

**Southampton Village Clean Water Committee
Village Hall Board Room
23 Main Street
Southampton, NY
February 4, 2020
5:00pm**

MINUTES

The Clean Water Committee (CWC) meeting was held on February 4, 2020, at Village Hall Boardroom, 23 Main Street, Southampton, NY, 5:00 PM. Present were Marc Chiffert, Ann Welker, Jillian Kampf. CWC members: Rob Coburn, Josh Halsey for John Halsey, Daniela Kronemeyer, Tom Louthan (by phone), representing a majority and quorum of the CWC's members.

1. Review January 7, 2020 CWC minutes. The minutes from the January 7, 2020 CWC meeting were accepted. Rob Coburn highlighted the CWC activities in January 2020, including members participating at the Southampton Press Session on Troubled Waters, Transforming Landscapes to Preserve Our Waters at the Southampton Arts Center, and NYS Department of Environmental Conservation meeting on Lake Agawam Harmful Algal Bloom Action Plan. John Halsey, President, Peconic Land Trust, officially joined the CWC through a Board of Trustees resolution.
2. Lake Agawam March 2020 Harmful Algal Bloom Action Plan. Tom Louthan noted that comments on the draft action plan were submitted to the NYS Department of Environmental Conservation on January 31, 2020 and thanked everyone for their quick responses. When the action plan is finalized, the Clean Water Committee will prepare correspondence to the Village Board of Trustees with additional comments and recommendations.
3. Presentation on Village sewer district proposal – preliminary engineering and feasibility. Marc Chiffert from the Planning Commission recommended that the Village create a sewer district, as Sag Harbor & Westhampton Beach have done. Hampton Bays is also developing a sewer district. A sewage treatment plant has advantages, as the effluent quality from the STP could be either potable water or recycled water quality standard.
 - The reduction in nitrogen and phosphorous from a STP is superior to a cluster system and will help with Village revitalization. STPs lend themselves easily to future modification for additional filtration/treatment (e.g. to address “forever chemicals,” prescription drug residue, etc.).

- STPs are sized according to potential build-out under zoning code. As long as municipality has strong zoning code (which SHV does), an STP does not cause or drive unbridled development; development is already limited and described.
- The STP sewer main line would handle the Village business district and Town Hall as well; there could additionally be capacity for certain commercial properties along County Road 39 that are in the Town but outside the Village.
- Westhampton has an STP at Gabreski Airport, and Westhampton Beach will construct a new 2.5 mile sewer line to connect to it. It could be operational in 2021/2022.
- For the Village, a Public Private Partnership (P3) to establish a STP for the Village Business district could be done with private companies and Suffolk County.
- The most recent Village sewer district plan was prepared in 2015. This year, the Village should create a new sewer district map and plan, prepared by an engineering firm.
- A potential location for the STP was identified just east of the cemetery on County Road 39, with a combined area of about 4.5 acres. Marc Chiffert shared a sewer district conceptual plan showing possible routing of sewer mains servicing the Village business center and surrounding areas, with a centralized STP located outside of the Village. Marc said that the aim is for the effluent to be safe water, not potable water.
- The Clean Water Committee has advised the Board of Trustees to establish a specific appropriation related to water quality improvement projects and sewer district expenses in the Village 2020 budget. An appropriation of \$60,000 for engineering and feasibility study expenses related to establishing a Village sewer district could be set forth within Board of Trustees Special Projects under line item A1010.2.
- Daniela Kronemeyer commented that the Village business owners need to be involved in the sewer district planning, especially the small business owners.
- Josh Halsey asked about water displacement and redistribution being an issue. Marc Chiffert agreed, and said that this needs to be studied.
- The Planning Commission will host a sewer district workshop for the Board of Trustees and the CWC will assist.
- Ann Welker suggested that, once Janice Sherer has settled fully into her new position in charge of Planning for the Town, Marc Chiffert should meet with her to discuss the concept and the potential for some capacity to address properties in the Town.

4. Environmental Signage for Lake Agawam.
 - Environmental signage is needed at Gin Lane Beach, Cryder Beach and Old Town Beach.
 - Surfrider Foundation could offer assistance with testing at those beaches and could help with signage design and message. Jillian Kampf suggested that the Clean Water Committee involve real estate offices and managers and get them involved in clean water practices.
 - Rob Coburn shared a draft for Lake Agawam water quality environmental signage focusing on restoring Lake Agawam, educating about blue-green algae, key projects and the Reclaim Our Water initiative. Rob will follow up with Tony Piazza, who could contact the Lake Agawam Conservancy.
 - Ann Welker suggested that the Clean Water Committee could also consult with the Perfect Earth Project and consider ways to make the signs have an interactive capability. The National Geographic Society may have an app. Tom Louthan noted that the Garden Club of America may also have technology to identify plants with pictures.
5. Educational Forum on Reclaim Our Water Initiative. Daniela Kronemeyer reviewed the CWC proposal for an educational forum on the Reclaim Our Water Initiative for Village homeowners in May 2020. The Lake Agawam Conservancy may be planning a similar program; Daniela Kronemeyer will contact them, share our proposal and determine next steps.
6. Rob Coburn noted that at its next meeting, the CWC would begin discussing other bodies of water in the Village, have a presentation and discussion on dredging, and get an update on CWC website presence.
7. The meeting was adjourned at 6:15 PM. The next CWC meeting will be held on a date to be determined in early March at Village Hall, 23 Main Street, Southampton, NY.