

QCBFD Public Works Committee 2022 Annual Report

The 2021 annual meeting provided overwhelming support in giving the Public Works Committee the financial resources required to provide a state of the art water treatment facility upgrade to provide long term quality water for our community.

The effort was initiated in October with a pilot study conducted at the wellsite in order to determine the best treatment system to be used for the plant upgrade. The study tested several treatment technologies using water from both of our existing wells. Upon completion of the study field work in December, Blueleaf Inc. of Charlton, Massachusetts, provided a report of the pilot study analysis and results in January. The Pilot Study Report was reviewed by the Public Works Committee and was peer reviewed by several engineers and water treatment experts. The result was a determination that the Green Sands Plus water treatment technology was the best system to incorporate in the plant upgrade.

In December of 2021 the Rhode Island Department of Health (RIDOH) granted approval for 4-log chemical disinfection to eliminate the risks associated with bacteria affecting our water. We have been working with our operating engineer and the RIDOH on the scheduling for installation of the 4-log equipment. The current schedule is to complete the procurement and installation by February of 2023.

The Public Works Committee has also engaged Northeast Water Solutions, Inc.(NWSI) to initiate the design documents for the water treatment plant expansion and upgrade.

NWSI anticipates the design to be completed for submission for permits from RIDOH, DEM, CRMC, and the Town of Charlestown in November of this year. Upon the issuance of all permits and receipt of contractor bids in conformance with RI Infrastructure Bank financing, the construction of the plant expansion and upgrade will be scheduled. Our current schedule is to have work occurring in the offseason periods

initiated in the Spring of 2023 and estimated to be completed in the Fall of 2023.

During the last year our water quality has remained high as the groundwater levels in our wells has trended low. Our aquifer is recharged through rainfall during our offseason while about 65% our annual water usage occurs from June through September. As this summer has been one of the driest in history, we have requested that our community make every effort to conserve water to make it through the extreme drought. The community responded with reduced usage and browning lawns.

I want to thank the volunteers on the Public Works Committee for their efforts to help the Quonochontaug Central Beach community and to Sue Wilson Perez for her help and support moving the water project forward for the benefit of our community.

Respectfully submitted,

Bob Frazier
Chair, Public Works Committee