

March 5, 2024 Special Meeting 2:00PM

PRESENT: Mayor Eagan; Trustees Norton, Watson, LaChapelle and Putorti; Matt Fuller; Clark Wilkinson; Ted Donner; Bob Murray; Steven Brock, Charlie Austin; Ed Hernandez

The purpose of this meeting is to discuss the capacity of the Wastewater Treatment Plant. Matt Fuller stated that the high capacity of the Wastewater Treatment Plant could be a red flag to the fourth amendment of the Consent Decree with NYS Dept. of Environmental Conservation. Now is the time to discuss this with NYS Dept. of Environmental Conservation and to seek some of the funding that is available for infrastructure improvements.

We need information from the plant operations to create a plan to fix the 95% capacity. Now is the time to go for funding to correct the problem. Inflow and infiltration needs to be corrected to reduce the capacity. It may be possible to have NYS Dept. of Environmental Conservation change the capacity but that may require the operators to upgrade their certifications. It was suggested that when a home is for sale do inspection to be sure sump pumps are removed from the sanitary sewer before a final water/sewer bill is produced.

A Plan needs to be created to address all of the issues at the Wastewater Treatment Plant to get it listed, scored and added to the Consent decree. Charlie Austin stated that his main concern is the main feed pipe coming into the digester. Matt Fuller stated that a cost analysis of repairing versus replacing the Wastewater Treatment Plant need to be completed. Bob Murray stated that part of the WQIP and Congressional funding could be used to fix the critical needs.

Clark Wilkinson stated that subcatchment #2 has more flows than expected. Inflow and infiltration of illegal hook ups in household could be part of the problem. Bob Murray stated that the Village had a grant to help homeowners with their laterals but the grant was unsuccessful due to not being able to get contractors to bid on the work. Steven Brock stated that if the DPW member sees an open floor drain, they advise the homeowner that it needs to be removed. Matt Fuller stated that a letter should be sent to all residents regarding removing sump pumps that are connected to the sanitary sewer. Steven Brock stated that some homeowners will remove the pumps but reconnect them after the inspection. Matt Fuller stated then the homeowners will need to get a fine. The letter should state that a fine could be imposed due to illegal hook ups.

Matt Fuller asked how the Village could pay for emergency repairs. There is no Fund Balance available for this. Bob Murray suggested borrowing against the grant funds that we already have approval for and the Environmental Facilities Corp. will work with us.

A Plan needs to be created and start inspection of homes of illegal hook ups, send letters and apply fines if necessary. Clark Wilkinson stated that the prioritization of the Inflow and Infiltration subcatchment listing may need to be changed. Trustee Norton asked how much I & I would be removed from the sanitary sewer system once the work is completed on Poultney/Williams Street project. Clark Wilkinson stated that it would be a significant amount removed.

Motion made by Trustee Watson, seconded by Trustee Norton to adjourn the meeting at 3:10PM, all voting in favor, CARRIED

Stephanie A. LaChapelle  
Clerk-Treasurer