

Water & Wastewater Subcommittee Meeting

5/6/2021
7:00 PM to 9:00 PM
Remote via Zoom

Meeting Minutes

Attendees: J. Engel, K. Mackin, B. Kubaska, B. Craft,
V. Halmen, J. Parkhurst, D. Lewellyn, J. Civitarese

John Colantoni, Larry Graham, Louis Rubino

J. Engel calls meeting to order at 7:02 PM.

Agenda

Citizen Queries

Chair

5

Discussion: None.

Conclusions:

Action items:

Person responsible:

Deadline:

Approval of Minutes

Chair

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Discussion: K. Mackin moved to approved the minutes of the April 8, 2021 meeting. B. Kubaska seconded the motion. A roll-call vote was unanimous in favor.

Conclusions:

Action items:

Person responsible:

Deadline:

WUMP Application Discussion**J. Colantoni****10**

Discussion: Mr. Colantoni was present to discuss if the WUMP should apply to the development 423 Linebrook Road for a single-family home.

Mr. Colantoni voiced support for the WUMP program, but feels that this particular lot is being developed “by-right” and that approval to develop it is preexisting (prior to adoption of WUMP regulations). He did pay the WUMP fee, but wanted this scenario considered further by the Commissioners. K. Mackin does not support any exemptions from the program. J. Engel offered to take the discussion to the WUMP working group for consideration.

Conclusions:

Action items:

Person responsible:

Deadline:

WUMP Regulation Update**J. Engel****30**

Discussion: J. Engel reviewed the progress of the WUMP working group. The working group reviewed comments from various parties including the town manager and town counsel. Proposed revisions will be presented to the Water Commissioners for support before taking the process further. Tables will be developed to assist in the calculation of fees and encourage efficient water use. B. Craft offered that the focus not only be on building smarter, but teaching people to use water wisely and not just focus on the cost savings aspect, but teaching people that they can live just as well on less water. The Water Dept. is joining Electric Dept. efforts to offer more rebates and incentives to customers.

Conclusions:

Action items:

Person responsible:

Deadline:

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| 126-128 High Street Project | V. Halmen | 30 |
| Discussion | | |
| Discussion: V. Halmen explained that the proposed project is within the Water Supply Protection District (Zone II of Browns Well) and therefore the Planning Board requests comments from the Water Commissioners. | | |
| Project engineer Larry Graham provided a detailed description of the project including that the impervious area on site will actually be reduce with the proposed development. Additionally, stormwater improvements, although challenged by site conditions, do offer significant improvement over the current stormwater management system. There was a lengthy discussion regarding compliance with the stormwater requirements within the Zone II. | | |
| Owner Louis Rubino offered that no irrigation is planned for the site and native plants will be used. He will review the opportunities to utilize water saving fixtures. | | |
| Conclusions: Subcommittee agrees that the proposal offers an improvement in both water quality and quantity in that stormwater is being treated to a higher standard and will be infiltrated effectively back into the aquifer. | | |
| B. Craft moved to support the project, K. Mackin seconded. Roll call vote was unanimous in favor. | | |
| Action items: Provide Ethan Parsons (Planning Director) with outcome of meeting discussion. | Person responsible: V. Halmen | Deadline: ASAP |
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| Drought Management Discussion | V. Halmen | 20 |
| Discussion: V. Halmen provided an overview of current drought management practices, following a formal drought management plan that was originally developed in 2002 and updated in 2019. K. Mackin discussed the importance of restrictions related to streamflow in Bull Brook and thresholds related to ecological degradation. J. Engel added that the existing plan is sensible but should be reviewed as part of a deliberate process with a defined goal and not rushed. We should consider alternative terminology to improve compliance with restrictions. | | |
| Conclusions: | | |
| Action items: | Person responsible: | Deadline: |
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| Updates | V. Halmen | 15 |
| Discussion: V. Halmen provided an update on various departmental projects, drought conditions, hydrant flushing, PFAS and manganese. K. Mackin mentioned that NE Biolabs is interested in helping with manganese treatment options. J. Engel suggested V. Halmen compile manganese data and present to subcommittee. | | |
| Conclusions: | | |
| Action items: | Person responsible: | Deadline: |
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Other Business**V. Halmen****5**

Discussion: B. Craft mentioned High Street project strategy concerns. It was felt that the project should be coordinated through the town manager's office to be sure various departmental components of the project are considered and well aligned.

Conclusions:

Action items:

Person responsible:

Deadline:

Additional Information

K. Mackin moved to adjourn the meeting, B. Craft seconded. Roll call vote was unanimous in favor. Meeting was adjourned at 8:56pm.