

WEST WINDSOR WASTEWATER/WATER COMMITTEE

MINUTES OF THE PUBLIC MEETING

OCTOBER 25, 2010

The meeting was called to order by Glenn Seward at 7:00. Committee members present were: Chairman Al Keiller, Glenn Seward, Rudy Gross, Win Johnson and Barbara Truex. Absent: Elvin Kaplan and Mike Gannon. Glenn welcomed the townspeople to the meeting and provided a brief introduction noting the inception of the committee and its connection to the recently approved Town Plan.

Al reviewed the Charge of the Committee from the Select Board, Background information, and the Work Plan used by the committee that led to this public meeting. He introduced Don Robisky of the State Department of Environmental Conservation who described the state's role in providing funding for initial water/wastewater evaluations and his role as a consultant to the committee. Win followed with the highlights of the many discussions committee members had with leaders of other communities who have availed themselves of the state funding for water/wastewater evaluations. He noted the range of costs, the variations in town sizes and our review of several RFPs relative to individual situations. He also noted that we can request a "blind" study which avoids naming specific properties where wastewater issues may exist.

At this point, the public participants were invited to ask questions of the committee and Don.

*Did we find any downside to conducting the evaluation? (No)

*Will the study consider future potential growth? (Yes)

*What was the nature of the towns we contacted? (Varied in both size and water/wastewater issues)

*Would everyone have to hook-up if a sewer line was installed? (This would be determined at a much later date after all alternatives and costs were considered)

*Where might a community system go? (The consultants would evaluate that as part of the study)

*What about people who are in the area covered by the study but have a long distance from the road to their residences? (That , too, would be evaluated by the engineers conducting the study)

Don noted that the study would look at every possibility and combination of possibilities as part of the assessment of the village area to be included in the study. He will assist us in writing the RFP to assure a thorough evaluation which will help us find out what our alternatives are; actual choices would be way down the road. This step provides information from which to determine further steps if there are to be any. Considerable public input would be sought along the way.

At the conclusion of the meeting, Al conducted a straw poll of those in attendance; it was unanimous to recommend to the Select Board that we move forward with an application for state funding for a water/wastewater study. Win moved/Rudy seconded that we move forward with the request and the committee unanimously approved the motion.

Next steps:

Al will write a letter to the Select Board requesting their approval to move forward with the study. Should they approve, Don will provide two applications (one for water/one for wastewater). He noted that money is currently available. Once approved, an RFP will be written to seek consulting engineers for the study. Don offered to assist with this to be sure we include the necessary language for a thorough study.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:12.

Respectfully submitted,

Barbara Truex