

RANDOLPH/HOLBROOK JOINT WATER BOARD
MINUTES 3/24/2022

Via Zoom: Chris Pellitteri, Superintendent, Randolph, Greg Hanley, Town Administrator, Holbrook, Brian Howard, Town Administrator, Randolph, Jesse Gordon, Attorney, Randolph, Bill Alexopoulos, Board Member, Randolph, William Watkins, Selectman, Holbrook, Paul Hennessy, Treatment Plant Manager, Helen Gordon, Environmental Partners, Adam Kran, Environmental Partners, Abbey Myers, Health Agent, Board of Health, Holbrook, Katie Goldrick, Board of Health, Holbrook, Fran Cassou, Cyclopure, Bruce Parks, Patty Conway, Alison Bowden, Patrick Duggan

Opened Meeting @ 2:00 p.m.

Chris Pellitteri:

Start with PFAS mitigation. Councilor Gordon from Randolph has a resolution he is looking to present to Randolph Town Council. He will give us a brief overview of what that is and then open up to Selectmen Watkins to speak, then open up to Environmental Partners to see if there is some technology out there that we have not thought of yet?

Jesse Gordon:

Basic idea of resolution is we would like to do something in the existing water plant, to replicate as much as possible what was done in the Braintree Plant. I understand too risky to do in the fragile older current plant. Based on my tour, one idea, you can replace top half of the filtering. Introducing a resolution on PFAS testing. GAC could reduce the numbers below 20 so they would not have to send out notices ever again. Idea of testing is to find the source so we can get the number down to potentially zero.

William Watkins:

Full support of my colleague's resolution. Something that I would be looking to doing in Holbrook. Would like to bring forth a solid solution. Now that we know about PFAS, we should be doing everything possible now to prevent any more destruction to people's lives.

Chris Pellitteri:

Idea to put out an open-ended RFP to investigate what is out there. Brian Howard has some ideas he would like to share with us.

Brian Howard:

Having had conversation with Cyclopure, Council Gordon has an idea that he is bringing forward as far as the potential ability to do filters. An open-ended RFP. How quickly can an adjustment be made, cost factors? In the spirit of all the different ideas that we have been hearing, let's put it out there and see what comes back. Minimal costs to developing RFP, when get information in, opportunity to analyze it.

Adam Kran:

Put together a draft for us to look at and then vote on finished copy of that.

Greg Hanley:

Thank all of our public servants who are as concerned as we are and I appreciate the fact that we are moving forward in this direction. Ask that when we do have RFP include those folks that requested it so they can review it.

Plant Updates: Paul Hennessy

- Fuel tank has arrived, to replace outside tank. Mechanic is going to pipe in and get it going for us, moving along.
- Backwash pump seems to have all been solved. Increased the size of the vacuum line.
- Other pump, finish water pump 4, we decided we should try that pump one more time. We want to try it late at night in case it does stir. See how it goes and if there is an issue, we will address it.
- Roof repairs, every time windy storm, more shingles blow off. Nagging issues down here.

Chris Pellitteri:

- As far as roof, touch base with contractor that we used most recently. Not necessary to go for a whole roof replacement.

Greg Hanley:

- Received a number of complaints about the taste of chlorine.

Paul Hennessy:

- I checked that out and all was normal. There was some flushing going on near the Randolph border. I do not have a good technical explanation. No complaints from Randolph.

Cyclopure: Presentation for Filter Media Pilot Study at Treatment Plant**Frank Cassou Founder and CEO - Slide Presentation**

- New Technology for PFAS – DESORB – derived from corn.
- Renewable material, 6-year-old company for use in the treatment of drinking water.
- Key leadership, Frank Cassou, Dr. Irwin Jacobs and Dr Gerhard Schmid.
- Has some experience with Tri-Town activities AECOM
- Different from activated carbon, which you need lots of it to do the job
- Rapid kinetics, high capacity, easy regeneration, resistance to fouling
- Flexible technology, adaptable
- Introducing “Brita” filter beginning of April
- Point of entry system introducing in the Fall
- Certified by NSF for drinking water applications
- Projects in multiple locations across the states
- Starting a project awarded with AECOM in California treating drinking water

Questions:

Chris Pellitteri: What happens to PFAS that was captured?

- Able to wash it out, media is fully charged, able to do it ten times
- Take PFAS put into jar, process fully destroys the PFA
- Costs benefits, huge environmental benefits

Cyclopure: Bringing pilot system to Jt. Water Treatment Plant

- No cost to community
- Demonstrates ease of installation, operation, longevity
- Be in a position to move to a larger full-scale process
- Two alternatives, full filtration system, ready by Fall 2023
- We could do another configuration, membrane, long term it is inefficient

William Watkins:

- If Cyclopure is willing to do this for free, what would be the hold up, why would we allow something like this not to take place now.

Adam Kram:

- Any new technology, go through an approval process, application before set up and afterwards.
- Number of permitting steps just to get it approved.
- Meeting with MASSDEP

Chris Pellitteri:

- Set up time to speak with DEP, allow them to understand what has been presented here.
- Treatment plant processes approximately 2.5 million gallons of water per day

Cyclopure:

- Pilot program can filter 1 gallon per minute,
- Side stream demonstration first, then could move to large scale implementation.

Greg Hanley

- Running tests on 3 lines, would you be doing that here, then at what point would you go to full configuration after testing is done?

Cyclopure:

- Our proposal would be to bring in a DESORB system at no cost
- We are highly confident that where you are with your contaminant system, are at an ideal situation with this treatment system.

Helen Gordon:

- Because it is a public water supply, there will be a submission to the State for approval, permitting process under Mass regulations.

Brian Howard:

- As far as Newburyport, pilot programs even need to have an RFP, has Newburyport done that, anything we can do to expedite.
- If an RFP is required, there could be other firms that may be interested in doing a pilot, if it is not required, great.

Cyclopure:

- Newburyport, environmental firm is AECOM, RFP did not come up
- Will circle back with AECOM, talk with Helen and Adam to coordinate everything

Brian Howard:

- Way to partner or find out about Newburyport,
- Work out technicalities

William Watkins:

- Can't we agree today to move forward with pilot program, Environmental Partners can sit down with Cyclopure to start process to get in place

Chris Pellitteri:

- Appropriate course, find out those answers, direct conversation with Environmental Partners, DEP, find out exactly what it is we are asking to do, then move forward from there.
- Based on answers, then move forward from there with the information that we get.
- Right way to move forward instead of jumping right in without knowing all the answers.

Greg Hanley:

- Can we start this now if it is already in a DEP tract anyway? If it is being offered for free to us.
- What happens when you hook up equipment, then we incur issues?
- If this does not impact capital needs downstream, some sort of liability insurance on the test site.

Chris Pellitteri:

- Once you get eyes on the site, you will understand our concern.
- At the point where we want to take what we talked about here, go find out the answers and start working out logistics in the meantime reach out to DEP and see what challenges we have with them

Brian Howard:

- Can schedule a meeting within 48 hours, move things along in a timely manner.

Katie Goldrick:

- Would like to move the process forward, we can work out the logistics.

Chris Pellitteri:

- Not ready to take a formal vote, this was a presentation by Cyclopure about their technology
- Will get those answers over the next couple of weeks and have another meeting to discuss

Cyclopure:

- Will make slides available to everyone.

Chris Pellitteri:

- If we get the pilot process started should not be an issue

Greg Hanley:

- Well done presentation, thank all the members

Motion to Adjourn @ 3:20 p.m.