

Town of Amenia

**Wastewater Committee Meeting
Monday April 28, 2008**

Attending:

Darlene Riemer, Chair
Wayne Euvrard
William Carroll
Norm Cayea
Vicki Doyle
Bill Flood
Martin Grossman
Tony Robustelli

Absent:

Janet Reagon, Sec.
Brad Rebillard
Allison Hale

Present by Invitation:

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

The minutes of the April 14, 2008 meeting were approved and will be posted on the town's website.

Rich Rennia presented a preliminary estimate of \$16,050,797 for design and construction of the wastewater conveyance system. This will be a conventional sewage conveyance system composed of necessary gravity piping, pumping stations and force main piping for collecting sanitary wastewater from locations included within district boundaries as shown in the Proposed Collection System Plan 02/04/08. The proposed system will have the ability to deliver an estimated ultimate flow of 241,969 gallons per day (GPD) of raw sewage to a treatment plant built by Silo Ridge. Silo Ridge will bear the cost of construction of the sewage treatment plant (STP). The proposed Silo Ridge STP site is located north of state route 44.

Candace Balmer estimated that a \$16,000,000 project cost would equate to an annual expense of \$1050 for each home, assuming money borrowed at 5% for 30 years. If financed at 5% for 40 years cost would be approximately \$895 per year for each house in the district.

In addition to the annual expense to finance capital cost, each house within the proposed wastewater district would have to pay an estimated annual fee of \$140 to maintain the collection system and pay the towns share for wastewater treatment plant operation.

Total homeowner annual cost would be approximately \$1200. If Benefit Units, (April 14,2008 meeting), are applied, annual cost for home owners would be slightly less than \$1200.

The annual cost of \$1200 is double the amount of previous estimates. The committee decided that this cost was not affordable to users within the district. Discussion ensued and a variety of suggestions were presented in the effort to reduce this cost.

The possibly of taxing property owners outside the proposed wastewater district with the objective of diluting annual cost to property owners within the district was discussed. This proposal was quickly rejected because of legal complications and probable objections of property owners paying for an un-received service.

Reduction of area included within the wastewater district (map dated 02/04/08) was then discussed. Critical locations such as the Towns business district would be retained. Portions of some outlying areas would be reduced. Area adjacent route 22, north of the Elementary School and parts of Depot Hill are typical candidates for elimination. Pipe installation along state roads and locations of known subsurface rock should be curtailed. If possible, the number of pumping stations should be reduced.

Rich Rennia was questioned about practicability of incorporating the suggested system changes. He felt that project costs savings could be achieved but additional engineering time is necessary to provide an accurate evaluation. Expense for professional service necessary for this evaluation is not within the scope of his original contract . For an additional cost of \$2500 he is willing to investigate alternative design considerations taking into account zoning, the existing water district and the hamlet business & residential area.

Members of this committee agreed that an additional fee of \$2500 for professional engineering service is reasonable if a cost savings could be realized. The committee is recommending that an addition of \$2500 be allocated for this project

Wayne Euvrard agreed with the consensus that \$2500 is reasonable and

will help to budget necessary funds.

William Carroll will seek Stan Whitehead's advice on the possibility of encountering rock where pipes are shown to be installed in the Depot hill area.

Rich Rennia will meet with Silo Ridge. Design issues including the need for the sewer plant to provide for an ultimate flow rate of 240,000 GPD from the towns collection system are to be discussed.

Ed Mills suggested that a meeting should be scheduled with the Town of Armenia, Dutchess County Water and Wastewater Authority and Silo Ridge. It is extremely important to have a legal agreement in place between the Town of Armenia and Silo Ridge for the Towns connection and use of the sewage plant .

Next meeting will be held at the Armenia Town Hall:
Monday May 12, 2008
5 p.m. to 6:30 p.m.

Respectfully submitted
M.F. Grossman, Acting Secretary