

City of Nashua
Business & Industrial Development Authority
Minutes of Thursday, July 13, 2006 at 4:00 PM
Room 208

Members Present: Jack Tulley, Vice Chairman, Dean Jackson, Mike Monks, John Stabile, and Gerry Prunier.

Others Present: Jay Minkarah, Economic Development Director, Mark Sousa, Mayor's Office, Nelson Lease, OED Intern, Steve Dookran, City Engineer and Jeanne Walker, Wastewater Project Engineer.

Call to Order: The meeting was called to order at about 4:05 PM.

CSO Project Update: Jeanne Walker provided the group an update of the CSO project including a grid that outlined project alternatives and estimated costs.

Dean Jackson asked about the timeline. Ms. Walker replied that they had about three months of "float time" and that they had already lost two of those months.

Gerry Prunier stated that there are two problems with the current plans for the Screening & Disinfection Unit (SDU): the use of good land and visibility at an entrance to the City. Jack Tulley added that we have made this point before in meetings with Rick Seymour and with the Mayor. Mr. Tulley noted that the Mayor had indicated he would push for a delay in the project. Steve Dookran replied that he was not aware of a project delay.

Alternative sites were discussed including the possible use of railroad land.

Dean Jackson asked what the process would be for moving forward to select a different site.

Steve Dookran replied that a new site would require working with different conditions, neighbors and costs. He stated that they would need to come up with additional funding. The Mayor and Board of Alderman would have to give them direction.

Mike Monks asked about prevailing winds and the potential impact to Thoreau's Landing. Steve Dookran replied that prevailing winds do not blow toward that development and that there would be no odor problem.

Alternative sites were discussed along with soil conditions and potential contamination issues.

Jay Minkarah asked about next steps. Mr. Dookran replied that they will have to tell their consultants to proceed with the project unless ordered to stop by the Mayor. He noted that the first report is due in September and the final design in January.

Mike Monks asked that if the EPA would agree, could we get to a Judge and get a time extension for the consent decree. Gerry Prunier replied that it would be possible if the parties agreed.

Mr. Monks asked if we could get a more definitive explanation of possible VOCs. Jeanne Walker replied affirmatively.

Steve Dookran clarified his position by stating that they, as staff, do not have the authority to spend more on the project and do not have the authority to extend the construction start date beyond February 2008. The discussion with DPW staff concluded.

John Stabile asked whether the BIDA should have an independent engineering firm look at the issues. It was noted that there were four main issues: the legal question, the VOC question, the EPA question and the need for engineering review.

The meeting adjourned at 5:13 PM.

A discussion of design specifics and timing followed. Mr. Dookran stated that the design is still based on an open tank system. He noted that consultants are continuing to move forward with their design work and that construction is still slated for February 2008.

Jack Tulley and Mark Prolman commended Mr. Dookran, the Division of Public Works and the Mayor for their efforts in revising the plan.

The necessity of developing a concept plan, issuing and an RFP and obtaining professional design assistance was discussed. It was noted that the next critical step would be to obtain rezoning of the property to allow for mixed-use development.

Revolving Loan Fund Activity: Jay Minkarah updated the Authority on recent activity related to Gate City Imaging. He noted that it appeared that the loan could be restructured to avoid foreclosure.

Other Issues of Concern: Jay Minkarah informed members of the Montreal-Boston Bike Race planned for August 11. He described the proposed route, participants, and current planning efforts. Vince Tulley and Aaron Bagshaw were suggested as potential planning committee members.

Adjourn: The meeting was adjourned at about 5:20 PM.