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Town of Middleborough
Massachusetts

CHARLES J. CRISTELLO
Town Manager

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MEMORANDUM

TO: Board of Selectmen

FROM: Charles J. Cristello, Town Manager

RE: Recommendation on Design Engineer for Wastewater Treatment Plant Upgrade

DATE: March 28, 2013

The next step in the design of the upgrade to our wastewater treatment plant is to select a design engineer. Chairman Alfred Rullo, DPW Director Andy Bagas, Wastewater Superintendent Todd Goldman, Assistant to the Town Manager Caroline LaCroix, Paul Millett and Paul Gabriel of Environmental Partners and I interviewed all four engineering companies last week that responded to the Town's Request for Qualifications. The process calls for us to select three finalists, rank them in order of qualifications and transmit them to the awarding authority, in this instance the Board of Selectmen. Assuming that the awarding authority accepts the list as presented we would then ask the top ranked firm to submit a fee proposal and we would then attempt to negotiate a contract with that firm. In the event we are unsuccessful in negotiating a contract with the first ranked firm negotiations are terminated and undertaken with the remaining designers, one at a time, in the order they were ranked until agreement is reached.

We are recommending the finalists in the following order:

Wright-Pierce
CDM Smith
GHD

These are all very good firms that have significant experience with wastewater projects. All of them are capable of performing the role of design engineer. Wright Pierce stood out from the rest based on their performance in the interview. They were the firm that were most aggressive in challenging assumptions about the scale and projected cost of the project and presented several innovative suggestions to reduce costs. CDM heard the Town's concerns about keeping costs as low as possible and suggested several alternate approaches.

Once the design engineer is hired the next step will be to seek design funds at Town Meeting on April 22. The design engineer's first task will be to complete a Comprehensive Wastewater Management Plan (CWMP) in order to qualify for 0% financing from the Department of Environmental Protection. We will not begin design until the EPA NPDES permit is issued this fall.

I would be happy to answer any questions you may have.

c: Andy Bagas, DPW Director
Todd Goldman, Wastewater Superintendent
Caroline LaCroix, Assistant to the Town Manager
Paul Millett, Owner's Project Manager