

## Meeting Notes

Subject	Peirce Island WWTF Upgrade – Monthly Public Construction Meeting
Date	October 19, 2016
Time	11:00 AM
Location	Portsmouth, NH

A public meeting was held at 11:00 AM on October 19, 2016 at Portsmouth City Hall for the subject contract. A record of the discussion follows:

Don Song, Wastewater Project Manager, gave an introduction to the meeting and outlined the topics of discussion, including work completed since last meeting, work to be completed in the coming month, work anticipated in the next 6 months, construction details, events and recreation, and public input.

Following the introduction, the members of the Project Team that attended the meeting introduced themselves, and included:

- Don Song, Wastewater Project Manager
- Terry Desmarais, City Engineer
- Peter Rice, Director of Public Works
- Jon Pearson, AECOM Project Manager
- Bob Dahlinghaus, AECOM Resident Representative
- Andy Brodeur, Methuen Construction Superintendent

Don Song noted that to obtain information regarding the project there is a project website that can be accessed through [www.portsmouthwastewater.com](http://www.portsmouthwastewater.com). The website is updated weekly with news and recreational information and has a reporting form that can be used to provide feedback or notify the town of any issues.

Jon Pearson then discussed the work completed on the project since the last public meeting. Methuen Construction mobilized on September 26th and the initial work has consisted of setting up temporary facilities and construction fencing, beginning with the construction access control gate located just west of the pool on Peirce Island Road. The fencing around the pool is provided with a screening fabric to provide a visual barrier to maintain privacy for the pool area. All of the staging areas are surrounded with a temporary construction fence to keep unauthorized personnel out of the construction area and to protect the equipment and materials that are stored there. Several temporary office trailers have been brought to the site for the contractor and the engineer and they are in the process of being connected to utilities. As discussed in the previous meeting, there is an oversized vehicle route for leaving the island that goes through the Strawberry Banke parking lot. A portion of that lot was unpaved, and in order to disperse the weight of the trucks that may use that route, it has been paved with temporary pavement. The modifications at the corner of Mechanic Street and Marcy Street that were discussed at the previous meeting are ongoing. The project signage for the construction route into and out of the site has been installed. In addition, there were signs installed to notify of some parking restrictions.

Andy Brodeur then discussed the upcoming work on the project. Over the next week, Methuen Construction plans to finish the curb, sidewalk, and pavement at the corner of Marcy Street and Mechanic Street, as well as the temporary pedestrian sidewalk behind the Player's Ring. They will finish connecting the construction trailers to utilities, strip the loam from the headworks building footprint, and begin tree removal at the headworks building and access road behind the plant. Their subcontractor, Maine Drilling and Blasting, will be on site and begin probing to determine ledge locations and depth on site. Within the next month, Methuen will begin excavation and installation of the 12-inch water main, underground power and communications, and an 8-inch force main from New Castle, and will begin installing all yard piping required for the Headworks Building. Within the next 6 months, Methuen is planning to begin the masonry and internal mechanical work at the Headworks Building, install the emergency generator and new Electrical Building, and begin rock blasting and excavation for the Sanitary Pump Station and Gravity Thickener.

Terry Desmarais mentioned that there will be a lot of work that will not be able to be seen by the public due to its isolated location. He explained that slope stabilization work will soon be started on site and that it may be visible from New Castle Avenue.

Jon Pearson noted that the traffic signage has been installed and construction traffic has been following the designated route in and out of the site. He showed the location of the ongoing work at the intersection of Marcy Street and Mechanic Street, the Player's Ring temporary pedestrian detour, the flagger at State Street and Marcy Street, and the location of the pedestrian safety fences. He also noted that the Project Team is aware of the upcoming events in the area, including the Memorial Bridge Walk, Turkey Trot, Strawberry Banke Events, and Prescott Park Events.

Prior to opening the discussion to public comment, Jon Pearson discussed the open question that was raised at last month's meeting regarding whether or not the regulatory agencies had reviewed and approved the change from steel plates to temporary pavement in the Strawberry Banke parking lot. All of the agencies involved in the Section 106 process had reviewed that change and approved it.

A public question and answer session then occurred, and is summarized below:

Harold Whitehouse asked the following:

- Q: Is the rock removal on the project going to be done using blasting or with the use of machines to break up the rock?
- A: Both methods will be used, with rock removed using mechanical means where in close proximity to existing piping and structures, and controlled blasting will be used in other areas. Methuen Construction's blasting subcontractor, Maine Drilling and Blasting, has obtained a blasting permit from the City and will be conducting the work in accordance with the City Blasting Ordinance.
- Q: I did not see a requirement for Methuen Construction to provide a performance bond for this project – is one required?
- A: Yes, a performance bond in the amount of 100% of the construction contract value was required and has been provided by Methuen Construction.
- Q: What type of rock has been found on-site – is it the hard blue/grey granite or is it decomposed?
- A: Rock excavation has not yet started, but based on observation the type of rock varies across the island.