

West Cornwall Water/Septic Study Group

July 14, 2016 5pm at

Ian Ingersoll's Shop in West Cornwall

Members Present: Richard Griggs (RG), Ian Ingersoll (II), Libby Mitchell (LM), Priscilla Pavel (PP), Todd Piker (TP) and Joanne Wojtusiak. Also present Ex Officio Members: Gordon Ridgway (GR) and Richard Bramley (RB). Absent: David Dolinsky (DD). Also attending: Dusty McMahan from Goman & York.

The meeting was called to order by TP at 5:00pm

TP welcomed Stephen McDonnell from WMC Consulting Engineers and Tom Barrett from The Chronicle.

RG moved and PP seconded a motion to approve the Minutes from the June 9th meeting; passed unanimously.

PP moved and LM seconded a motion to approve the Minutes from the June 14th meeting; passed unanimously.

LM read correspondence from Ryan Biggs/Clark Davis expressing their disappointment at not being selected, but offering any assistance that would be helpful going forward.

TP suggested that we might want to reach out to Ann Straub at DEEP to be sure we know how we will need to proceed to comply with QBS requirements. GR reminded the group that he is free to meet with any individuals in his role as First Selectman which is what he did in meeting with Steve McDonnell the week before.

In order to discuss the specifics of the contract proposal from WMC we went into Executive Session at 5:12pm

We came out of Executive Session at 5:40pm and II moved and LM seconded a motion to recommend that the BOS accept the Proposed Plan of Study from WMC and take the necessary steps including approval by the Board of Finance and the calling of a Town Meeting to approve and fund this study. Passed unanimously. GR said our recommendation will be on next Tuesday's BOS agenda and could be presented to the Board of Finance the following day and possibly be included in a Town Meeting tentatively scheduled for August 12th.

Since Tom Barrett was writing a story for the Chronicle TP and GR provided a quick update of the process so far. They reminded him that Cornwall is expecting to use a \$45,000 grant we have received approval for, but the town must advance the funds and be reimbursed. Steve McDonnell said the anticipated timeframe for finishing the study will depend on when the work can begin, but would be between 6 months and a year.

GR presented some septic maps that were found at Town Hall; they were from an engineering study conducted in 1978. Several committee members expressed the sincere hope that our efforts would be more successful than the study undertaken 38 years ago.

The Committee did not set a specific next meeting date, but plans to reconvene after the BOS sign the contract. The group felt that our most important work will be to act as a liaison with the community during the public interactions that will be part of the study. GR did urge members' attendance at the BOS meeting and at the Town Meeting to be available to answer questions from the public.

Respectfully Submitted,

Joanne Wojtusiak

Secretary