

Meeting Notes

Subject	Peirce Island WWTF Upgrade – Monthly Public Construction Meeting
Date	October 16, 2019
Time	11:00 AM
Location	Portsmouth, NH

A public meeting was held at 11:00 AM on October 16, 2019 in Conference Room A at Portsmouth City Hall for the subject project. A record of the discussion follows:

Terry Desmarais, City Engineer, gave an introduction to the meeting and outlined the topics of discussion, including work completed since the last meeting, work to be completed in the coming month, work anticipated in the next six months, construction cost to date, summary of Consent Decree milestones, events and recreation, and public input.

The members of the Project Team in attendance introduced themselves, and included:

- Peter Rice, Director of Public Works
- Terry Desmarais, City Engineer
- Patrick Wiley, Wastewater Operations Manager
- Jon Pearson, AECOM Project Manager
- John McGrath, Methuen Construction, Vice President Construction Operations

Terry noted that to obtain additional information regarding the project, there is a project website that can be accessed through www.cityofportsmouth.com/publicworks/wastewater/peirce-island-wastewater-facility/peirce-island-wastewater-facility-upgrade-project. The website is updated weekly with news and recreational information and contains a link to a reporting form that can be used to provide feedback or notify the City of any issues associated with the project. Terry Desmarais, City Engineer, is the point of contact for the City.

Jon discussed work that has been completed this month. He noted areas where work is ongoing at the site, including:

- Yard Piping / Utility Service
- Grit Building
- Solids Building
- Biological Aerated Filter (BAF) Building
- Gravity Thickener No. 2
- Existing Sludge Processing / New Operations/Lab Building

Jon reviewed photos of construction progress, including:

- Site Overview – Existing conditions of the Peirce Island Wastewater Treatment Facility in November 2016. Prior to construction, the treatment process consisted of the Aerated Grit Chambers, followed by the Primary Clarifiers and Chlorine Contact Tanks.
- Yard Piping and Utility Service - Work to install yard piping and electrical ductbanks between the Grit Building, Primary Clarifiers, Solids Building and BAF Building is in progress.
- Grit Building – Construction of main entrance stairs has been completed. Work to install sidewalks is in progress. Work to restore grading is in progress.
- BAF Building – Installation of mechanical process piping and equipment within the Pipe Gallery and mechanical process spaces is in progress. Work to load the cells with the new media has been underway this month, and the media was loaded into the cells via a pneumatic conveyance system and installation is near completion. Work to install electrical conduit and electrical equipment throughout the building is in progress; this includes but is not limited to the wiring of the Motor Control Center and various control panels and equipment. Installation of the mudwell pumps is in progress. Work to install the brick façade of the building and windows has been completed. Work to install the cell access ladders to the cells and hand railings in the stairway is in progress. HVAC and plumbing rough in work is underway .
- Solids Building – Primary sludge is now being dewatered by the screw presses and the existing Fournier Press that had been dewatering sludge has been taken out of service. Work to install and wire remaining electrical features, including but not limited to permanent lighting, throughout the building is in progress. Plumbing, HVAC, and architectural work is continuing, this included but not limited to the bathroom facilities in the building.
- Existing Sludge Processing Building/ New Operations/Lab Building – Asbestos abatement work has been completed and clearance has been received from the industrial hygienist. Removal of items with lead paint has been completed. Selective mechanical demolition has begun as well. The temporary work area isolation perimeter fence around the building has been installed, the building has been sealed off. PCB abatement work has started, this includes but is not limited to sandblasting surfaces that had been painted with paint containing PCB's in accordance with the abatement plan accepted by the EPA. All demolished materials are being placed into dumpsters which are then covered for subsequent removal.
- Gravity Thickener No. 2 – The FRP weir has been installed and work to install the mechanism is in progress. Work to install the scum pump in the scum well is underway.

John discussed work anticipated for the coming month, including:

- Continue minor finish work in the Headworks Building.
- Continue architectural, structural, mechanical process, HVAC, plumbing, and electrical construction in the Grit Building.
- Continue installation and testing of process piping in the pipe gallery of the BAF Building.
- Continue mechanical and electrical work throughout the BAF Building.
- Continue installation of stairs in the BAF Buildings.
- Continue electrical, HVAC and plumbing work in the Solids Building.
- Begin checkout and startup of valves and equipment in the BAF Building.
- Continue delivery and installation of filter media at the BAF Building.
- Continue installation, testing, and startup of equipment and process piping in the Solids Building.
- Continue electrical, HVAC, and plumbing work in the Solids Building.
- Complete underground piping installation between the Grit Building, Solids Building, and BAF Building.
- Continue installation of mechanism in Gravity Thickener No. 2.

