

The Franklin Septic Feasibility Study Committee
Working Meeting
Town Clerk's Office
March 16, 2011

Participants: Jim Cameron (FWC), Sue Clark (FWC), David Breed (FWC), Jim Pivirotto (LCCA), Tim Sargeant (Village Resident), Peter Magnant (Selectboard), Judith McLaughlin (Planning Commission) Heidi Britch-Valenta (FWC)

Absent members- Polly Gadbois(Health Officer), Peter Benevento (LCCA), Peter Kittell (Selectboard)

The meeting commenced at 6:00 pm.

Following introductions, Jim Cameron and Sue Clark provided a brief history and overview of the process that brought us to this point. They explained the need for an upgrade in both the Village and the lakeshore area.

Sue shared information on a previous attempt to secure funding for a septic study for the Town in 1990 that was unsuccessful due to the large price tag and liability for repayment. She added that there have been other attempts by citizens to rally interest and create a plan for lakeshore community systems which were also unsuccessful.

Jim described the progress FWC has made to inform and educate the board as well as the public. He referred to a training workshop and to outreach events the FWC has sponsored in Franklin. Since 2009 there have been 95 surveys completed around the lakeshore which identified 45 inadequate septic systems.

The FWC contacted Don Robisky, State Wastewater Division, to find out about funding the study in 2010. The Selectboard agreed to the funding proposal in January 2011.

Jim explained the terms of the current funding offer which must be accepted by a municipality. The funding is estimated to be between \$30,000 and \$50,000 for the complete study for both the lakeshore and the Village. The money is a grant/deferred loan until such time as a solution is implemented and then the cost of the study is included in the cost of the system. Small systems to address a part of the problem can assume a prorated portion of the study cost and not the total amount.

Jim explained the value in having this study performed now was in the knowledge it would provide for potential solutions around the lake. Having a plan in place would allow the Town to jump on any stimulus funds that may come available for 'shovel ready' projects.

Heidi explained the information packets that were distributed which included:

- Agenda
- Map of lakeshore cottages
- Survey information

- Huntington Mission Statement
- Peacham RFP
- Fairfield RFP
- Windsor RFP
- Georgia RFP

The group agreed to review the packet of information and to decide what they would like to see in the Franklin RFP.

The discussion continued and a few questions came up that will need to be answered for the next meeting.

- Is there any interest that accumulates on the grant until the date there is a solution and it is repaid?
- Could the current fire district for the Village Water system be used for a Village Septic system?
- Is there a deadline for the RFP? Is there a preferred time of year to issue an RFP?
- Can we request any funds in advance or must all bills be paid prior to requesting payback from state?
- Is a public hearing a requirement for this process? If so, is there a particular time for the hearing?

Heidi will call Don Robisky to get answers to these questions.

The group agreed to have a public hearing at some point in the process.

Judith agreed to write a press release on the project.

Officers were chosen to lead the group.

- Jim Cameron- Chair
- Judith McLaughlin- Vice Chair
- Sue Clark- Treasurer
- Heidi – Secretary

It was estimated that it would take 2-3 meetings to create a final RFP. Then Don Robisky would meet with the group to finalize the paperwork on the funding. The goal was to have an RFP completed by June-July.

The group made a goal to meet every three weeks to develop the RFP. The next meeting was set for March 30th at 7:00 to 8:30pm at the Town Clerk's Office.

Respectfully submitted,
Heidi Britch- Valenta