

Village of Thurston  
Council Meeting Minutes  
February 13, 2012

\*\*\*\*\* SPECIAL MEETING \*\*\*\*\*

Meeting called to order at 10:00 am by Mayor Mary Boring. Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

Roll call: Robert Ortman – present  
JoAnn Hite – present  
Rita Leiendecker - present  
Jimmy Barber, Jr. – present  
Garry Boring – present  
Lowell Hite – present  
Mary Boring – present  
Aaron Reedy – absent

Mary said the purpose of this meeting was to discuss the Village installing our own water system with the EPA.

Jose Quinones, Susan Schell, and Bridgette Marchio with Ohio EPA, Division of Drinking & Ground Water were present. Michael Carder and Barbara Anderson from GGC Engineers were also present.

Michael Carder and Mayor Boring brought the folks from Ohio EPA up-to-date on the water sourcing issues Thurston has been having over the last few years.

Jose said we would have to submit applications for proposed well sites. EPA would then come out and check it out. Bridgette asked if we'd looked at any funding sources. Barbara discussed a couple with her, but nothing specific.

Jimmy asked if EPA had any restrictions for where the plant should be. Jose said there has to be 300 feet isolation, can have no sources of contamination in the area, has to be owned and maintained by the Village. Village has to have all easements. Jimmy was concerned with any farming around the possible plant. Jose said EPA would take that all into consideration when testing. EPA would want village to have a plan to protect the property, and possibly increase monitoring the area. We could try to work out something with the farmers to not apply certain pesticides in that area.

We have to put in a minimum of 2 wells, not right next to each other. After we pick a potential site, EPA will have several tests to run. We'll have to find out what sort of treatment we'll have to apply, and figure out how to deal with the waste of the plant. We need to test drill the potential locations where we'd like to install the wells. The engineers discussed the timing of the well drilling for funding applications. They discussed that there was plenty of capacity for waste water through Walnut Creek Sewer District.

Barbara said we need to gather all the documentation we can to justify the Village installing its own system, including documentation from Baltimore, Pleasantville, and any minutes that discuss issues of the Agricultural Security Area. This is needed for the funding.

Going into the "treatment business" brings us to an increased level of monitoring and reporting. Currently have a Class I Distribution System Operator requirements. Council needs to understand that there will be more requirements. Current operator is contracted from Pleasantville, and we've already discussed with him increased responsibility. He doesn't have a problem with that.

Jose went over some reports and tests that have to be done. We'll have to have backflow prevention program in place. Michael said some of the testing is costly. He said there is a lot of gathering of test results and documentation.

Lowell asked if anyone looked into operation costs based on our Village size. Barbara said not yet. She said the Village should approach other Villages to get that information.

Plant will have to have facilities for daily testing, and restrooms. Sewer line will have to be outside the well areas. Jimmy asked how big a lot we need to plan to buy. Barbara said the land is all about how it's laid out. She said about 3 acres would be good. Should plan to have a plan for an additional well in the future – plan for growth.

Jimmy asked if there was a map we could look at for potential property that would show ground water. Barbara said ODNR will have maps.

Mary asked if we'd still be using the pump house. Barbara said they would have to take a look at that once we find out where the plant will be. They will have to determine the size of the pumps. Mary brought up the fact that Baltimore didn't install a flushing hydrant at the dead-end they created. Baltimore had put it in their plans to the EPA, but that was never installed. The reps from the EPA said they would look into that.

Water pressure throughout the system was discussed. They will look at options for increasing pressure to any are that seems to be low. It would add a lot of expense to add a new water tower to the project. Rates and affordability all play into the funding process, too.

Barbara said it's conceivable that we can have a plant online by March of 2014. We're looking at a 10-month construction period. We don't have a lot of time to mess around. We need to begin making decisions very quickly.

Lowell said Baltimore has their 208 plan on the east side of Route 37. EPA said 208 area is for waste water. Council said they know Baltimore wants to run their water line out Rt. 256 to feed the Rt. 256/Rt. 37 area. Lowell said its possible Baltimore will run sewer lines out in that area and require customers to get on Baltimore water if they get on Baltimore's sewer.

Funding possibilities, requirements, suggestions and deadlines were discussed.

Overall, the EPA does not have any problem seeing Thurston move ahead with its own water system.

Rita made a motion to adjourn at 11:35 am. Garry seconded. Roll call vote: all YES. Motion carried.

Respectfully prepared by,

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Aaron Reedy