

TOWN of Goshen
BOARD OF SELECTMEN

February 2, 2024

Special Selectmen's MEETING

This meeting held in-person and recorded via Zoom.us and is available as a recording

PRESENT: Todd M. Carusillo, Scott L. Olson, Dexter S. Kinsella (zoom)

OTHERS: Ray Turri, Jim Mersfelder, Michael Edison, Ed Dutka, Garret Harlow, Anne Greene Eric Warner, *The Goshen News*, John Mckenna, *Republican American*. Marissa Wright, Henrietta Horvay (zoom).

1). Call to order: Todd M. Carusillo called the meeting to order at 10:08 a.m.

The reason for this meeting was there was no mutual agreement signed contract with Woodridge Lake Property Owners Association and the Town of Goshen for the repairs and replacements of catch basins, watershed drain off from the roads of Woodridge Lake to protect the lake. Todd turned the meeting over to Jim Mersfelder to discuss the agreement of 2010.

2). Discussion on Gentlemen's agreement from 2010:

Jim Mersfelder (previous lake/dam committee member) spoke on historical review. These efforts started at a meeting that occurred on May 29, 2009 between Bob Valentine, Ed Perry (previous Public Works Supervisor, Jim Mersfelder and Bill Houle (previous general manager). The purpose of the meeting was to restart the sedimentation pumping efforts that the town use to do on a regular basis to get sediment out of the already established sedimentation basins. The reason that it was important to us for historical perspective is that it keeps phosphorus out of the lake which is to keeps green algae from growing in the lake. The town had stop doing that pumping for a number of years and we wanted to establish a schedule to restart it. The town agreed to do that on their expense, at that time there is a shared truck the town's use to do this kind of work.

Scott Olson mentioned that there are two-different interests, he thanked Jim Mersfelder for his detailed report and sharing the information. Scott said as a member of the Board of Selectmen he has an interest and an obligation to represent the people of this community, but that he also lives at Woodridge Lake, he recused himself because he felt it may be a conflict.

WLPOA was concerned on sedimentation getting in the lake, a study was done by Ken Wagner, Lake Manager he published the report on May 2010, he had identify potential sites of existing sedimentation basins and proposal for others one that could be considered, it was a 20 page study that looked at surface area of places where water will flow and get an idea of the how much volume of water that would flow through these streams all around the lake, there were 23 of them that were identify, there were sedimentation basin on 8 or 9 of them. A report is available on the WPOA website for review.

A discussion between the four of them was "How are were going to do this"? A proposal was made and agreed to split the expenses for outside consultants and material for sedimentation basin. They identified 5 projects to start with and agreed to use Lenard Engineering through the process of getting the permits to do the work with Inland wetlands. The reason for that was Lenard Engineering is expensive to do detailed engineering and Ed

was comfortable basically taking the sketches and using those as a basis for building or changing the flows for the sedimentation basin. Lenard Engineering was used for the approval process.

We picked 4 or 5 projects and the process was that Woodridge Lake would write a check, put it in an account that the town kept, the town received all the invoices, Jim or Bill would review the invoices and they would approve them and it would come off the spreadsheet.

Jim stepped down in 2012 from the lake and dam committee, it seems that no one has reviewed and kept up with the process. Reviewing the documentation of work that has been done so far, a lot of the work is not just for sedimentation but are for waterway diversion work, putting gravel in and other work that seems to be outside the scope of the work we agreed on.

Garret and Dexter spoke about the added cost for engineering and oversize equipment to handle the scope of work, that the town can't handle, which contractors are called in to do the work. This cost should be shared. Dexter asked a question regarding on the other work being done, if it was in the study that was done. Further discussion on scope of work to be done. Jim mentioned that in reviewing the project that were done, they do not include sedimentation basin which are on the list we are supposed to partially be funding, if you go back to the original agreement those probably would not be shared expenses, it doesn't include removing sediment. The basis of the project is to get sediment out of the lake, not move water faster into the lake, the goal is to slow the water down to trap the sedimentation. The hydraulic that they established that Boise Cascade put in for the lake was terrible, it didn't put in for buffers, it not appropriate for a manmade lake.

Todd spoke on his understanding that installing gravel and rip rap around catch basins, slow the water down and it will control erosion and sediment before entering the catch basin's then the shed waters will flow to the lake. Jim mentioned that before project were started that they would sit down and discuss the projects for an understanding on sharing of cost on projects. Further discussion on how sedimentation works with the catch basin. Regular maintenance will improve the catch basin functions. Todd also stated the Town should not be absorbing the cost for landscaping on personal property, the Homeowner or the WLPOA should pay this cost.

3). Discussion on written agreement for the future: It's been decided that Garret Harlow, Dexter Kinsella, Jim Mersfelder and Michael Edison will meet on February 23rd to review the agreement that is in place and to discuss future project.

4). New Business: Capital Expenditures from FY 2012 to present: With further discussion, the invoices will be reviewed on share cost. First Selectman Todd Carusillo stated how the Board of Finance appropriated \$200,000.00 since 2012 and WLPOA allocated only \$67,831.00 since 2012, with the Town showing expenses of \$232,566.55

If it's a 50/50 shared expense per the mutual agreement, that would be \$116,283.28 for both parties, leaving a \$48,452.28 balance for WLPOA. All of the expenses and invoices will be reviewed on February 23rd 2024

5). Adjournment: In a **motion** made by Dexter S. Kinsella, seconded by Todd M. Carusillo, it was **voted** to adjourn the meeting at 11:02 a.m. Voted unanimous.

Respectively submitted:

Virginia Perry, First Selectman's Admin. Asst.