**WRC Minutes**

**8/28/2018**

**Attendees**

John Boehmke

Martha Cook

Becky Malamut

Shirley Young

Kevin Cafferty

Sean on the phone

Chris Eck

Ben Bornstein

Becky called the meeting to order at 7:28

**Water Update – Kevin Cafferty**

* Peak water usage was 1.9 on August 27
  + same as July average
  + source = .9 wells, 1.0 reservoir
* planning to shut the treatment plant in December to make repairs
  + if plant fails before repair, we will have to connect to another water system
* Looking for portable green sand filter for Well 17a to remove manganese
  + Planning to do a study of how water flows in the system
* Stream flow release has been stopped
* Plans for a system-wide water study have been tabled for now
  + Current priorities are
    1. Brown water
    2. Sea walls
    3. Water treatment plant problems

*Brown Water Meeting Discussion*

* Becky pointed out that it was good because everyone wants to learn
* Chris pointed out that people have stopped complaining because it doesn’t seem to produce any results
* The group discussed a variety of ways to collect data – more user friendly online survey, paper survey available at Town Hall or Water Dept, notation on water bills
* Kevin explained how difficult this is and all the things they are doing
  + Sean has already been to a bunch of houses and his guys now have sample bottles so they can take samples when they’re out
  + Kevin planning hydraulic study to show where ice pigging and flushing should happen, etc etc
  + Becky volunteered to help get the word out of all the things they are doing
  + John encouraged DPW to better understand the problems they are solving
  + The group discussed the benefits of hiring another DPW person to run the brown water resolution project.
    1. Becky moved to write a letter to the BOS supporting the green sand filter and an assistant for Sean. Lack of support for green sand filter. Becky then moved to write a letter to the BOS supporting an assistant for Sean. John seconded and the motion was approved unanimously.

*Reservoir project*

* 436 CJCH – Becky sent septic system requirements to BOH and broker.
* Sean was interested in purchasing this initially but 400k is too high, Becky to confirm assessed value (Joe Devito, Town Assessor)

*Green Property on Old Oaken Bucket*

* Dick Green in hoping the town will buy his property for conservation and potential new water source
* This proposal was previously rejected
* Kevin’s feedback – he thinks this is in the same aquifer as our current wells, he wants our next source to be in another aquifer like Dolan Wells is
* Sean’s feedback – anything near cranberry bogs will potentially have iron and manganese levels
* Matter is tabled until John can read the document
* Group discussed the possibility that the town may lose use of wells 10 and 11 due to salt water intrusion
  + Sean affirmed that 10 was shut during a storm to make sure there was no intrusion
  + Kevin suggested we could get a FEMA grant to replace these wells elsewhere

***Water Offset Update***

* Becky said that the remaining topics needing resolution are:
  + Mitigation Fees – how much to charge
    - Current work focused on cost to treat and deliver water
    - Alternative could be based on cost to
      * Develop Dolan well
      * Add capacity to the reservoir
* Other topics include
  + Offset required (2:1 or 1:1)
  + How to regulate
    - Current plan is Water Dept Rules and Regs
    - Concern about
      * ANR – approval not required
      * Subdivision off of a common driveway
      * Special zoning such as Toll Brothers
    - Alternative would be to use subdivision regs
  + Exemptions
    - Several people feel strongly about no exemptions
    - Others have suggested single family equivalent
    - Alternat*ve idea is to allow exemptions as a trial period based on predicted gallons*
  + Projects vs cash payment
    - Most are in favor of cash only
    - Concern is that it could be construed as a tax, but town legal counsel has advised that it is OK

*Comprehensive Water Study*

* All agreed that this needs to be pushed
* Becky agreed to talk to Brad Washburn and Jim Boudreau to help move this forward
* Ben may also speak to Brad about this

***New Initiatives***

Becky moved to send out Martha’s letter re: WRC background and support, to other committees. John seconded and it was approved unanimously.

All other items tabled until the next meeting.

***Open Discussion***

Next meeting will be Tuesday, Sept 25

***Approve Minutes***

Becky moved to approve minutes. Shirley seconded and it was approved unanimously.

**Recent Correspondence – Jeff Rosen**

* Original WRC chair and currently running a consulting business providing expert advice on water problems
* He attended the brown water meeting and wants to provide suggestions
* Primary message is that the town does not understand the problem and needs to put together a sampling plan and a systematic plan
* Becky to pass this letter on to BOS, DPW, Water Dept and TA

**Adjourn 11:11pm**