Wolcott Wastewater Committee – August 19, 2025

Wolcott Town Office School St. 5:00pm

In Person: Jim Ryan, Linda Martin, Bradley Horstman, Bruce Wheeler, Tori Hellwig, Peter Lazorchak, David Polow

On Zoom: Lynnette Claudon

- **Approve last month's minutes (all)**

Linda motioned to approve the minutes, Bradley seconded. Passed.

- **Update from Stone- design and permitting. Updated project timeline and next steps. (Peter)**

Starting to have everything put together for EID. Wetlands permit prepped, draft plans submitted to VTrans for comment on 1111 permit. VDHP will need to approve but field work planned for Phase 1. Goal to pull everything together in September and submit permits in October. Bridge design is all wrapped up, project went out to bid and CCS was selected for construction. Stone has worked with CCS before.

Crossing over Pond Brook is included in ESA, concluded that separate carrier bridge is needed to carry pipe across rather than connecting to existing bridge. Need to move ESA through DEC review to continue working on this. Pedestrian bridge is ultimate goal for Committee, concerns about using available funds for this purpose and ADA requirements for federal funding requirements. Goal to lay groundwork for this in project but complete as separate project in future.

60% design plans provided to DEC for review/comment. Starting to pull together elements of 90% designs, estimated timeframe dependent on investigations at school. 90% should be ready late October/early November.

- **Updates on Opt-Out landowner tallies and responses (Peter/All)**

Stone had good conversation with R. Mendez, explained property requirements, proximity to church, challenges with getting a replacement leach field based on existing conditions. Eventually convinced to connect, still waiting on paperwork. Alex is receiving "yes" mailings. Stone needs to connect with David to confirm he will receive copy of easement. No changes other than this property since the previous meeting.

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Shannon Hewitt (161 School St) – commitment letter returned as a yes but difficult to find a time to survey property. Confirmed Williams is also a yes to connect.

- **Landowner easement- deed research, bank permissions, and landowner mailings (Linda)**

Town Attorney provided an update, minimal coordination needed with out of state banks but will follow up. Relative to IDR permit for DEC, all easements need to be in hand before IDR permit can be issued, drafted, and posted for public comment. Sometimes communities have put together a follow up contract for additional service connections, or Add Alt to amend IDR permit to include. Issue is not about easement, but about getting release from the bank. Lynnette will follow up with DEC staff to confirm whether the release is required from bank for package to be complete for IDR permit. Deadline for easements will be later this fall to keep moving forward with permitting process.

Meeting at 6pm for interested landowners with time for Q&A and to have documents notarized. The Town attorney available to notarize and answer legal questions. Additional outreach and follow up will be needed from the Committee if folks don't come to event and easements/forms are not being returned.

- **School Board Meeting postponement and groundwater test results** (Peter)

An easement is still needed from the school, the September or October meeting will be attended to discuss this and the water testing.

- **Grant funding update-** (Tori and Linda)

A CDBG pre-application was submitted and the project was invited to submit a full application for a CDBG-DR grant. The Wastewater Committee may provide a letter of support.

- **Other**

Adjourned for landowner Q&A for easements.

Next Meeting: September 16

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