- Continue temporary equipment relocation and selective demolition in the existing Sludge Processing Building.
- Continue PCB abatement in the existing Sludge Processing Building.

John then discussed the work anticipated through October and into April 2020, including:

- Grit Building – Interior: Complete selective architectural, structural and mechanical process modifications. Complete installation and turnover of new chemical systems (ferric chloride and polymer). Complete installation and turnover of mechanical process piping and equipment. Exterior: Complete work on the yard piping associated with the building and installation of exterior features such as sidewalks and final grading.
- BAF Building – Complete installation of mechanical, electrical, plumbing, and HVAC systems, this includes the Boiler Room, Mechanical Room, and Blower Room. Complete installation of mechanical process piping and equipment. Complete interior painting and protective coatings. Begin startup and testing of equipment BAF system and ancillary support systems. Complete installation of stairs, ladders, railings and stair towers. Complete installation of yard piping associated with the BAF Building and backfilling around the building.
- Solids Building – Complete installation of yard piping and underground utilities in and around the Solids Building. Complete installation of exterior features, including sidewalks.
- Existing Sludge / New Operations/Lab Building – Complete hazardous materials abatement work as well as demolition of the upper level and selective demolition in the lower level. Complete installation of new structural steel. Complete exterior wall framing and sheeting, and weather depending, begin exterior masonry work. Complete installation of CMU walls and chemical containment curbs in the basement. Continue the installation of interior wall framing and sheeting. Begin mechanical process, electrical, HVAC and plumbing rough-in work.
- Existing Gravity Thickener No. 1 – Complete installation of scum trough and protective coatings.
- Gravity Thickener No. 2 – Complete installation of all interior coatings and modifications and installation of the mechanism.
- Primary Clarifiers – Complete installation of the new primary clarifier scum pumps.
- Underground Piping and Utility Services – Complete yard piping from the Primary Clarifiers to the BAF Building, Solids Building, and Primary Clarifier Effluent Distribution Box. Complete the electrical and communication ductbanks towards the BAF and Solids Buildings. Complete installation of utility connections to the Operations Building. Begin preparation for paved areas, this include placing the binder course pavement from the Grit Building down to the BAF Building. Begin installation of sidewalks and railings at the Operation Building. Begin landscaping and grading at the Headworks and BAF Buildings.

Jon provided an update on the project construction cost:

- Original Contract: \$72.786 million
- Change Order No. 1: \$0.367 million
- Change Order No. 2: \$0.547 million
- Change Order No. 3: \$0.093 million
- Change Order No. 4: \$0.163 million
- Change Order No. 5: \$0.250 million
- Change Order No. 6: \$0.292 million
- Change Oder No. 7: \$0.169 million
- Total Contract: \$74.667 million

Jon noted that Change Order No. 8 is being prepared.

Jon provided a summary of the project milestones set by the Consent Decree:

- Execute Contract for Construction Upgrades - Date: 9/1/2016 - Status: Complete
- Submit Two Additional Milestones for EPA Review and Approval - Date: 12/1/2016 - Status: Complete
- Additional Milestone 1: Transfer of the Existing SCADA system to the New Headworks Building - Date: 11/21/2017 - Status: Complete
- Additional Milestone 2: Startup and Testing of the Secondary Influent Pump Station in the New Solids Building - Date: 5/9/2019 - Status: Complete
- BAF Substantial Completion - Date: 12/1/2019 - Status: On Schedule
- Achieve Compliance with NPDES Permit Limits - Date: 4/1/2020 - Status: On Schedule

Jon noted that the project team is continuing to coordinate construction with community events. Upcoming events this month include the Halloween Parade on October 31st and Strawberry Banke Events.

There were no questions or comments from the public during the public input portion of the meeting.

The next public construction meeting will be on November 20, 2019 at 11:00 AM in Conference Room A at Portsmouth City Hall.

These notes present a summary of the items discussed at the meeting and are not a transcript of the meeting.