

AMENIA WASTEWATER COMMITTEE

Public Meeting

Thursday, February 2, 2023 6:00PM – Amenia Town Hall

MINUTES – **APPROVED**

Attendance: Charlie Miller, Paul Winters, Bill Flood, Shannon Roback, Jim Wright,
Brad Rebillard - TB liaison.
Leo Blackman

Absent: John Stewart, Matthew Schnepf

- Review and approval of 1/10/23 minutes.
- Status update on combining wastewater and drinking water committee. To strengthen the “voice” of water issues, the Water Committee needs to be reactivated. This goal can be accomplished by combining the Wastewater and Water committees. The TB needs to authorize this partnering.
- The Housatonic Valley Association is putting together a proposal to test surface water in the Wassaic Creek by the hamlet. Dutchess County has a Soil and Water Conservation District which could also be contacted to test surface water - housed locally at the Cary Institute - 845-677-8011. Shannon will work on finding state recognized testing companies.
- Railroad Avenue and Lake Amenia Road outreach campaign kickoff. We will send out an invitation to an event to promote information sessions for those neighborhoods. There’s a possibility of adding owners and parcels to the proposed district. Approximately 30 parcels.
- Erin from T&B has let us know that they are backed up so there will be a delay in preparing a proposal for drafting the map and planning report. We will look for other firms to do this work.
- Strategic plan to lobby elected officials: do we need to develop campaigns that target county, state and national officials seeking funding/financing opportunities? Water infrastructure funding comes from the state - Environmental Facilities Corporation channels \$\$ from the EPA. There are also opportunities from WIIA. Assembly Member Anil Beephan and Senator Michelle Hinchey could be contacted. Charlie suggests that focus should be on getting the Map Plan and Report written before starting an outreach effort.
- There will be an issue of different rates for commercial and private owners. We will contact the firms that did the projects in Red Hook and Hyde Park for guidance.

- It is crucial that we raise our IUP score. The problem with securing funding is that it seems a town has to have documented failures of septic systems to qualify. Draft a letter describing where we are and send it to our elected representatives to learn possible funding sources? Draft a talking points document for conversations with these representatives?

Respectfully submitted by James Wright