



**CITY OF DOVER**

## DOVER UTILITIES COMMISSION ~ MINUTES

Meeting Type: Special Meeting  
Meeting Location: Conference Room – 271 Mast Road, Dover, NH 03820  
Meeting Date: **Monday, March 30, 2009**  
Meeting Time: **6:00 PM**

**Members Present:** Chairman Gary Green, Vice-Chair Michael Earley, Otis Perry, Jay Stephens, Mark Moeller, Ed Spuler, Alternate Ted Mortner

**Members Absent:** Marty Coyle

**Staff Present:** Doug Steele, Community Services Director, Bill Boulanger, Utility Systems Supervisor, Shari Bullen, DUC Secretary, Allan Krans, City Attorney

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### 1. ROLL CALL

The meeting was called to order at 6:00 PM.

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### 2. EARTHTEC PRESENTATION OF NORTH END WATER PRESSURE STUDY

Green introduced Paul Cote, P.E. and Kristen Berger to present the North End Water Pressure Study to the Dover Utilities Commission. It was Green's intent to review the study since all members are new except one since the report was initially presented. He also wanted to review the Great Lakes, Upper Mississippi River Board and discuss water needs and end with a question and answer session. Cote began by indicating the presentation was to be based on an October 2006 report prepared by EarthTech for the City of Dover. The company is now called AECOM but the staff remains the same. A PowerPoint presentation was launched.

A schematic of the current system showed the tank at a 300' elevation. This gravity feed system provides low water pressure to the north end. A recommended psi would be 60-80psi. With the storage tank at 300', this gives a diverse range of pressure with some low and others very high. Field testing details were discussed. It was determined that Old Rochester Road was the most problematic in the area where there is also commercial use. Results were over 35psi, as recommended by the State, but not excessively low. Pressure dropped to 31.5 under extreme conditions which is still within the minimum. There was a different pressure between the houses and hydrants tested. There were more fluctuations of pressure at the house. A graph of the pressure shows where it dips below recommended but the average is still above the minimum.

The study maps out existing areas of low water pressure due to elevation. The highest elevation we can currently service is 220 ft. and the areas of higher elevation are also shown on the map. The report found that the City could stagger water use and adjust the tank's minimum level. These changes have been put into place and have helped to the extent they could but, as the report stated, in order to dramatically increase pressure the City would have to make a significant investment.

A Booster Pumping Station for the north end was not recommended without a dedicated water storage tank. The recommended tank would need to be 50' over the elevation of the current tank. The highest elevation to be served by the proposal would be increase to 265'. There are approximately 5 locations over the 265' which would not be serviceable. These users already have private wells but would be eligible to convert.

Green noted that Rick Skarinka at the DES said booster pumps cannot be used by individual service locations.

Other options were investigated but there was a long list of issues associated with each including water quality, loss of control of the system and political impacts.

Planning cost estimates were discussed although the numbers were from 2006. It was determined that the best method of reducing overall costs would be to establish the tank at a higher elevation. The higher the elevation, the less the tank would cost to manufacture. The '06 numbers allowed \$3.2 million for the tank.

Green asked for the total number of homes in the outlined area who would be impacted by these improvements. Boulanger indicated there are customers boosting, like Liberty Mutual. Both residential and commercial customers are affected by this improvement. Strafford Farms says they spend so much money on fire pumps and insurance that they are very much in favor of this project moving forward. There are many customers requesting this improvement.

Project costs have gone up approximately 10% since this report was developed.

Green said this item should be added to next month's agenda for further discussion.

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**3. DISCUSSION OF WATER AND SEWER INVESTMENT FEES**

Green indicated there had been a change in plans. With Attorney Krans present, he felt it was best to adjourn and move into an executive session.

**Motion:** Perry made the motion to adjourn.  
**Second:** Moeller seconded the motion.  
**Vote:** U/A.

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**4. DISCUSSION OF WATER AND SEWER INVESTMENT FEES**

Respectfully submitted, *Shari Bullen*, Dover Utilities Commission

Document Created by: Shari Bullen	2009.03.30 DUC MINUTES.doc
Document Created on: April 3, 2009	2 Pages