

Town of Amenia
Wastewater Committee Meeting
Monday, February 4, 2008

Attending:

Darlene Riemer, Chair
Alison Hale
Martin Grossman
Bill Flood
Janet Reagon, Secretary
Wayne Euvrard, Town Supervisor
Norm Cayea, Town Board

Absent:

Brad Rebillard
Moiria Kelly
Michael Chamberlin
Tony Robustelli
Vicki Doyle, Town Board

Present by Invitation:

Rich Rennia, Morris Associates
Candace Balmer, RCAP Solutions
Ed Mills, Dutchess County Water and Wastewater Authority

The minutes of the January 28, 2008 meeting were reviewed and approved. Minutes will be posted on the town website from now on after they have been approved.

Darlene Riemer, Chair, reported that she had contacted Michael Hayes, town attorney, on the legal question involved in describing the proposed sewer district boundaries. Although most of the boundaries follow property lines, there are a few properties in which the zoning designation does not conform to those lines; i.e. the property might be in two different zones, such as HR and SR. He will do research to determine whether it is possible to do a metes and bounds delineation of the sewer district in these few instances and get back to Darlene.

Bill Flood reported that it is his understanding that the Amenia Fire Company has closed on the property on Cascade Road where they plan to build a new firehouse. He will forward information about this property to Rich Rennia for inclusion in the Sewer District Map.

Discussion began with a question about what needed to be shown on the map. The official map must include the boundaries and tax parcel numbers of all properties within the district and does not need to show land features such as ponds or wetlands. The large map and a sample of the 11" by 17" map that will be distributed to the public must be submitted to Dutchess County. It was agreed that another map, without the tax parcel identification numbers, that showed the land and water features would be useful to have to help people understand the dimensions of the district. Rich Rennia will check the Sewer District Map against maps of DEC regulated wetlands and federal wetlands.

Ed Mills, DCWWA, stated that the agency reserves comment on the proposed Sewer District Map until he has checked to see if flag lots along Route 22 north of the light in Amenia may be excluded. He will convey that information to Rich, and Rich will delineate the committee's thinking in excluding them, i.e. steep slopes making building difficult, distance from the proposed sewer main, etc.

Further discussion ensued regarding the mechanics of obtaining signatures on the petition, technical questions about the location of pumping stations and sewer lines, and projected usage. Who would be responsible for building the collection system is a question that must be resolved

going forward. How the project would be managed and financed was also discussed, with agreement on the need to look into ways of lowering the cost to the homeowners. The need for approvals from the DEC and Dutchess County Department of Health was stressed.

A motion was made by Bill Flood, seconded by Alison Hale, to accept the proposed Sewer District Map of 02/04/08 with the caveat that Ed Mills will resolve the flag lot question and get that information to Rich Renna. It was carried unanimously. Rich will have a copy of the approved Map at the next meeting.

Before the next meeting, Rich will analyze the Map with respect to the new zoning, and prepare the flow numbers, including both total current flow and total potential flow. He will also call Delaware Systems (the contractor for designing the sewage treatment plant) to find out the ongoing operation and maintenance costs for which the town would be liable. He and Candace Balmer of RCAP will do a user cost per benefit unit analysis.

Because of the complexity of this project, it was agreed that the Town Supervisor should write a letter to the DCWWA asking for a six-month extension from the March, 2008 deadline for completion of the Map, Plan and Report. While progress is being made, there are still unanswered questions that have to be resolved before the Map, Plan and Report can be completed. Ed Mills stated that this letter should be received by DCWWA before March 1, 2008.

Candace Balmer, RCAP, observed that it was very important for the Town and Silo Ridge to have a legal agreement in place that delineates Silo Ridge's commitment to provide so much capacity (amount to be agreed upon) for the town's system. Darlene stated that she has had some conversation with Silo Ridge representatives but nothing in writing yet. Silo Ridge will be back before the Planning Board at its meeting on Thursday, February 7, 2008.

Meeting adjourned at 6:30 p.m.

The next meeting will be held at the Amenia Town Hall;
Monday, February 25, 2008
5 p.m. to 6:30 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Janet Reagon, Secretary