

Catskill Watershed Corporation
Septic Committee Meeting
June 2, 2015
Minutes

Attendance:

Committee Members: Donald Brandow (Director), Berndt Leifeld (Director), Wayne Marshfield (Director), Tina Mole' (Director), Robert Pelham (Director), Tom Snow (NYSDEC), Alan Rosa (CWC), Michael Triolo (Director) and Michael Meyer (NYCDEP)

Others: Tim Cox (CWC), Marty Donnelly (Director), Jeff Graf (NYCDEP), John Jacobson (CWC), Innes Kasanof (Director), Larry Kelly (CWC), Leo LaBuda (CWC), Jim Martin (CWC), Rich Parete (Director) and Tom Stalter (NYCDEP)

- I. The meeting was called to order at 9:20 AM by Wayne Marshfield.
- II. Wayne Marshfield was nominated and re-elected Chair of the Committee by a unanimous vote.
- III. Minutes from the last meeting were reviewed and approved as written.
- IV. Septic Program

A. Sofia Vasilikos Over \$25,000.00: Ms. Vasilikos' project is located in the Town of Halcott. Her proposed septic system will serve a three bedroom house. A 1,000 gallon septic tank was previously installed at a cost of \$2,989.84. Major components of the rest of her proposed septic system include one syphon chamber, 65 linear feet of gravity piping, one distribution box, 345 cubic yards of absorption fill material, 250 linear feet of absorption trench, 140 linear feet of curtain drain, 180 linear feet of swale, a temporary access road and site restoration. Ms. Vasilikos' contractor has submitted a quote for \$26,997.00 for these components. With the added cost of the septic tank, the total project cost is \$29,986.84. The Septic Committee recommended that a resolution be brought before the Board of Directors to reimburse Sofia Vasilikos in the amount not to exceed \$26,997.00 to build her septic system.

- B. James Peters Over \$25,000.00: Mr. Peters' project is located in the Town of Roxbury. His proposed septic system will serve a four bedroom house. Major components include a 1,250 gallon septic tank, one pump chamber, 15 linear feet of gravity piping, 180 linear feet of force main, one distribution box, 300 cubic yards of absorption fill material, one effluent filter, 315 linear feet of absorption trench, 190 linear feet of swale and extensive site restoration. Mr. Peters' contractor has submitted a quote for \$29,995.00 to build this system. This is within 10% of the staff estimated cost of construction based on the Schedule of Values. The Committee recommended that a resolution be brought before the Board to reimburse James Peters in the amount not to exceed \$29,995.00 to build his septic system.
- C. Steve Koutsodontis Over \$25,000.00: Mr. Koutsodontis' property is located in the Town of Colchester. His proposed septic system will serve a four bedroom house. Major components will include a 1,250 gallon septic tank, 75 linear feet of gravity piping, 120 linear feet of force main, 19 cubic yards of absorption fill material, 10 cubic yards of random fill material, one effluent filter, four peat modules and a pump station, one clean out and site restoration. The use of peat filters reduces the amount of fill material required. Mr. Koutsodontis' contractor has submitted a quote for \$25,982.00 to build this system. This is within 10% of the staff estimated cost of construction. The Committee recommended that a resolution be brought before the Board to reimburse Steve Koutsodontis in the amount not to exceed \$25,982.00 to build his septic system.
- D. Margaret Owen Over \$25,000.00: Ms. Owen's property is located in the Town of Olive. Her proposed septic system will serve a two bedroom house. Major components of this system will include a 1,000 gallon septic tank, one syphon chamber, 100 linear feet of gravity piping, one distribution box, 400 cubic yards of absorption fill material, 65 cubic yards of random fill material, one effluent filter, 750 square feet of absorption bed, 95 linear feet of curtain drain, tree removal and site restoration. Three quotes were received for this project. They were for

\$33,280.00, \$31,250.00 and \$30,451.00. The lowest quote is slightly below the staff estimated cost of construction. The Committee recommended that a resolution be brought before the Board to reimburse Margaret Owen in the amount not to exceed \$30,451.00 to build her septic system.

E. Elaine Mayes Over \$25,000.00: This item was pulled from the agenda.

F. Robert Cronk Small Business Eligibility: Robert Cronk is the owner of Grand Gorge Tire located in the Town of Roxbury. His business is located in the Grand Gorge Sewer Extension area. The previous owner of the business declined to allow an environmental review of the property which was required for connection to the sewer main. This environmental review was to assess the site for hazardous materials. It was once a gas station. As a result, the property was never connected to the collection line. Mr. Cronk is selling tires at this site. A stub was installed to allow for a future connection. After Mr. Cronk purchased the property, he expressed an interest in connecting to the main.

CWC Small Business Septic Program Rules state, "... some small businesses with the watershed shall not be eligible to be included in the Small Business Septic Program because another MOA program will potentially alleviate the need for a functioning septic system at that business." This section goes on to provide that properties located in the Hamlet of Grand Gorge are excluded from the program. CWC staff notes that Mr. Cronk had no role in the decision not to connect his property to the sewer extension. CWC staff has not yet inspected the septic system serving Mr. Cronk's business due to the question of its eligibility for the CWC Small Business Septic Program.

The CWC Board can waive the rule prohibiting funding from the program because of the location of the business in Grand Gorge. This is a special circumstance. The business is located close to a stream. The new owner will not need an environmental review to connect to the sewer main. The Committee recommended that a resolution be brought before the Board to

waive the Small Business Septic Program Rule prohibiting funding for Mr. Cronk's business because of its location in Grand Gorge.

- G. Septic Cluster Update: There was no report on this program this month.
- H. Septic Maintenance: Larry Kelly reviewed activity in this program with the Committee. Activity increased last month, doubling the total number of pump outs reimbursed for the year. 21 homeowners were reimbursed for pump outs last month, bringing the total for the year to 45. 387 letters were mailed to homeowners newly eligible for the Maintenance Program.
- I. Update: Leo reviewed activity in the Septic Program with the Committee. 16 repairs were paid for last month, bringing the total for the year to 39. These numbers are just beginning to pick up from the winter.
- J. Other: There was a discussion of a proposed project to connect a residence located at 95 Mill St., Windham to the sewer main. The house has a failed septic system. It is cost effective to connect to the main. An on-site septic system is estimated to cost \$30,000.00 for this house. Construction costs to connect to the sewer main are estimated to be \$5,000.00. The Town is requiring a \$5,000.00 hookup fee, because the connection is outside of the Sewer District. Program Rules prohibit funding for hookup fees. The Committee recommended that a resolution be brought before the Board to waive the Septic Program Rule prohibiting payment of hookup fees for this property.

Leo informed the Committee that the Washington St. sewer extension project in Prattsville has been awarded to LaFever Excavating. Completion date is projected to be at the end of August or early September.

- IV. The next Septic Committee meeting was scheduled for July 7, 2015.
- V. The meeting was adjourned at 9:41 AM.