

TOWN OF KIRKWOOD PUBLIC HEARING

September 2, 2025

A public hearing was held in relation to the increase and improvement of facilities of the Consolidated Water District No. 1 on September 2, 2025 at 6 PM at the Joseph A. Griffin Town Hall with Supervisor Lewis Grubham presiding.

Present: Supervisor Lewis Grubham
Councilmember William Diffendorf, Jr.
Councilmember Marc Latini
Councilmember Katie Legg
Councilmember Sandy Wasson

Also Present: Robert McKertich, Attorney
Kelley Diffendorf, Town Clerk
Karen Ferguson, Historian

Absent: Poe Williams, Highway Superintendent

Bill Brown of Delaware Engineering gave a brief description of the capital project to upgrade the water system. The proposal is to implement filtration at the existing water treatment plant to deal with elevated iron and manganese from the source water. The goal of this project is to clean up the source water and to eliminate the dirtiness that is created from those elements. Supporting equipment will be needed to install everything, sand filters, pumps, tanks, yard piping, and an addition building will be added to house everything.

Bill Brown continued by explaining the process of undertaking a capital project, the Town must complete the State 202-b process, which is regulation. After the public hearing the Town has a couple of resolutions prepared by the bond counsel to consider. One resolution is regarding the 202-b process, approving that it is within the public's best interest/benefit. The other resolution is to authorize a bond resolution, which is regarding the Town taking on debt for the project which is estimated to be \$12,000,000. Grant funding is also being sought from NYS Environmental Facilities to try to reduce the rate impact to users, the current application is seeking a grant of \$5,000,000 to go against the project. A separate resolution needs to be approved and submitted by September 12, 2025 to meet the grant funding deadline, with an expected response around Thanksgiving or Christmas time.

Supervisor Grubham opened the hearing to public comments.

Brian Kinney of Route 11 asked Bill Brown if anything has been looked at to remediate the problem at the water source itself as opposed to doing the filtration system because it's going to become more of a nuisance as time goes on which means you're going to keep adding filters to deal with the issue. Bill Brown explained that a phosphate chemical (sequestering agent) is currently added to the water wells and has been for years, but it's not keeping up with the problem. Brian Kinney also asked if treating the wells themselves has been looked at to get the numbers down before the money is spent to put the filtration system in, because if it is bad now, it's only going to get worse later. Bill Brown noted that well development work is going to be done by a well service provider.

Supervisor Grubham closed the hearing at 6:07 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Kelley M. Diffendorf
Town Clerk