

WEST WINDSOR WATER/WASTEWATER COMMITTEE

MINUTES OF DECEMBER 1, 2011

90% PROJECT STATUS MEETING UPDATE

Chairman Keiller called the meeting to order at 3 PM. Attending the meeting were Glenn Seward, Don Robisky, Win Johnson, Barbara Truex and Al Keiller. Joe Duncan and Kevin Camara presented on behalf of Aldrich and Elliott, engineers in charge of the water/wastewater evaluation.

After the committee discussed the draft annual report Al had written, Kevin presented information from the latest wastewater capacity analysis for a community wastewater system. A potential site was examined using test pits with soils from 0" to 60" evaluated for evidence of seasonal high ground water and soil type. The highest seepage was observed at 36" and no bedrock was found to a depth of 60". The engineers concluded from the results of the tests that a conventional in-ground trench system could not be used because of the depth to the seasonal high water table. A filtrate at-grade disposal system could, however, be used. It requires 24" to ground water and the site has 26".

Two types of at-grade community systems were evaluated for the site:

The **first** is a **gravity** collection system built using 8" pipes and pump stations to manage the grade requirements of the core area. The estimate for this type of system is \$1.8 million. This estimate includes land acquisition, engineering, and materials. It requires no pre-treatment at the connected properties and would be eligible for up to 35% grant funding from properties with existing points of pollution. Estimates for this are \$72,000 for debt service for 20 yrs which if charged to the 30 properties in the core area would result in an annual charge of \$2400 each for debt service. If this were spread out over all 1067 parcels in West Windsor it would be approximate \$65 /yr/parcel. This system would provide a capacity of 6480 gallons with an estimated usage of 6000 gallons per day leaving virtually no excess capacity for expansion within the village core area. Total O&M costs are estimated to be \$17,000 per year in addition to the debt service costs.

The **second** potential system is a **step** system. It eliminates pump stations, uses 2" pipes but requires pre-treatment at each connected site and requires regular maintenance of the pre-treatment equipment at each house. It would be eligible for grant funding which would be less than the 35% because of the method of assessing the distances for existing points of pollution. Estimates for capital expenses for this project are \$1.5 million plus O&M of approximately \$17,000 per year. As above, it would not provide excess capacity for growth within the village core area.

The other major alternative is to **connect to the Windsor wastewater treatment plant** by way of the resort pumping station and connection lines. This alternative has no solid estimates at this time although some information is available:

* Windsor has plenty of excess capacity for us to connect to its system.

*The resort portion of the system is in need of extensive maintenance and repair.

*The system would be a gravity fed system with an additional pumping station to get the effluent up to the resort's pumping station and connection to the Windsor sewer line.

*Discussions concerning the establishment of a Fire District (which would include the resort, the entire core area of our study plus additional sites between the brooks, as well as the school), would require the purchase of the system from the resort, repairs to the systems, and control of it going forward. It would provide unlimited capacity, give the town control over that portion of sewer system, allow future growth and development in the core area, and include the school (which is not included in the community system estimates above). Estimated cost is \$2.1 million plus an \$11,000 O&M cost. Current rates for resort properties connected to Windsor are \$483/yr. – with maintenance costs added they could be as high as \$1100/yr. These figures will need to be adjusted once the Fire District issue is resolved and a price is established for the resort system. It was initially priced at \$1.9million and most recently suggested at \$600,000. The engineers hope to have more information by the time of our public meeting next week.

In response to some misinformation that is circulating in town, Kevin clarified the situation with the school's septic system. It currently has ample capacity for its defined use and for additional students (currently 85 with a 133 capacity) with the potential to double that capacity if needed. However, in neither case could the school accommodate a kitchen for food services with its septic system. When food service is involved, capacity is calculated using a different formula. Connecting to a sewer system would allow food services in the school as well as unlimited growth capacity.

The committee discussed the format for presenting the study findings at the 90% completion stage to the public at the Dec. 6 meeting. Kevin and Joe will send the proposed power point to the committee members for review and input on Monday, Dec. 5.

The meeting was adjourned at 4:45.

Respectfully submitted,

Barbara Truex