



CITY OF DOVER

CITY COUNCIL - MINUTES

Meeting Type: Workshop Session
Meeting Location: Council Chambers, City Hall
Meeting Date: **Wednesday, April 7, 2010**
Meeting Time: **To Follow Special Meeting**

1. CALL TO ORDER

2. MOMENT OF SILENCE

Moment of Silence was held during the Special Meeting.

3. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Pledge of Allegiance was held during the Special Meeting.

4. ROLL CALL ATTENDANCE

Present: Mayor Myers, Deputy Mayor Trefethen, Councilor Carrier, Councilor Cheney, Councilor Cruikshank, Councilor Garrison, Councilor Hooper, Councilor Nedelka, Councilor Weston.

Also present: City Manager Joyal, City Attorney Krans, and City Clerk Lavertu.

5. OVERVIEW OF WILLAND POND

City Manager Joyal said this presentation was to give an overview of the activities at Willand Pond for the past few years, make the Council aware of an additional grant that the City has just received, and inform the Council on well explorations and water studies that have been performed.

Planning Director Chris Parker gave a Powerpoint presentation on the background, history, and future plans for Willand Pond.

Environmental Manager Dean Peschel spoke about the well portion of the project, which is one of the possible solutions that the City is looking at to solve the flooding issue at Willand Pond. Mr. James Emery, of Emery & Garrett Groundwater, Inc., gave a presentation about the project findings in their studies of the Willand Pond, and discussed the next steps they will be making.

Mayor Myers asked for a motion to suspend the rules to have a Citizen's Forum at this point of the meeting on the subject of Willand Pond, and to allow for questions and answers.

Councilor Cruikshank moved to suspend the rules to allow the Citizen's Forum be held at this point of the meeting on the subject of Willand Pond; seconded by Councilor Carrier.

Roll Call Vote: 9/0.

Citizen's Forum – Willand Pond

Harvey Turner, 4 Auburn Street: He said he agreed with two things he has learned from the presentation: the pond is at 193' and needs to be lowered to 189', and it seems that pumping will work. He referred to the S.W. Cole Report, and discussed the three solutions that were mentioned in it. He said this was caused by Somersworth and Dover should not be paying to fix this problem.



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Jean Hausman, 14 Strafford Road: She said she read the report and felt it was the answer to her problem. She said she felt the pond really needed to be at 186'. She volunteered her property to be used as part of the study during the pumping trial.

Cherie Bartlett, 14 Apache Street: She spoke about fixing her water problems for \$45,000. She is concerned about her elderly neighbors, who can't afford to fix their water problems. She referred to the Willand Pond Ad-Hoc Committee and the resolution that will be coming before the Council regarding the makeup of the committee. She spoke about meetings of the Friends of Willand Pond Committee and their efforts to revive recreational activities at Willand Pond.

Daniel Sedory, 12 Strafford Road: He said he was one of the lucky ones until this last storm. He said he will be spending \$800 on a sump pump. He discussed the University of New Hampshire report about wet springs and drought conditions in the summer. He recommended that they use the wells in a two-fold solution; to draw down the water in the spring, and use later during the summer.

John Scruton, 99 Sixth Street: He said the retention pond at Home Depot needs to be remedied, because it was the best bet for the solution. He said sooner or later, for some unknown reason, the pumps will stop pumping. He said everywhere else in New Hampshire they have the capability of lowering the water level in the lakes, and the City should have this capability for this pond.

Robert Wilson, 16 Shawnee Lane: He said he moved into his split-level house 13 years ago, and in the last five years his house has flooded three times. He said he knew that some would like Somersworth to address this problem, but he was glad that the Council was addressing it too.

Robert Fisher, 23 Hillcrest Drive: He said he remembered that Willand Pond used to be a reservoir, and was happy to see recreational activities happening there. He said he felt Somersworth was stalling on this issue. He said he wasn't negative about the pumps. He corrected Mr. Scruton's comments that only the lakes controlled by dams have the water levels that are regulated. He said he felt it would be very easy to create a dam around Willand Pond. He said it wasn't rocket science, but he felt Dover should tell Somersworth once and for all to solve this basic problem.

