

Ashfield Wastewater Treatment Plant Request for Proposals

Written Questions

Question #1:

“We have reviewed the Request for Proposals issued by the Town for engineering related to the Ashfield WWTP. We request that the Town issue clarification on the following.

The RFP requests services related to the WWTP similar to a request from the Town in 2023. Please clarify whether the work requested in 2023 was completed. If the 2023 engineering related to the WWTP was completed, can the Town provide copies of the document(s) produced at that time. If the work did not proceed in 2023, can the Town clarify why no action was taken at that time.”

Answer:

In 2023 the town was informed by the USDA that we were almost certain to receive a grant to pay for these services. An RFP was issued to expedite the process based on our expected receipt of this grant. However, due to an extended vacancy in the position of town accountant, the town was unable to provide certain financial reports they requested, and the grant could not be approved by the USDA until these reports were received, leaving the town without a funding source. No contract was signed at that time due to lack of grant or local appropriation.

After two years of back-and-forth with the USDA, a grant contract was finally signed this summer with the USDA which then allowed the town to proceed with advertising for services.

No contract was signed due to lack of funding nor was any work completed under the previous RFP.