

Shutesbury Board of Selectmen
At the Department of Environmental Protection Western Mass Regional Office
436 Dwight St., 5th Floor, Springfield, Massachusetts
March 26, 2012 Meeting Minutes

Select Board Members present: Chairwoman Elaine Puleo and April Stein. **Absent:** Al Springer

Also Present: Town Administrator Rebecca Torres, Administrative Secretary Leslie Bracebridge recording.

Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) Officials: Section Chief for Emergency Response David “Dave” Slowick, and Deputy Regional Director of the Bureau of Waste site Clean-up Eva Tor, and Licensed Site Professional James “Jim” Okun from O’Reilly, Talbot, & Okun Assoc. Inc.

Meeting opened at 2:10 P.M. to discuss:

Next Actions for remediation of contaminated soils at the Fire Station, and repayment schedule for funds borrowed to do the first round of soil remediation in the summer of 2010.

- Eva Tor: Referred to the March 2011 one-year agreement to delay a negotiated settlement and/or a hardship repayment plan agreement between the Town of Shutesbury and the MassDEP for payback of the Leaking Underground Storage Tank (LUST) funds used in the summer of 2010, which were made available for Shutesbury’s use through the “stimulus” American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA) program. Eva stated, “It looks like this may go on for a while,” and expressed DEP’s flexibility to “settle it sooner or later.”
- Becky: Isn’t able to give a clear answer because the loan settlement continues to rest on future costs and next steps to reach closure.
- Jim Okun reported concentrations from Monitoring Well (MN)-8, which sits most closely “down gradient” from the fire station, as “pretty similar to those before remediation in the summer of 2010.
- Dave Slowick requested a report of monitored concentration results be sent to DEP.
- Discussion of a chemical oxidation proposal for remediation of the soils under the fire station included by Redox Inc. LLC:
 - During the treatment there will be interior air monitoring (use of a P.I.D. was deemed sufficient, and the Fire Chief will be alerted to report any noticed vapors.)
 - Usually 2 treatments are sufficient. The Redox method is asserting 1 treatment may be enough.
 - The two chemicals to be used are sodium persulfate, and calcium peroxide.)
 - ReDox technicians reported “amazing” results with these chemicals at a Connecticut gas station.
 - Their price is reasonable. Dave: “If this does get us to closure it’s money well spent.”
 - There are 2 hot spots: One is right under fire station. The second area is right next to wetlands.
 - There are boulders in the second area and so it was not dug up in the summer of 2010.
 - This second area will be treated naturally, in the wetlands.
- Becky provided a water sample taken just this morning and a photograph of the surface of the water from where she took the sample: Dave couldn’t smell much when he opened the sample, and he felt the sheen in the photograph could be of natural cause. He explained that if the sheen “Breaks up on the surface,” then it’s not caused from gas. Last year when Becky made mention of a sheen, it was assumed to be caused from gasoline, so she brought an actual water sample at this time.
 - DEP will get a sample later this week as closure can’t be discussed if there is an outbreak.
 - It could just be “barrier organics;” it looks natural.
- Jim summarized the Redox Inc. LLC treatment proposal:
 - This proposal for 5 injection sites and sampling on a quarterly basis.
 - During injection there will be a fair amount of monitoring going on.
 - Dave: Just wants to make sure there is no vapor intrusion into the building. He requests to have the Fire Chief call if he smells anything. Has seen vapor intrusion on certain occasions. The process could release fumes back into building.
 - Injections will take place over 2 days.

- A small rig called a “geoprobe” will poke holes deep into the ground getting close to bedrock and inject chemicals and injecting chemicals at multiple levels as it backs out of the ground. There will be multiple scattered injections in the rescue bay.
- Monitoring will occur at MW-8.
- The procedure will be started as soon as all arrangements can be made.
 - Jim will get the “IRA” (Immediate Response Action) report to Dave early next week. Dave will turn it around quickly and give written approval to begin.
 - The whole procedure could be done by the end of April.
- O’Reilly, Talbot and Okun Engineer John Henry wants 5 feet of unsaturated soil to work with. Groundwater is at 4.9 feet at MW-8 and 4.01 feet in the rescue bay right now.
- Eva: We understand the plan and so we will have minimal comments.
 - We will know a lot more after the initial injection and follow-up monitoring.
 - Since we don’t know how the treatment will work suggests extending the agreement, do the injections, and see what follow-up monitoring results are.
- Jim: Doesn’t expect to reach drinking water standards; he wants to get to a temporary solution.
- Dave: Inquires Jim’s thoughts on the boulder area near the wetlands.
 - Jim answers that over time, it will take care of itself. Anything we do will upset the area more.
 - The heavier concentrations are under fire house.
 - Concerned to inject oxides so close to the wetlands as they could sterilize the wetlands.
 - Becky: John Henry was talking about injections by MW – 8. Jim and Dave feel the chemicals would be used up before they got to the wetlands, though agreed it is very close to them.
- Jim may want another monitoring well slightly down gradient of MW-8 but expresses his concern that it might run into more boulders. Dave agrees, “It’s a good idea, try your best.”
 - The Redox Tech says the treatments continue to work for about a year, which is why we want to monitor the results closely.
 - Assumes a 2nd application would cost the same.
- Dave: There would be additional expense with additional borings.
 - Probably at the end of a year it would be known if the treatment has affected concentration.
 - If MW-8 drops it will be a good indicator that things are working. We will know after a year.

April: What if doesn’t work?

- Dave answers, it’s more a question of how quickly it will work
- Jim or how effective. Where and when will it reach ground water quality?
- Eva: Because of migration we can’t have a temporary solution now, but this technique could get it to a temporary. Dave: It’s very hard to get from GW(Ground Water) - 2 to GW – 1, drinking water.

Eva: Suggests thinking about extending the loan payback agreement another year?

- Becky: It will be discussed at tomorrow’s Select Board meeting and Becky will get back to Eva.
 - We’ll either move ahead and resolve it, or
 - We’ll see how the first quarter goes; if it’s not working at all we will have to figure out a different approach.
 - Eva: There’s nothing that prohibits discussion of a payback sooner; the town might want to resolve it sooner rather than later.
 - Elaine: who advises us on better way to go for the town?
 - Eva: Nothing jumps out why sooner rather than later. What we hope will help is that the estimates of long term X amount of costs over the next X number of years will help with negotiating the contract discussion. What we’ve spent right now will help.

Dave will show Becky’s photos to Brownfields Site Manager Bernard “Ben” Fish.

Meeting adjourned at 2:45 PM

Respectfully submitted,

Leslie Bracebridge, Administrative Secretary