WAYLAND WELLHEAD PROTECTION COMMITTEE

MEETING MINUTES (#69, by L. Segal)

July 15, 2010

Attendance: Sherre Greenbaum, Jennifer Riley, Tom Sciacca, Linda Segal, Kurt Tramposch, Water Superintendent Don Millette (until 10:20 a.m.)
Location: School Committee Meeting Rm, Wayland Town Building, 41 Cochituate Rd., Wayland, MA
Meeting convened at 9:05 a.m.

Webpage: WPC discussed sudden deletion of our webpage, without notice. L. Segal distributed hard copy of WPC's pre-July 13 webpage & draft outline of additional content from June 24 WPC meeting. Given WPC's mission/charge and VTH June 21 presentation to Selectmen, removing WPC page contradicted reasons for new website. T. Sciacca said WPC needs visibility and flexibility for our main public education role. Since DPW Director Don Ouellette is absent today, consensus to see John Senchyshyn about this before adjourning.

Update from Water Superintendent: D. Millette reported on watering ban and status of storage tanks. First stage June 1 water restrictions did not work. By July 4th weekend, water level in 14 ft. town tank was down to 6 feet, hence emergency prompted July 6 watering ban. T. Sciacca said WPC was not informed of June 1 restrictions & could have helped get the word out. L. Segal asked since BOPW did not vote on the July 6 action, even after the fact (met July 12 and July 13), how can the Town enforce its order? K. Tramposch reported some towns are requiring irrigation systems to be on private wells to lessen drawdown. D. Millette approves irrigation systems up to 5K sq. ft.; larger ones need BOPW approval. Demand for water almost doubles in summer (up to 2.1 million gallons/day; approved limit is 1.77 million g/day). Wayland's permit expires in 2011. D. Millette agreed more public education is needed about the "why," DEP withdrawal permit limits, etc. WPC discussed content for a Crier Letter to the Editor, with input offered by D. Millette. T. Sciacca motioned to approve submitting Crier letter as discussed, to be finalized by WPC chairman. K. Tramposch second. Voted 5-0.

D. Millette informed WPC about reverse 911 availability via police dept., DeNatale HH phase II groundwater data should be in shortly, DEP sanitary survey (inspection of backflow devices not completed yet), DEP wants to see more fencing of storage tanks & wellheads. Discussed DEP funding to protect zone I. Baldwin has conservation trail running through it. Consensus to ask Brendan in GIS for zone I maps for all wellheads to evaluate existing land uses that potentially threaten water supply per SWAP report. Could suggest trail relocation. D. Millette explained DEP rationale for needing HH treatment plant. Limits on manganese and groundwater rules getting stricter. Consensus that T. Sciacca will ask L. Anderson about high school project excavated soils being moved into sand pit area (zone I).

Discussed status of draft Wellhead Protection Plan. Unanimous consensus that plan needs to be independent. DPW Director to schedule meeting with D. Millette and Bruce Young, MRWA consultant, whom WPC already met with re finishing our draft free of charge. WPC will attend BOPW meeting on August 9 to discuss going forward with plan document. K. Tramposch reminded us that WPP needs to be in place for DEP water permit renewal in 2011. Discussed 2009 water confidence report recently mailed to all households. T. Sciacca noted several contaminant levels (nitrates) increasing, some up to the allowable limits, with chloride at HH

increasing from 40 to 120. D. Millette will copy WPC chair on the 2009 Annual Statistical Report submitted electronically to DEP. Per capita water consumption down to 70 gallons/day/person. DEP goal is 65. 2009 was a rainy growing season. D. Millette looking at new meters with no moving parts, so water flow info would be fully captured. K. Tramposch asked about Tenneco line near water pipes.

Nyanza: T. Sciacca led discussion about EPA's report and suggested sand cap proposal out for public comment until August 26. Consensus that it is not a good solution, reduces impact of mercury marginally, will not help Wayland downstream. Better use of $8 million could be to buy contaminated fish from those who fish to buy cleaner fish in a store. K. Tramposch asked about impact to Wayland wells (HH & Chamberlain) so close to river (GZA study). Not clear if Wayland tests for mercury. Did flooding deposit mercury on gardens near river? Consensus that WPC members attending July 19 EPA hearing would comment as private citizens.

Miscellaneous: K. Tramposch opined latest water quality report underscores need for salt study. Consensus that T. Sciacca will seek salt data from D. Millette. Baldwin does not have reverse osmosis to remove salt. All members completed OML certificate to submit to Town Clerk. Members reminded to complete online ethics training with certificate to Town Clerk. J. Riley reported on status of bill payment for Riverfest. T. Sciacca will check on WPC payment of second bill for the Mellen Green landscaper. H. Lewis' hours in the DPW office are reduced as she transitions to retirement (MW mornings, TTH full day, no Fridays).

Meeting Minutes Approval: S. Greenbaum motion, J. Riley second, minutes for June 24, 2010 meeting were approved, voted 5-0.

Next Meeting: Monday, August 2, 2010 at 9 a.m.

Discussion with John Senchyshyn: WPC recessed at 11:15 a.m. to continue WPC meeting with Assistant Town Administrator, if available, to learn why WPC webpage was deleted 2 days earlier from town website. WPC invited into conference room. S. Greenbaum provided introduction about the problem, WPC mission, not a subcommittee; provided copy of webpage, draft website content & WPP. T. Sciacca underscored that multi-step burdensome process would interfere with WPC's public education role; WPC needs to be able to post. K. Tramposch explained WPC role ensuring town's regulatory compliance with DEP and EPA requirements with D. Millette as interface; WPCs function all over USA to protect water supplies. J. Senchyshyn explained his view of WPC history, his June 23 email to S. Greenbaum, he had deleted WPC webpage, with instructions to DPW Director to have the BOPW deal with this. WPC never heard from either; communication problem on DPW end. L. Segal explained chronology of WPC's seamless function under water superintendent's oversight without issues since 2007, that chairman met a year ago with the DPW Director with draft Wellhead Protection Plan, WPC submits meeting minutes routinely with H. Lewis, etc. J. Senchyshyn offered to set up meeting with S. Greenbaum and DPW Director.

Wrap-up: WPC reviewed meeting with J. Senchyshyn and developed talking points. Consensus that S. Greenbaum will prepare Memo for upcoming meeting.

S. Greenbaum moved to adjourn, J. Riley seconded, voted approved 5-0.

Meeting adjourned at 11:40 a.m.

(minutes voted approved August 2, 2010)