

## Minutes of the Rt. 20 Sewer Citizens Advisory Committee 11/9/2011

Meeting started at 7:30pm

Attendees: Craig Blake, Kirsten Roopenian, Jon Lopat, Daniel Kenn, Dave Duane, John Baranowsky, Bob Haarde. Peter Cramer and Jon Danielson were citizen attendees.

A quorum (6) was achieved.

Dave Duane was appointed Recording Secretary for this meeting.

Review of meeting minutes 10/27/2011. The committee voted unanimously as amended to include proposed edits by John Baranowsky.

New Business; Craig Blake reviewed the role of the committee and requested input from the attendees on their thoughts.

Daniel Kenn: As a business owner wants to understand the impacts of the proposed sewer system. He is aware that several of the systems have failed (Lotus Blossom) and that the expense is very high to replace these.

Dave Duane: As a business person wants to understand the impacts as well. His business located on Union Ave and is able to maintain the septic systems with scheduled pumping.

John Baranowsky: Town residents don't know what is going on with this project. The message needs to get out. How do you educate people? The initial economic base increase on rte 20 has moved more to housing. Need to look at Value Engineering, what are the costs what are the benefits? Who is benefitting from this? The project needs to be tied into the budgeting process. Is this sewer a utility to serve future redevelopment?

Peter Cramer: Will this implementation of the sewer system add more business and broaden the tax base? Will this result in rte 20 looking like rte 9? How much more traffic can rte 20 handle?

Jon Danielson: The typical town voter voted no on this project. Will it result in more housing? The cost benefit has not been fleshed out.

Jon Lopat: Commercial RE executive. Pro growth. Rte 20 is underutilized, not aesthetic. Looking for a more vibrant community center, today it is the aisle at Sudbury Farms. Rte 20 traffic is a concern.

Kirsten Roopenian: there are plans but nothing has happened. Failed at the ballot but the committee has the opportunity to use past data. Rte 20 is fragmented today, she would like to make it look more like a village. Will sewer create 40b issues for the town? Who will pay for this, the businesses in the defined area, or the town as a whole as they get the benefit? Believes there is a window of opportunity in the next year to move this forward.

Bob Haarde: Who and how will they pay for this? This will allow for mixed use along route 20, commercial at ground level and housing on second floor levels.

Discussion moved on to structure of this project:

The Sewer Steering Committee is the planning function looks at the big picture.

The Technical Advisory Committee with consultants is working on the technical feasibility and proposals.

The Citizens Advisory Committee sub committees are dealing with the issues of: Structure and Regulation, Cost allocation and Financing, Operation Management of a Facility, and Outreach/Public Education. These sub committees will make recommendations to the Steering Committee.

Craig Blake and Lisa Eggleston Chair of TAC discussed the history of the rte 20 sewer project and technical issues going forward:

Project started in 1999 with formation of the TAC to create a needs assessment document. A proposal was developed and as recently as spring town meeting 2011 the proposal failed at the ballot. So the project is in limbo. Craig Blake gave a PowerPoint presentation that showed the map of the proposed system, the location of the treatment plant and the eventual leech filed for the processed sewage. The boundary of the sewer on the eastern side of rte 20 is just below Next Generation. It is too expensive to expand further east due to the cost to pump up the hill.

Discussion on the proposed capacity of the system 300,000 gals/day compared to the existing documented requirement of 118,000 gals /day. Also discussed was the hydrogeology (in particular groundwater mounding) at the selected site (Curtis Middle School) which Craig Blake proceeded to explain. Lisa Eggleston concurred that more work was needed and had been in touch with Consultant Ed Chiang of H2O regarding this matter. There was discussion on a potential zoning overlay along rte 20 that Jody Kablack is working on that compliments this proposed design. This committee is not dealing with zoning issues.

Jon Lapat made a motion to adjourn, seconded and passed unanimously. Meeting adjourned at 9:41.