

**Town of Amenia  
Wastewater Committee Meeting  
October 27, 2008**

Attending:

Darlene Riemer, Chair  
Martin Grossman  
Allison Hale  
Bill Flood  
Brad Rebillard  
Tony Robustelli  
Bill Carroll  
Janet Reagon, Secretary  
Norm Cayea, Town Board  
Vicki Doyle, Town Board

Present by Invitation:

Ed Mills, DCWWA  
Pete Setaro, P.E. Morris Engineers  
Candace Balmer, RCAP  
Representing Millbrook Ventures, LLC (Silo Ridge): Mike Dignacco and Pedro Torres

Darlene Riemer chaired the meeting. The minutes of October 20, 2008 were approved as amended upon a motion by Tony Robustelli, and a second by Allison Hale, and will be posted on the town's website.

Discussion about the need to bring the cost down for the residents of the proposed new sewer district was the main focus of the meeting. Darlene Riemer worked up three scenarios based on different reductions of the capital costs of the collection system for review by the committee members. Subsequent to the meeting, Ed Mills sent a memo (attached) indicating that the cost projections on which she based her figures were from Rich Renna's July 3, 2008 submission, not the cost projections approved by the Wastewater Committee on July 27, 2008. The purpose of working through the figures was to show the savings in overall costs if the cost of any component of the project could be reduced, and all of the numbers are projections at this point.

Mike Dignacco and Pedro Torres of Millbrook Ventures, LLC, expressed their willingness to work with the town to see what can be done to make the project affordable to the residents of the proposed sewer district. There was some discussion about the placement of the sewage treatment plant and the need for a pumping station for the town as a result of its location.

All members of the committee expressed agreement with the need to reduce costs before the sewer district can be created. The possibility of federal or state grants needs to be explored after the election.

Another idea is to explore the possibility of setting up a fund, administered by an organization such as the Community Foundation of Dutchess County, or the Berkshire-Taconic Community Foundation, to which individuals who do not live in the sewer district, but who want to preserve Amenia's open space, could contribute. Janet Reagon will contact the Community Foundation and BTCF to get information about whether this can be done and how to set it up.

There was discussion about the need to inform and involve the residents of the proposed sewer district. A concern was expressed that we need more solid numbers before we can complete the Map, Plan and Report, but all agreed that the public needs to be brought into the process as soon as is practical.

Pete Setaro reported that he and Michael Hayes, Town Attorney, will be meeting with DCWWA officials on Thursday, October 30, 2008.

The meeting adjourned at 6:30 p.m.

The next meeting is on **Monday, November 10, 2008 at 5:00 p.m. at the Town Hall.**

Respectfully submitted,

Janet M. Reagon, Secretary

**From:** "Mills, Edward" <emills@co.dutchess.ny.us>

**Date:** October 29, 2008 12:28:54 PM EDT

**Subject: DCWWA Project Cost percentages**

Dear Waste Water Committee:

I did not realize this right away at the Oct. 27, 2008 Waste Water (WW) Committee meeting, but the cost scenarios "A", "B", "C" that Darlene had presented at this meeting on Monday had used Rich Rennia's July 3<sup>rd</sup> cost estimates, and not his July 28<sup>th</sup> figures. When I looked at her worksheet which I had initially received at the WW Committee meeting, I just checked to see that it had included the correct flow figure at the top and assumed that Darlene had used the latest version. But later, as I looked closer at it, and I then realized that she had not.

As you know, it is the July 28<sup>th</sup> version of the proposed Hamlet sewer district that the WW Committee had approved at a cost of about \$12.9 million. The July 28<sup>th</sup> version also had a higher construction contingency of 15%, as well as detailed out a separate 10% escalation to 2010. This brought the Project sub-total to \$11,295,906. With all that being factored in and considered, DCWWA was then able to reduce our standard cost percentages for this project and lowered them as follows to: DCWWA admin – 1.15%; DCWWA project management – 2.5%; and a flat fee of \$25,000 for DCWWA legal.

From there, Rich had added another 10% project contingency at the end. I've attached a copy of Rich's project cost summary which the WW Committee had approved on July 28, 2008.

So, when I said that we had already negotiated our percentages down, I was referring to what had been discussed following the July 3 version and then reflected in the July 28 version.

I hope that this helps to clear up any misunderstandings that may have taken place at the meeting with respect to the DCWWA cost percentages for this project.

ED

