



TOWN OF
NORTH STONINGTON, CT
WATER POLLUTION CONTROL AUTHORITY

REGULAR MEETING
of the WPCA
September 24, 2020
7:00pm Via Zoom

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TOWN CLERK'S OFFICE
NORTH STONINGTON CT

Minutes

Chairman B. Currier called the Special Meeting to Order at 7:01pm

Members Present: B. Currier, B. Boissevain, & C. Johnston

Members Absent: A. Sadowski & R. Mason

Staff: J. Hodge,

Guests: Selectmen, M. Urgo, N. Kincaid and B. Carlson; Ken Labbe, Consultant, Grace Kasprzak, student, and Eric McPhee, DPH were also present. Lori Mathieu, DPH joined at 7:30pm.

J. Hodge to take minutes in the absence of A. Sadowski.

Update from K. Labbe and M. Urgo on Water/Sewer Projects.

K. Labbe updated the WPCA and others present on how he initially got involved with the Town and his background in general. He provided an overview of some of the expressed need for water and/or sewer infrastructure to select parcels along Frontage Rd., Pendleton Hill Rd. and Rte. 2 between I95 and the Rotary and presented several scenarios on how to move forward. K. Labbe provided a document providing details. KOA is still the driving force as they are still having to truck water in to meet the demand. K. Labbe stated he has been interviewing all property owners who might have interest including the CFO for the MPTN, D. Nettleton (WPCA Stonington) and B. Beauregard (Westerly Water). K. Labbe is looking at a phased approach and reviewed several options including creating a municipally sourced water system financed by private owners; creating a municipal water system that consists of tying together the various wells on the parcels interested in having public water, and the option of developing new wells on private property to tie in. He discussed the Town's Exclusive Service Area status and the regulatory issues of buying or selling water or connecting to Westerly wells as part of a more regional system.

Some scenarios explored involved running a line under the Shunock River which would raise the cost of the project significantly; or having to cross the Rotary. One plan being explored would initially avoid crossing any highway or the river to get water to KOA- as they are the priority. The use of a water tower was also discussed.

The WPCA and K. Labbe discussed Westerly Water and the resources they may bring to the table as well as a potential role for the MPTN as they own property in the Utility Extension area as well.

Eric McPhee from DPH introduced himself and commended the Town on being proactive. He agreed that a phased approach was best when trying to serve or develop a corridor. He discussed possible funding through the CT Drinking Water Revolving Loan Fund as KOA would qualify for such funding given their current issues with water "quality and quantity" – a threshold for qualification. E. McPhee went over other funding mechanisms, the timing, and complications of each.

B. Carlson asked for more detail on the various scenarios being considered.

Lori Mathieu had joined the call at 7:30 and provided additional information on the funding options as well as giving some history on Westerly's previous efforts to develop a well in North Stonington. She discussed the complications of water coming from Westerly explaining that they cannot simply extend their pipes into CT. Westerly is excluded from the ESA process – being in a different state – but they can sell water to CT. She stated that it was great for the towns to work together and that regulations were improving. She stated that the CT DPH currently has a MOU with Westerly. She stated that the DPH is here to help in any way they can especially since KOA is a regulated water system.

C. Johnston stated that he liked K. Labbe's idea to cross the Romanella property to connect to the Vineyard and then across to KOA, and agreed that the other later phases could be added later. M. Urgo stated that the BOS should discuss this further at their next meeting (10/13)– he will invite WPCA and K. Labbe.

B. Boissevain stated that KOA has been waiting 3 years at this point and now it seems like they will now have to wait longer. He also reminded everyone that the Vineyard wanted a definite answer by December. M. Urgo stated that K. Labbe would look into the easements, and that the flow tests etc. have been completed, so now only the details about the financing have to be worked out. He believed we would have an answer soon.

Approval of 9/2/2020 Special Meeting Minutes: Minutes were accepted as written.

Motion made and seconded (C. Johnson/B. Boissevain) to adjourn the meeting at 8:52pm. Motion Passed

Next Regular meeting will be held on October 22, 2020
at 7PM Location/Format TBD