qualifications.

The Board thanks the public for their questions and Joe Ducharme for his presentation.

### **3. Adjourn**

Margaret Turner motions to adjourn the meeting at 4:42pm.

Rich Rita: 2nds.

Motion was carried by a unanimous voice vote.

Respectfully Submitted,

Sharon Charron

Town Clerk/Town Office Assistant