

Municipal Council Workshop
Water Treatment Plant Improvements
October 5, 2006 8:00PM
Town Hall Auditorium

Brian Gilbert, Director DPW

I have provided each member of the Council and Finance Committee w/a Water Treatment Assessment study that concluded earlier this year and a report finalized over the summer...

The assessment was initiated in light of new Federal Regulations that will significantly affect Amesbury's compliance with its Water Management Act permit...but also to assess capacity for future growth and plant equipment needs given the plant is at the end of its designed service life.

It is the information found in the report that serves as a basis for our request, but more importantly, in a broader context, the need for the Town to continue a process which seeks to upgrade its water treatment plant and to do so on its own terms because we will not be able to meet the criteria of the new regulations.

I have provided each of you an outline of the project schedule which can be broken down to three remaining phases:

Pilot testing – this phase will test new treatment systems to provide the Department of Environmental Protection with data, metrics and assurance that the system chosen will work given Amesbury's water sources prior to permitting the modifications

Design – once the new treatment system is permitted and funding can be secured, the plant and project's design can be conducted to include bid documents

Construction – the last phase which we anticipate, given the schedule provided will be completed with the new system online by 2011; I'd like to make clear for those who were unable to tour the plant earlier this week... this is not a rebuild of the existing building... it's a modification or retrofit to the existing filtration process... much of the building and treatment process will stay as it is today...

The request before you is for the first phase... implementation of the Pilot testing for the new filtration system, permitting through DEP and repairs necessary for the plant to operate without risk until the modifications can be completed. These have been outlined for you in the packet and there are 5 items

- ◆ The bulk of the cost 360,000 is for the treatment process Pilot; where two processes will be tested under operational conditions for two seasons a cold and warm weather condition;
- ◆ Prior to setting up the pilot it must be permitted through DEP; and have asked for funding for that application process
- ◆ The third permitting issue is modifying our Water Management Act withdrawal permit so that plant capacity will meet future development; this is a separate issue from the treatment process, but necessary before and critical to the design phase of the project
- ◆ A second issue that must be addressed prior to design is how the plant operations will manage the residual waste from the filtration process; a lagoon study has been requested to understand if a second pair of lagoons can be engineered and sited on the property and to quantify operational cost savings with their construction.
- ◆ The last item is the replacement of the failed aerators these devices allow for the vaporization and precipitation of compounds within the raw water, since the aerators are to remain as part of the filtration process we are requesting to replace these now

Mr. Don Chelton from Metcalf and Eddy gave a power point presentation (brochure on file at the clerk's office). Don Chelton answered questions from councilors and the audience.