



## **TOP News on Water: August 2021**

Committee Mission: *“To achieve a permanent safe drinking water solution, within the current site investigation area in the Town of Peshtigo, at the expense of the identified responsible party.”*

The month of July was heavily focused on the PFAS Water Solution. While starting out, July 6<sup>th</sup>, with a disappointing Resolution from the City of Marinette, denying the Town of Peshtigo access to city water via either extended water lines or bulk water, the month ended, July 30<sup>th</sup>, with a productive face to face meeting with Johnson Controls. Katie McGinty VP & Chief Sustainability, Government & Regulatory Affairs Officer and Mary Gade, Community Support Consultant.

Also present were Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources representatives Christine Haag and Kyle Burton. **A one-hour discussion was had with Town Supervisors asking numerous questions and receiving clear verbal commitments from JCI on the following:**

- *Commitment to provide the Town access to all detailed engineering research for all viable permanent water solutions within 10 business days. (August 13<sup>th</sup>)*
- *Commitment within the next 10 business days to determine, and provide results, if the Public Service Commission has provided economic analysis of the life of, and cost associated with, maintaining water lines throughout the Town of Peshtigo. (August 13<sup>th</sup>)*
- *Commitment to a signed Reimbursement Agreement within 10 business days (August 13<sup>th</sup>)*
- *Commitment to fully engage in a Summit between the Town of Peshtigo, JCI and Stakeholders (City of Peshtigo and City of Marinette) no later than Sept. 15-30<sup>th</sup>*
- *Commitment to review the 2019 ROAR report to ensure it includes the latest edits and requirements from the WDNR.*
- *Commitment to accept responsibility for cost associated with removal of contaminated soil and dewatering required by the WDNR as a result of the JCI PFAS contamination; for both the Town and residents alike.*
- *Acknowledgement that the WDNR has final enforcement authority to determine where JCI is deemed the responsible party. Christine Haag (WDNR) made it clear that the site investigation has not been approved as of 7/30/2021 and that further investigation is needed regarding the movement of the plume as well as air deposition impact.*

Simultaneously, the Town Water Committee has developed a Water Solution Matrix (draft version), a list of Environmental Consultants to which RFQ's will be submitted mid-August and completed and submitted RFQ's to Environmental Regulatory Law Firms with applications due mid-August.

The Town has also been in ongoing contact with the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources who has established the following timeline for the Water Summit:

- DNR signed the MOA with JCI last week.
- The mediator RFQ was sent on 7/29/2021 to the combined list of potential mediators from the Town and JCI.
- Responses to the RFQ are due August 9 at 5pm.
- The DNR current schedule will have them making recommendations to the stakeholders (Town of Peshtigo, JCI, and cities of Peshtigo and Marinette) on a vetted list of possible mediators by the end of August.
- The DNR should have a mediator selected by the middle of September

Please also **NOTE** that the Town **website is now LIVE** at **[townofpeshtigo.org](http://townofpeshtigo.org)** I encourage you to go to the updated site on your mobile device, laptop or tablet and SIGN UP for water notices. After signing up you will automatically receive meeting notices, agendas, minutes and Water Reports.

Thank you for your continued confidence and patience....onward.

-Cindy Boyle

Town of Peshtigo Chairperson

Water Committee Chairperson