Marcia Sinclair, 29 Shawnee Lane: She asked how far from the well the affects will be felt. She said she has a well and lives in the Indian Village area.

Mayor Myers, seeing no one else wishing to speak, closed the Citizen's Forum. Mayor Myers asked Mr. Emery to answer some of the questions asked during Citizen's Forum. Mr. Emery answered questions about the draining issues. He said fixing the retention pond will help. He said the well is in the City of Dover according to the tax maps. He said creating a dam would not be an easy process. He said they aren't positive about how far the affects will be felt. Mayor Myers asked the City Manager about the costs going forward.



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City Manager Joyal said the City budget includes looking for new water sources, and this property is actually being looked at as a potential well site.

Mayor Myers called for a two-minute recess to allow the room to clear.

6. OVERVIEW OF DREDGE CELL PROJECT

Mr. Peschel gave a PowerPoint presentation on the Dredge Cell Project to the Council. Councilor Garrison referred to the snow dumping at the dredge cell, and asked where the water drained.

Mr. Peschel said it drains into the sewer system. He said it had a valve that can be shut off when heavy rains occur. He said they do monitor it on a monthly basis.

Deputy Mayor Trefethen discussed the 20% City share of the costs, and asked if the City has already accounted for this.

Mr. Peschel said the money is there.

Councilor Weston said it sounds like the dredge cell will not be filled to capacity once the dredging is complete, and asked if the City has been approached by anyone else to dispose of product into the dredge cell, which would help defer the costs.

Mr. Peschel said he doesn't see any at this point, but they have let it be known.

City Manager Joyal said the City may use it for snow removal, because of the drainage system. He said they used some raw fill from the Waterfront area to stabilize the dredge cell, and when the Waterfront development starts they will be looking into getting the construction fill.

7. PEDESTRIAN BRIDGE RELOCATION OPTIONS

Community Services Director Doug Steele said Mr. Dana Lynch, who served on the subcommittee for the Cochecho Waterfront Development Advisory Committee, Pedestrian Bridge Relocation, was present to answer questions. Director Steele then discussed the four Pedestrian Bridge Relocation options: 1. Upper Basin crossing; 2. Washington Street crossing; 3. Young Street crossing; and 4. Cochecho Cove. He said the sub-committee decided on the Washington Street location, with an estimate of \$250,000 to move the bridge, but there was no funding. He said with the construction of the vehicular bridge this summer, part of the contract is to lift the pedestrian bridge and place it within 500 feet of its existing location. He said they approached the contractor to ask for a price to move it to the Cochecho Cove location, and the estimate was \$165,000, \$60,000 of which is already in the contract.

City Manager Joyal said there were no funds to move the bridge, and he has no recommendations for the Council. He said if they lift the bridge and place it on the concrete abutments on the ground, the City will probably be required to pay a portion of the grant back. He said his recommendation was that they sell or donate the bridge to another community.

Mr. Lynch gave some background on the considerations taken by the committee.

Deputy Mayor Trefethen said he loved the bridge, and it had served its purpose, but it may be time to just make it go away.

Councilor Carrier started a discussion about the timber having resale value.

City Manager Joyal said if it is the consent of the Council, he will put the word out that it's for sale.



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Mr. Lynch asked for additional time so that the sub-committee could give their final recommendation.

City Manager Joyal agreed.

8. CITIZEN'S FORUM

Citizens are invited to speak on the subject matter of the Workshop. Statements shall be limited to five minutes.

H. Jerry Lynch, 26B Lincoln Street: He referred to the car that drove onto the dredge cell and started a fire, and asked about whether the dredge cell has been repaired. He asked how much the City has received for out-of-town waste being put into the dredge cell. He asked how the City benefits from dredging the river. Was it to get larger boats in? He said he has been looking for answers on a number of things. He would like to see the environmental reports. He said he felt the City was wasting a lot of money. He said the City should give the bridge away.

9. ADJOURNMENT

Deputy Mayor Trefethen moved to adjourn; seconded by Councilor Weston.

Vote: 9/0.

Powerpoint Presentations have been archived with the Minutes.