

April 20, 2011 – Continuation of Hearing on Fitchburg Dam on the Compensating Reservoir.

Hearing opened at: 8:04

Denis Meunier and Mark Giangiacomo, both from the Fitchburg Water Department, were present. Mr. Giangiacomo is the Department's engineer for the project.

DEP # 93-321

Site visit on 12-11-10 and hearing continued from 1-5-2011

This would be a fix to the erosion near the pump house. The erosion has created a low point in the dam that might provide a spillway for water at a flood stage. The spillway might compromise the integrity of the dam and cause failure. The engineer's theory for the cause of the erosion was that it was caused by swimmers, since he thought that the dam presented the best place to go swimming.

OOC will be part of the contract for the project.

The plan is that the Department will drop the water around 4 ft. so they can install wattles and place riprap. Draw down will take about 1.5 days.

Mr. Giangiacomo presented a document with the scope and specifications of work.

The work will be completed within 4 days.

Would like to do this in June. Was not open to waiting until September, when the summer residents would no longer be offended by the drop in water. Doesn't want to wait until September because feels grass establishment is not good that late in the year. He felt sure that there would be sufficient rain to bring the water level back. He stated that no abutters' wells would be negatively affected by a 4ft draw down. The Commission suggested that he get the paperwork in line and start the project as early as possible in June to ensure that the water level would be raised back to its normal height before the start of the summer resident's full-time occupation of camps on the reservoir.

The plan is that only 200 sq ft – the area around the pump house – will be disturbed for this project. This is a very small project. Fitchburg Water Department knows that there is significant maintenance that needs to be done on the dam, but that is not being addressed at this time, with this project.

Request that they put notice of work and draw down into the papers a week before the project starts.

Motion to close the hearing voted favorably at 8:26. Cathy will write the OOC.