

Minutes

Sept 22, 2020

Waterville Valley Conservation Commission via Zoom

Meeting commenced 4:05p

Irit read the state required rules for electronically held meetings.

Zoom attendees - Irit Levy, John Recine(ex officio planning board), Chris Bierbrier, Dan Newton, Martha Plante, Ed Lucente (new member), Mark Decoteau (Town Mgr), Mike Szalaji (rep new prop. Owners)

Welcome to new member Ed Lucente.

Officers nominated and elected unanimously as follows:

Chair: Irit Levy, V. Chair: Chris Bierbrier, Sec. Martha Plante.

Old Business: reviewed approved minutes from Sept 18, 2019 for the sake of continuity. Setback discussion & proposal for Planning Board: ConComm has not yet made a recommendation to the Planning Board. We will consult with Rick Van de Poll shortly. Jim Mayhew is currently working on a bridge & culvert inventory for the town.

Also noted from last September's meeting is that we may be able to use a floodplain ordinance which may help us control errant owners who may be endangering our water supply. (another item for Rick)

New Business:

Updates from Mark Decoteau:

Culverts and roads - Engineering work for Valley Rd, Tecumseh Rd and Snows Brook Rd. has been completed. Work is on hold mostly due to Covid-19 and monetary constraints.

Sewer Lagoons: There was a leak detected in June while mowing. A crack in the 40 yr old clay lining was found and repaired. Cause unknown, possibly dry. No EPA issue. Cost ~\$60K.

Budgets are tight due to Covid and unexpected expenses. Have had to cut back on several capitol projects.

Permit re treated sewer discharge into Mad River is overdue for renewal. DES is working on it. New plan will be more stringent and very expensive- "perhaps tens of Millions". An option is to change to a form of ground water discharge. Town is looking for appropriate land for this purpose. Our land seems to have the proper composition for percolating the discharge, this approach would cost half as much.

(Decoteau's update will follow after Mike Szalaji's discussion)

Mike S. represents owners of land on Golden Heights Rd Lot 30 and asks if there are any concerns re the building plans. Horizon Engineers are involved to mitigate any possible water run off to wetlands. Concerns were addressed and satisfactorily answered.

Mark D.: cont.

Re Map 104, lot 41 by golf course and gazebo. We are being informed that tree cutting and fill operations are planned for that location. There will be no wetland or drainage impact.

Design work and permitting for the connection of Wells #2 and #3 to the treatment building are under way. In Feb Well #2 went off line due to a chemical feed pump problem. We have been operating on one well since then, #4. With the drought we are monitoring the aquifer. Ok so far.

We have had aprox. 1000 people living here since April. And have increased our water/ sewer use aprox. 20%. Current population is up about 100ppl to 555 residents.

Drought is severe. Mechanical watering is not permitted at this time.

Member asked Question about storm drains. We have mostly catch basins that perk into ground water. A few swales and drains end up in Mad River, Snows Brook or Corcoran Pond.

Member asked if we need permits for fire pits. Yes, however they are not approving new permits during this drought.

Next meeting via Zoom scheduled for Tues. Dec 15 @ 4p.

Meeting adjourned 5:17p