

TOWN OF DRESDEN SEWER COMMITTEES APRIL 2024 MEETING MINUTES

Meeting called to order 7:02pm

Attendees: Allen Wilbur, Marc Brown, Marilyn Borden, Christine Diekel, Bill Borden, Matt Fuller, Suzy Shad, Patrick Keenan, Marci Wilbur, Margaret Stoutenburg, Mary LaBrie, Bill Davidow

Meeting note: The call-in number is (605) 313-5692 and 7857820 is the access code.

Sewer District #1 Town Board Walkaround

Immediately prior to tonight's meeting, Allen Wilbur, Marc Brown, Christine Diekel, Marilyn Borden, and Suzy Shad met at the westernmost sewer aerial to visit the sewer district. The two sewer aerials were viewed, as was the site of the Schultz garage project. The intent of this was to familiarize the board with sewer district infrastructure.

Sewer District #1 Engineering Study

1. Preliminary Engineering Report – this has been sent to the state for review. It's anticipated this will take 3-4 months to come back with questions/comments. After it is returned to us, LaBella engineers will respond/answer the questions/comments from state. Once outstanding items from state have been addressed, study will be released publicly.
2. Invoices, Receipts – will circle back in May with accounting update on funds remaining from grant, granular data on bills from system maintenance, account balances

Sewer District #1 Sewer Line Burial Project

1. The pursuance of a grant was again discussed – from Patrick Keenan, this is the history of Foster Brook grant attempts since 2017:
2017-2018 Lake Champlain Basin Program
2018-2019 Lake Champlain Basin Program
2019 – Co applicant with LGA for the Northern Border Regional Commission Economic & Infrastructure
2021- NYSDEC/Consolidated Funding Application for the Water Quality Improvement Program
2023- Community Funding Project through Congresswoman Stefanik's Office
All the above were unsuccessful. Most did not give a reason for the denial.
The NYSDEC Consolidated Funding grant response was that all of the paperwork was not submitted. I never was able to find out what paperwork was missing. I was successful in securing grant money for the Sewer Study. That grant was through EFC.
2. Applying for a Water Infrastructure Improvement (WIIA) grant was discussed. They are due 6/15/24. Patrick Keenan to follow up on that. Town attorney mentioned it would be worth examining very carefully the full costs of pursuing a WIIA grant for this project, as there can be complex staffing and project requirements – costs of projects funded by such grants tend to be 20-30% more costly than projects without such project requirements (that is, projects financed through banks), and a WIIA may not cover the cost of the entire project.
3. Next step for project is for permitting to be applied for: DEC, APA, LGPC. Anticipated to take 3-4 months.

4. Bank financing will not close before 5/9 site visit.
5. There is a site visit planned for 5/9 for primary planning stakeholders, LaBella, sewer committee/town board, LGA waterkeeper (who may write in support of our project to the permitting agencies of the state)

Sewer Districts General

1. There is still interest in adding sewer impact to building permitting process
2. Sewer District #1 – Bill Borden reports there were three floats that failed in the tank between Hudson & Eliseo's houses; George LaPlante company came out and repaired the situation.
3. Sewer District #2 – Bill Borden reports no known issues in the district
4. Sewer District #1 – Schultz garage – it is noted that the town does not enforce deed provisions such as property line setbacks. Bill Borden is going to follow up with the Schultzes and discuss moving forward with reviewing their proposed mitigation. Next step in process is for property owner to give funds to town so that the town engineering firm can review and comment on the mitigation proposed by property owners. The current pipe connection to the existing sewer main must be removed and the garage foundation may not rest on top of the existing sewer infrastructure. These items need to be remedied, with input from the Town's Engineer, LaBella Associates.

Meeting concluded at 8:13pm.

Minutes submitted by Suzy Shad