



**CITY OF FRANKLIN  
COUNCIL AGENDA REPORT**

*City Council Meeting November 1, 2010*

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**From:** Brian J. Sullivan, Municipal Services Director

**Subject:** City Council is being provided an update on the status of Water Treatment Project for Iron and Manganese Removal from groundwater pumped at the Franklin Falls, Acme 1 and Acme 2 City water supply wells.

**Recommended motion:**

No Action Required.

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**Discussion:**

Municipal Services Director will be available at the June 7, 2010 City Council meeting for questions. This is our current time line.

1. January 2008 – City accepts grant from Community Development Finance Authority (CDFA).
2. January 2008 – Request for Proposals (RFP) is issued by City for Engineering Services and a pre-submission conference is conducted.
3. February 2008 – RFP packages opened from five respondents.
4. March 2008 – City Staff Selection Committee interviews all five firms responding to RFP. Selection is qualification based. Committee unanimously selects Earthtech as top firm.
5. April 2008 – Contract Negotiations are completed and contract successfully executed, saving rate payer approximately \$57,000.
6. May 2008 – Pilot Study performed at Acme 1 and 2 wells and at Franklin Falls well. Positive outcome is achieved, in that Iron and Manganese can successfully be removed from all three groundwater wells using filtering process of three different types of filtering media.
7. May 2008 – Consulting Engineer and City Staff file pre-application under the New Hampshire Department of Environmental Services (NHDES), Drinking Water State Revolving Fund (DWSRF) for three projects, totaling \$7,200,000.
8. May 2008 – Army Corps is notified of City's desire to perform under-water river crossing for (2) 12" water mains to connect Franklin Falls and Acme 1 and 2 pumping stations. City Staff

and Consulting Engineer have determined constructing one treatment plant at Acme well sites, along with a river crossing pipeline connecting both wells, is the most cost effective remedy.

9. June 2008 – City is notified that all the applications submitted in May under the NHDES, DWSRF qualify as projects for funding consideration.

10. June 2008 – Preliminary Engineering Report begins by Earthtech. Report should be available in August 2008. Plant design begins.

11. June 2008 – City Staff and Earthtech conduct first formal meeting with Army Corps of Engineers. Plant design is discussed and SWSRF Loan applications drafted.

12. July 2008 – City qualifies for State Revolving Fund (SRF) Loan in the amount of \$7,200,000. The importance of this is that other grant / loan funding agencies use NHDES ranking and qualification to determine viability and feasibility of the project(s).

13. July 2008 – City / CDFA / Earthtech / NHDES and U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) Staff hold joint pre-grant submission meeting to discuss project funding and feasibility.

14. August and September 2008 – Preliminary Engineering Report is finalized.

15. October 2008 – NHDES / City initiate Project Environmental Review Process.

16. November 2008 – (1) City awaits Army Corps decision on directional boring for Pemigewassett under-water pipeline river crossing, (2) City Staff files for grant reimbursement from NH CDFA, and (3) City Staff and Earthtech begin grant / loan applications for 2009 Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) \$500,000 grant and USDA Rural Development \$7,200,000 grant / loan requests.

17. December 2008 – City Staff will request authorization to file grant / loan application with CDFA and USDA and report back to City Council in January or February, at which time City Council will determine if the project will move forward.

18. January 2009 – Grant / Loan applications are filed with CDFA for a \$500,000 CDBG Grant and with USDA for a \$7,200,000 Grant / Loan.

19. January 2009 – Discussions continue with the Army Corps of Engineers relative to permitting / licensing for temporary access on Franklin Falls Dam property to perform Geophysical Evaluation and to obtain an easement or permanent rights for the under-water river crossing for pipelines.

20. February 2009 – City is notified by USDA that we qualify for a \$3,302,000 loan and a \$3,398,000 grant under the USDA Water Environmental Program. This is a preliminary determination. City awaits response on our \$500,000 CDBG Application.

21. March 2009 – City obtains license to perform Geophysical Evaluation of the river crossing pipeline location from the Army Corps of Engineers.

22. April 2009 – City received and has executed Easement from U.S. Army Corps of Engineers for dual pipeline river crossing, underneath the Pemigewasset River. City notified it did not get the \$500,000 Public Facilities Community Development Block Grant. City notified that it qualified for a USDA Rural Development Grant for \$3,555,000 and loan for \$3,645,000. City notified it will qualify for \$3,645,000 interim financing from New Hampshire Drinking Water State Revolving Fund Loan. USDA has approved Water System Feasibility Study, preliminary engineering report.

23. May 2009:

- City Staff and Janet Levy meet with Acme Staple and Consulting Engineer, relative to the impact of groundwater contamination, on City's ability to locate dewatering lagoons on City property.
- Earth Tech Contract Terminated
- RFP's issued for Design and Construction Services for pipeline and plant design

24. June 2009:

- City Council authorizes City Manager and Mayor to retain Bond Council, execute interim financing loan agreement with State of NH under Drinking Water State Revolving Fund and execute 30-year grant loan agreement with USDA Rural Development program.
- Proposals accepted from engineering firms for plant design and distribution system improvements.

