Wolcott Village Wastewater Committee Meeting

Wolcott Town Office School St. and Zoom

November 18, 2024

In Person: Linda Martin, Jim Ryan, Tori Hellwig
On Zoom: Bradley Horstman, Achouak Arfaoui, Allen Carpenter, Bruce Wheeler, Peter Lazorchak, Emily Hackett, J.B. Hinds, Seth Jensen

1. **Septic Ordinance – continue developing**

   A Board of Sewer Commissioners (BOSC) was the Committee preference for managing the system. The bylaws for a board of sewer commissioners and ordinance still need to be adopted by the Selectboard. The ordinance needs to be in place by the time the system is up and running, could be passed sooner but become effective later. J.B. recommended having the ordinance in place at least one year before system constructed, and BOSC formed by June 2026. Then BOSC can work with residents. Having BOSC and ordinance in place will help people hooking up understand the rules.

   The Committee reviewed the draft BOSC bylaws, membership, and meeting schedule. The Town Treasurer and the Selectboard should discuss the treasurer function of the BOSC, to match ongoing town procedures (like the Library). Linda and J.B. will work to make small tweaks to the BOSC bylaws and then share with the Selectboard.

   The Committee also reviewed the draft ordinance policies again. Folks would like to make sure it is clear that costs to hook up are only covered during construction. Stone can estimate how much it would cost a property to hook up after construction is complete, including permitting, hiring contractor, and paying to hook up. The "opt out" provisions were discussed further, including a new third option for potential properties where systems were built after 2007, a best fix system not currently failing or ever failed. The wastewater rule defines "fully compliant" and "best fix."

   J.B. will fold policies into a draft ordinance, highlight areas, and review with the committee at an upcoming meeting.

Stone will determine the status of the 10 properties that haven't returned survey letters yet.

2. **Other Items - Meeting Schedule**
   Next Meeting will be December 17, 5-7pm. Another meeting was scheduled for January 2 at 3pm to finalize the draft ordinance before Town Meeting.

3. **Update from Stone**
   Still on track for 30% design. Ongoing coordination with VTrans for Section 1111 permit. Met with the School Street Bridge project team. Town got a utility agreement, and is working on the bridge project schedule with the wastewater project.

4. **Grant funding update**
   The Town accepted the NBRC grant.

5. **Approve October 15 Meeting Minutes**
   Bruce moved to approve the minutes. Bradley seconded. The minutes were approved.