

Subject: Woodbury Township Meeting

August 23, 1966

- cc: L. Anderson - 220-9W
 W. M. Bennett - 220-9W
 A. C. Boyden - 21-2W
 J. A. Brown - 27-2
 D. R. Guthrie - 21-2W
 D. L. Hitt - 220-12E
 J. C. Juettner - 42-2W
 W. P. Jensen/J. Verstraete - 220-9W
 J. T. Ling - 42-2W
 R. O. Laine - 220-12E
 W. H. Pahl - 220-7E
 H. S. Parkinson - 42-2W
 C. P. Pesek - 220-14E
 H. W. Rehfeld - 21-2W
 R. H. Tucker - 220-12E
 H. J. Wessel - 42-2W

Albertson
Kiester

MINUTES OF A MEETING

At the request of Mr. Orville Bielenberg, Chairman, Woodbury Township Board, a township meeting was held Wednesday evening at 7:30 at the Woodbury Community Hall to review the well water contamination problem in the vicinity of the 3M dump site. There were about 45 people present. Those present included:

Township Board Members

- O. Bielenberg
- R. Waltersdorff
- F. Krueger
- H. Jones
- J. Walsh - Township Attorney
- O. Bonestroo - Township Engineer

State Health Department

- Russ Frazier - Chief, Engineering Laboratories
- Paul Johnson - Chief, Section of Water Supply & General Engineering
- L. E. Richie - Geologist, Section of Water Pollution Control

3M Representatives

- | | |
|----------------|---------------|
| W. P. Jensen | L. Anderson |
| J. T. Ling | D. L. Hitt |
| J. C. Juettner | C. E. Kiester |

Howard Albertson - State Representative, Washington County
 Mrs. Peck - Reporter; South Washington County Reporter

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Residents (Partial List)

Mr. and Mrs. Arnold Sanders	Mr. and Mrs. Darrell Borgstrom
Mr. and Mrs. Walter Gadde	Mr. and Mrs. Herman Schuessler
Mr. and Mrs. Wolf	Mr. and Mrs. Art Scholz
Mr. and Mrs. Earl Nieman	Mr. Joe Marks
Mr. and Mrs. Raymond Bahls	Mr. and Mrs. Raymond Ronig

Mr. Bielenberg opened the meeting by briefly stating the purpose of the meeting and reviewing the history of the dump site from the Township point of view.

3M Presentation

J. C. Juettner briefly summarized the history of the dump site, what 3M has done in the past, what 3M is doing now and what 3M proposes to do in the future.

Mr. Juettner indicated that 3M had identified isopropyl ether in the Schuessler well, but had also found high concentrations of surfactants and chlorides which are an indication of localized pollution which would not likely originate from the 3M dump site. He indicated that 3M could not find any trace organic chemicals, including isopropyl ether, in either the Gadde's or Scholz's well water, with our present laboratory techniques. The unidentified gas "A" and gas "B" referred to in the University of Minnesota report, therefore, could not be determined at the time.

The following program was proposed:

- (1) Pump tests and laboratory analysis on 3M existing wells and the Schuessler well.
- (2) Sampling and analysis for chemical contamination of any well water in the immediate vicinity of the dump site if requested by the home owner and approved by the Township Board.
- (3) Continued analytical work to determine if gases "A" and "B" actually exist and then identify them. (Subsequent to the meeting Central Research personnel contacted the University laboratory personnel and obtained the exact analytical procedure that they used on these samples. Using this procedure 3M is still unable to find the so-called gases "A" and "B".)
- (4) Construction of a test well on 3M property between the original dumping area and the Schuessler well to determine the water aquifers that are contaminated, and other trace organic chemicals present, etc.
- (5) As a temporary measure 3M will install an activated carbon filter on any chemically contaminated well for which 3M is liable before a solution can be derived.

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Health Department Presentation

Mr. Russ Frazier indicated that 3M has highly qualified scientists doing a conscientious job of analysis on the well water samples, but the analytical procedures are very complex and time consuming. He also indicated that the activated carbon filter as proposed would remove the trace organic chemicals that have been found in the well water and will provide an effluent quality equal to what it was before the organic material appeared. He pointed out, however, that the carbon filter would not make an acceptable water supply out of one that was originally bad due to improper construction or well deterioration.

Representative Albertson Raises Questions

Mr. Howard Albertson wanted to know why the Township Board and the Minnesota Health Department and Water Pollution Control Commission originally allowed a dump of this type to be established in this area. Since the Health Department had not issued 3M an operation permit for the dump, he also wanted to know why 3M was allowed to continually use the site. He felt that too much time had elapsed since December, 1963, when the Health Department had last investigated the dump site and recommended that 3M abandon the use of the site as soon as other means of disposal could be installed. It was pointed out to Mr. Albertson by 3M people that 3M had complied with the Health Department request and that since December, 1963, all acid dumping had ceased immediately and most of the other scrap material which at that time was being dumped, is now being incinerated. It was also pointed out that all 3M operations at the dump site had terminated on April 29, 1966, and the only use of the dump site now is by the Cottage Grove Village and Woodbury Township residents for their general refuse disposal at 3M expense. Mr. Paul Johnson told Mr. Albertson that the Water Pollution Control Commission did not have authority over ground water until 1964 and consequently could not issue operating permits for dump sites that were established before that time.

Township Engineer and Residents' Reaction

The major concern of the village residents was the health hazard caused by the trace organic chemicals. They were surprised to find out that the Health Department couldn't make the analysis for the trace organic chemicals because of lack of equipment. There appeared to be a hesitancy to believe the 3M laboratory results.

Mr. Otto Bonestroo asked several questions about the test well program and he appeared to be very satisfied with the program as a means to find a solution to the problem. He also stated that it was his opinion that the contamination from the 3M dump site occurred during the early years of operation at the dump before the lined pits were constructed in 1962.

Summary

As a result of the meeting the township board and the residents in the area of the dump site seemed satisfied with the program proposed by 3M and the

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temporary solutions of the activated carbon filter offered to them. It should be pointed out, however, that they are still confused by the entire problem and the magnitude and complexity of the work involved. There is still a feeling that 3M should be moving faster toward a solution than we have in the past. It was the general feeling of all the 3M representatives present at the meeting that the 3M test program, which was endorsed by the state and village, should proceed as rapidly as possible and that the results should be reviewed periodically by the Township Board and the residents. It was also felt that Mr. Albertson's presence at the meeting and his accusations of the Township Board and Health Department for their failure to close the dump site many years ago helped 3M's position. His statements forced the Township Board into defending the operation of the dump site. Otto Bonestroo, who in the past had been quite hostile towards 3M, also made a number of statements that defended the dump site operation.

A reported was present at the meeting and it is not known what will be reported in the newspaper or how many newspapers will be covered.

The Township Board at Mr. Albertson's request is also going to investigate the possibility of terminating the use of the dump site by the Woodbury Township and Cottage Grove Village residents.



C. E. Kiester
Water and Sanitary Engineering

CEK:pjs

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