25. July 2009:

- Selection Committee conducts interviews with three engineering firms that submitted proposals for Design Services and Construction Bid Documents and Inspection.
- Tata & Howard is awarded contract for Engineering Design Services.
- Test boring logs and information for building, River Crossing pipeline and Hill Road pipeline.
- City Staff begins discussion with Acme Staple, relative to acquisition of 2.5 acre adjacent parcel of land for garage facility.

26. August 2009:

- Design on River Crossing and Hill Road pipelines begin.
- Finalizing of Preliminary Engineering Report continues.

27. September 2009:

- City Staff tours Water Treatment Plant of similar design and operation to proposed Franklin Facility.
- Monthly Financial reporting to USDA begins.
- City Staff continued discussion with Acme Staple, relative to land acquisition.

28. October 2009:

- Final Design River Crossing Pipeline and Hill Road pipeline is completed and submitted to USDA for review and approval.
- Preliminary building design begins.
- City Staff submits request to Army Corps for potential long-term lease of 3-acre piece of property, adjacent to southwest corner of City well field, for potential garage facility site.

29. November 2009:

- City Staff finalizes floor plan layout and other Water Treatment Plant design/construction features.
- Boring log and subsurface report for geotechnical evaluation of subsurface conditions is completed for building design.
- City awaits final approval from USDA on River Crossing and Hill Road pipelines. Bid Documents prepared.
- Discussion continues with Acme Staple.

30. December 2009:

- Work on all the fore-mentioned continues and will be added to next timeline update.
- \$119,827 expended, to date, on design and construction services.

31. January 2010:

- Discussion continues with Army Corps relative to acquisition of 3-acre parcel of land for lagoon and easement for storage building.
- Engineer continues design work for River Crossing and Hill Road pipelines.
- Amendment #1 for Additional Soils investigations signed by Rural Development.
- Additional Geotechnical work is performed for building / Water Treatment Plant location.

32. February 2010:

- USDA and NHDES continue with review of design for pipeline and Treatment Plant.
- Final design of Hill Road pipeline is complete.
- City Staff meets with Engineer and directional boring Consultant, Brierley Associates, on-site, to determine final depth, pipe location, logistics, site review, etc.

33. March 2010:

- Phase II / Final Engineering Report completed and submitted to USDA and NHDES.
- Shore-land permit is submitted to NHDES for approval.
- City receives approval from NHDES on interim financing (construction loan).
- Site layout continues to be finalized for building location, lagoons, septic system, Water Treatment Plant and storage garage.

34. April 2010:

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- City Staff meets with NHDES Staff to perform final project review and permit approvals.
- Shore-land permit received from NHDES.

#### 35. May 2010:

- City receives final authorization from USDA to bid out all projects.
- Hill Road pipeline is advertised for public bidding. Bid opening scheduled for June 8th.
- City Staff meets with representatives from US Army Corps, relating to temporary use of Piney Point for construction and fusion of piping, in conjunction with River Crossing directional bore.
- Engineer working towards final design and bid documents for River Crossing pipeline.
- Water Treatment Plant final design at about 40% completion.
- Site work for Water Department storage building underway.
- Design for final site plan begins.

#### 36. June 2010

- Bids opened on Hill Road Water Main project. Low Bidder was R.D. Edmunds at a price of \$386,360. Just below the Engineer's Estimate of \$390,000.
- License received from Army Corps to allow above ground work on Piney Point. This enables the design to be modified to construction of four shorter pipe segments to construct the river crossings this will enable smaller, more local contractors to bid on the project.

#### 37. July 2010

- A pre-construction conference was held on July 15<sup>th</sup> to discuss the Hill Road Water Main project.
  - 75% drawings and specifications were sent to Rural Development and NHDES for their review. City Staff met with NHDES to discuss their concerns on the project site plan. City requested to move the treatment plant on the site.
- Received approval to bid the River Crossing contract

#### 38. August 2010

- River Crossing pipeline contract is publicly advertised for bidding. Bid opening scheduled for September 2<sup>nd</sup>.
- Construction work begins on Hill Road Project.
- Additional soil borings done on the treatment plant site as a result of the new location.

#### 39. September 2010

- Bids opened on the river crossing project. Low Bidder was R. D. Edmunds at a price of \$889,850, below the Engineer's estimate of \$1,000,000.
- A pay application and project meeting was held on September 24th
- Pre-construction conference was held on the River Crossing contract.
- pipeline work nearly complete on Hill Road, clean up, guardrail and services remain.

- 95% drawings and specifications submitted to Rural Development and NHDES for their review.

40. October 2010

- City Staff met with Engineers to review 95% drawings and specifications.
- Comments received from RD and NHDES on 95% drawings and specifications. Engineers preparing responses and getting documents ready for bidding.
- City receives Authorization to put Water Treatment Plant out to Public Bid.

**Concurrences:**

Project is consistent with City Council action directing Staff to proceed with grant and other funding alternatives and is also consistent with USDA requirements as outlined in grant agreement.

**Fiscal Impact:**

**Alternatives:**

**Attachments/Exhibits:**