

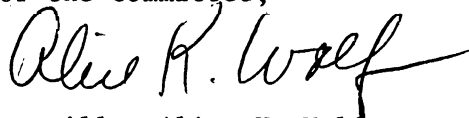
April 28, 1986

At this time Councillor Wolf questioned if the City Manager's recommendation of appropriation of \$1m annually to the Water Department would be sufficient to address the needed repairs throughout the facility. Mr. Cusack responded in the affirmative. Councillor Duehay questioned the number of miles of pipe throughout the city. Mr. Beekman responded by stating 175 miles. Mr. Cusack stated that each 1 mile of pipe cost approximately \$500,000.

Councillor Duehay suggested the committee should consider preparing "home rule" legislation mandating the newly created Massachusetts Water Resource Authority to remove the sledge from the Fresh Pond Reservoir.

The committee adjourned at 10:02 AM.

For the Committee,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Alice K. Wolf", with a stylized flourish at the end.

Councillor Alice K. Wolf
Chair

City of Cambridge

In City Council April 28, 1986

The Committee on Environment conducted a public tour of the Fresh Pond Water Reservoir and Treatment Plant on Thursday, April 10, 1986 beginning at 8:30 AM. Councillor Alice Wolf, Chair of the Committee stated it was her hope that the committee, through this tour, would get a better understanding of the need for physical plant improvement, prior to the department budget hearing scheduled for April 30, 1986.

The tour was conducted by John Cusack, Water Department Superintendent and John Beekman, Water Shed Manager. The committee tour began with an overview of the facility and proceeded to the pumping station built in 1932. Mr. Cusack stated that since his appointment several years ago to head the department, there have been major problems each with this particular pumping station. He further stated this item was listed as #10 in the Water Department Capital Improvement Plan. The committee proceeded to the "highwater" pumping station built in 1922 which also in need of repair and listed as item #3 within the Capital Improvement Plan.

The committee then proceeded to the "back water" tank which Mr. Cusack stated was the Water Department's top priority within its FY 86-87 budget. Mr. Beekman stated that there were probably 2 or 3 years left before this tank would let go.

At this time Councillor Francis Duehay questioned the work force capability regarding laborers versus technical support staff. Mr. Cusack responded that as the process of water purification becomes more complex some staff changes result. However, he continued, for the most part, the department is predominately non-technical. Furthermore, he stated, that some times it is necessary and more expedient to bring an outside consultant in on a particular problem.

At this time the committee reviewed the flocculation equipment replacement job currently on-going at a cost of \$500,000. Mr. Beekman stated this equipment will put the department in better compliance with the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency for the removal of sledge. This is item #8 of the Capital Improvement Plan.

The Committee then toured the Filter Plant and at this point Councillor Wolf questioned who it was that did fire hydrant repairs. Mr. Cusack responded by stating the Water Department did repairs, based on a list reviewed daily from the Fire Department. He further continued, while at the filter plant, that the "pipe gallery" listed as Item #5 within the Capital Improvement Plan is scheduled to be done in 1989. This causes the transmission and distribution of water. The committee then reviewed the Fluoride Pump, recently replaced through a Department of Public Health Grant.

REPORT**Committee on Environment**

Re: tour of the Fresh Pond Reservation &
Treatment Plant to gain a better understand-
ing of the need for physical plant improve-
ments.

In City Council,

April 28, 1986

Placed on File