

**Town of Amenia  
Wastewater Committee Meeting  
November 10, 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  
Wayne Euvrard, Town Supervisor

Present by Invitation:

Ed Mills, DCWWA  
Pete Setaro, P.E. Morris Engineers  
Candace Balmer, RCAP  
Representing Millbrook Ventures, LLC (Silo Ridge): Mike Dignacco and Rob Caeners  
James Suozzo, P.E., President, Delaware Operations

Darlene Riemer chaired the meeting. The minutes of October 27, 2008 were approved with one correction upon a motion by Tony Robustelli, and a second by Bill Carroll, and will be posted on the town's website.

Darlene Riemer announced that subsequent to a meeting at the DCWWA that she, Michael Hayes and Pete Setaro attended, the Supervisor has written a letter to the Dutchess County Water and Wastewater Authority requesting an extension of the contract until August 31, 2009 for the town to complete the Map, Plan and Report. This is necessary so that the town will be refunded half of the cost. Ed Mills indicated that this matter will be on the agenda for the next meeting of the Authority, and that he expected that the extension should be approved, since the town has been making progress toward its goal of completing the Map, Plan and Report for the proposed Sewer District for the Hamlet of Amenia.

Mike Dignacco of Millbrook Ventures presented an informal, advisory alternative to the earlier Town of Amenia Sewer District plan prepared for the town by Morris Associates and upon which the costs have been figured to date. James Suozzo of Delaware Operations, who was the consultant on the alternative plan, was present to answer questions. Briefly, a new central hub around the hamlet core was proposed, with the outlying districts feeding into it by gravity. Instead of four pumping stations, only one is projected to be needed under this design, to pump the waste to the sewage treatment plant. By using larger (ten-inch) pipe for the central core and burying it at a shallower depth, further savings are envisioned. A copy of this concept design is available for view in the Supervisor's office or in Darlene Riemer's office. The overall projected savings amount to \$4,473,927, reducing the estimated cost per benefit unit to \$951/year. All agreed that Ed Mills should take this alternative plan back to the Authority for review. Pete Setaro of Morris Associates will also review the plan. This alternative plan was reviewed by Mike Soyka, the Town Engineer, at the request of the Supervisor, (letter of September 12, 2008) but this was the first time the Wastewater Committee, Ed Mills and Pete Setaro had seen it.

James Suozzo clarified that he is the President of Delaware Operations, and while he no longer owns Delaware Engineering, he is still closely connected to the company. In the interests of full disclosure, Ed Mills reported that DCWWA is in contract with Delaware Engineering for a project in Beekman.

Millbrook Ventures will provide more copies of the alternative plan to the Planning Board, the Town Board, and other members of the Wastewater Committee. Darlene Riemer expressed her thanks to Millbrook Ventures for preparing this alternative concept plan, and presenting it to the committee. The committee's goal has always been to develop an affordable plan for the residents of the proposed Sewer District.

Janet Reagon reported that she had had informal conversations with the Community Foundation of Dutchess County and the Berkshire-Taconic Community Foundation. Both expressed interest in helping to set up a fund for private donations to help offset costs for residents of the Sewer District. This would be a dedicated fund that could be used to either defray capital costs or hook-up costs for residents. It was encouraging that both foundations thought such a fund would be legal and possible, and further discussions will need to take place this winter.

Candace Balmer reported that the proposed Sewer District might be eligible for a grant through USDA Rural Development of up to \$500,000. It is possible to request a "Pre-Eligibility Determination" from that agency to see if the proposed Sewer District would qualify.

There was discussion about how the cost per benefit unit was derived, and the need to make sure that it is fair to all residences and businesses within the proposed Sewer District. Ed Mills stated that he and Pete Setaro would review that again as well.

The meeting adjourned at 6:30 p.m.

The next meeting is on **Monday, November 24, 2008 at 5:00 p.m. at the Town Hall.**

Respectfully submitted,

Janet M. Reagon, Secretary