

TOWN OF WESTFORD
OUTREACH COMMITTEE MINUTES
October 18, 2022 MEETING
Approved on November 15, 2022

Members Present: Seth Jensen (Chair), Eric Ford, Gordon Gebauer, Pat Haller, Melissa Manka, Julie Beth Hinds.

Commission/Board Members Absent: Heather Armata, Amy Macrellis.

Roll Call: No members of the public were present other than those listed above.

The meeting began at: 10:01 am.

Heather Armata resigned from this committee in order to work with WCH without conflict.

Amendments to Agenda: None.

Citizens to be Heard, Announcements, Correspondence: None.

Minutes Prior Meetings: None available.

Project Status Update: The FONSI hearing was held on 10-17-2022. The hearing went well with both opponents and supporters of the wastewater project asking questions and making statements. The public comment period will be open until 11-14-2022 after which time ANR will respond to any comments received and then issue its decision.

The FAQs need to be updated in light of new information and delays. Gordon will work on preparing amendments to the FAQs and then distribute to this committee for review and comment before sending to PC. Gordon will also prepare and distribute for review a draft memo to the SB in order to bring back into focus the reasons and need for community wastewater.

The committee discussed outreach efforts moving forward. Hopefully by mid-November we will have received FONSI approval, after which additional funds for Birchline and Stone will be available. Need to wait until ANR approves current applications in the pipeline before moving forward with additional outreach. Once FONSI is approved, we will be able to have a better idea of the potential date for a bond vote.

Need to prepare an updated timeline with goal of having bond vote in mid-2023. Cannot prepare timeline now due to uncertainty of when bond vote will occur. Need a span of time of at least 2 ½ months between getting Step II funds and actual bond vote, and longer would be better.

The meeting adjourned at approximately 10:57 am

Submitted by,
Gordon Gebauer