



TOWN COUNCIL – AGENDA REQUEST FORM

THIS FORM WILL BECOME PART OF THE BACKGROUND INFORMATION USED BY THE COUNCIL AND PUBLIC

Please submit Agenda Request Form, including back up information, 8 days prior to the requested meeting date. **Public Hearing requests must be submitted 20 days prior to requested meeting date to meet publication deadlines** (exceptions may be authorized by the Town Manager, Chairman/Vice Chair).

MEETING INFORMATION

Date Submitted: May 14, 2021

Date of Meeting: May 27, 2021

Submitted by: MVD Board of Commission Chairman
Don Provencher, Superintendent Ronald Miner, Jr. and
Jamie Emery

Department:

Time Required: 20 minutes

Speakers: MVD Board of Commission Chairman Don
Provencher, Superintendent Ronald Miner, Jr. and
Jamie Emery

Background Info. Yes: No:
Supplied:

CATEGORY OF BUSINESS (PLEASE PLACE AN "X" IN THE APPROPRIATE BOX)

Appointment:	<input type="checkbox"/>	Recognition/Resignation/ Retirement:	<input type="checkbox"/>
Public Hearing:	<input type="checkbox"/>	Old Business:	<input type="checkbox"/>
New Business:	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Consent Agenda:	<input type="checkbox"/>
Nonpublic:	<input type="checkbox"/>	Other:	<input type="checkbox"/>

TITLE OF ITEM

Merrimack Village District (MVD) Requesting Letter of Support to NHDES – Well MVD 6

DESCRIPTION OF ITEM

The Merrimack Village District is seeking Town of Merrimack support in pursuing Brownfields grant funding through the New Hampshire Department of Environmental Services (NHDES) to assist in the remediation and monitoring of groundwater contaminants derived from the former Merrimack Industrial Metals site, located at 734 Milford Road, that caused adverse impacts (contamination) to the former MVD Production Well MVD-6.

REFERENCE (IF KNOWN)

RSA:	Warrant Article:	_____
Charter Article:	Town Meeting:	_____
Other:	N/A	

EQUIPMENT REQUIRED (PLEASE PLACE AN "X" IN THE APPROPRIATE BOX)

Projector:	<input type="checkbox"/>	Grant Requirements:	<input type="checkbox"/>
Easel:	<input type="checkbox"/>	Joint Meeting:	<input type="checkbox"/>
Special Seating:	<input type="checkbox"/>	Other:	<input type="checkbox"/>
Laptop:	<input type="checkbox"/>	None:	<input type="checkbox"/>

CONTACT INFORMATION

Name: Donald Provencher Address: 2 Greens Pond Road



Water Works

R E C E I V E D

APR 21 2021

April 20, 2021

Town of Merrimack New Hampshire
Merrimack Town Hall
6 Baboosic Lake Road
Merrimack, NH 03054

TOWN OF MERRIMACK
TOWN COUNCIL'S OFFICE

Re: Potential use of Brownfields Funding to Mitigate/Remediate Local Groundwater Contamination and to Redevelop the former Merrimack Industrial Metals Site

4/26/21
Read File
Chair
Vice Chair
Councilor
Councilor
Councilor
Councilor
Councilor

Dear Town Councilors:

On behalf of the MVD, I am reaching out to the Merrimack Town Council for you to consider the possible use of Brownfields funding available from the NHDES (and other agencies) to assess the current level of groundwater contamination at the former Merrimack Industrial Metals (MIM) site in Merrimack and to potentially remediate that site.

The MVD's groundwater consultant EGGI/GZA GeoEnvironmental, Inc. has a Task Order contract with the New Hampshire Department of Environmental Services (NHDES) to perform environmental consulting services. Several months ago, the NHDES reached out to EGGI/GZA about their thoughts on potential sites for using Brownfields funds that the NHDES was awarded by the EPA. The EPA defines a Brownfield as a property in which expansion, redevelopment, or reuse of a property may be complicated by the presence (or potential presence) of a hazardous substance, pollutant, or contaminant.

Brownfields sites vary in historical site use and can include old mills, former gasoline stations or industrial facilities. An important aspect of a Brownfields site is that the property is abandoned and lacks financially viable owners. The Brownfields program in New Hampshire is considered an important economic development initiative because cleaning up and reinvesting in Brownfield properties can facilitate job growth, increase local tax base, utilizes existing infrastructure, reduces development pressures on open land, and improves the environment.

The Merrimack Industrial Metals (MIM) site has the potential to be a Brownfields site. The contaminated MIM site has remained orphaned/abandoned since 2014 and contamination monitoring/remediation has been inactive. As you may recall, the source of groundwater contamination, that caused the public water supply Well MVD-6 to be taken off-line by the Merrimack Village District was derived from the MIM site. The MVD is very interested in getting this site cleaned up and mitigating against further and continued groundwater contamination emanating from this location. If the remediation and clean up efforts were fully successful, the use of Production Well MVD-6 could then be reconsidered.

Michael McCluskey of NHDES leads the Brownfields program for the State of New Hampshire. Mr. McCluskey indicated that for a site to be considered for a funding award the NHDES would need the following:

- A strong interest expressed by the Town that they want environmental issues addressed at this site and that the site be redeveloped;

- Statement from the Town that access to the property to perform any environmental work would be granted;
- A conceptual plan or vision for redevelopment of the property;
- A work scope from an environmental firm to investigate and remediate the property.

Upon an expression of interest from the Town of Merrimack, the NHDES will provide a review of funding options available.

The benefits to the Town of Merrimack could include the following:

- Brownfields grant funding would assist with the remediation and monitoring of groundwater contaminants derived from the former MIM Site that caused adverse impacts (contamination) to the former MVD Production Well MVD-6.
- The Brownfields program will offer liability protection for future property owners. The Brownfields program can provide a covenant not to sue that would be issued by the New Hampshire Department of Justice to provide liability protection for investigation, cleanup, and redevelopment activities
- Remediation could revitalize the contaminated property for future development with the possibility of creating new jobs and tax revenue for the local government.
- Continued monitoring of the site will help to assess the source of the PFAS in the Aquifer proximal to the former Production Well MVD-6 and Witches Brook.

If the Town of Merrimack is interested in pursuing the Brownfields funding, the MVD would be pleased to assist with facilitating the discussion with the NHDES. All technical work done under the Federal Brownfields program requires a Technical Lead known as a Qualified Environmental Professional (QEP) which is the role that our consultants can provide. In this role MVD could help develop the technical documents for approval and execute the investigation and remedial activities necessary on the pathway to site redevelopment.


To move forward, the Town of Merrimack would need to issue a letter of interest to the NHDES such that a Brownfields designation of the MIM site can be considered by the NHDES.¹ The next step would then be to meet with the NHDES Brownfields Program representatives to have an informal discussion about the MIM site, potential redevelopment options, and to hear from them about the current opportunities for NHDES assistance with this specific project.

On behalf of the MVD Commissioners, we would be happy to discuss this with you further if you have any questions.

Very truly yours,

MERRIMACK VILLAGE DISTRICT


DONALD PROVENCCHER, BOC CHAIRMAN


RONALD MINER, JR, SUPERINTENDENT

¹ Also, a general concept of how the property might be used in the future to benefit the Town could be provided at this time or at a later date.