



TOWN OF
NEW LONDON, NEW HAMPSHIRE

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NEW LONDON PLANNING BOARD
CIP SUBCOMMITTEE
MEETING MINUTES
Friday, July 10, 2015

New London- Springfield Water System
Precinct Office at 73 Dump Road
9:00 A.M.

MEMBERS PRESENT: Bill Dietrich (PB Subcommittee Chair), Michele Holton (PB Secretary), Rob Prohl and Bill Berger.

MEMBERS ABSENT: John Tilley

WATER PRECINCT MEMBERS PRESENT: Robert Thorp, Superintendent; John McKenna, Mr. Cricenti, and Ken Jacques.

OTHERS PRESENT: Jay Lyon, Fire Chief; and Lucy St. John, Planning and Zoning Administrator.

Call to Order: Chair called the meeting to order at 9 A.M.

Water Precinct General Comments:

- ✓ Built-out analysis of the 1980s and early 1990s with the engineers
- ✓ Cash business, with about ½ million debt
- ✓ Colby Point identified as best source for ground water
- ✓ Colby-Point wells went on-line 1995. These are not deep wells (about 60'), gravel packed, with sand filter system. No more wells are anticipated for the site. Education is important. Wells have about 20 more years, average 250,000 gallons per day, up from 200,000 gallons per day, it had been 350,000 gallons per day. They will get more life out these wells, however there will be less ability to draw (due to sand), and there will be diminished capacity over time. Long-term growth may not be viable. Water Precinct hoping for a longer period of time to use these wells. Wells at Colby-Point have a 30 year life span
- ✓ Conservation issues-See people using automatic sprinkler system running even when it is raining. Need for limitation on watering grass/irrigation in the future. There has been an increase in water used for irrigation (water lawns, etc.). Elderly people don't always know they have a leaky faucet (hearing issues).

- ✓ Drought- backup system could include reservoir, Morgan Pond vault would be treated (chlorine, etc.).
- ✓ Engineering Study completed in the 1980s-
- ✓ Expansion of boundaries- No real reason to expand, this would need a positive vote of both Board of Selectmen in Springfield and New London. Water Precinct boundaries- no plan to extend the boundaries, and Water Precinct anticipates they won't have enough water in the future.
- ✓ Good working relationship with the Town Public Works Department, sometime share backhoe or small dump truck, if need arises.
- ✓ Growth – occurred in late 1980 and early 1990s
- ✓ Hilltop a concern, but now the Water Precinct took it over, more oversight.
- ✓ History of the improvement near the roundabout, took on about \$400,000 in debt, increase the water main size
- ✓ Hospital and Colby-Sawyer College put in low flow fixtures their consumption also dropped.
- ✓ Kelsey Fields wasn't originally in the water precinct- then reaffirmed the boundaries, as people were concerned about fire protection
- ✓ Key parcels, Hospital and Colby –Sawyer, or Assisted Living proposed this could have potential impact. Hospital is a huge draw for water. Water consumption issues will be affected by rate of development (for example Joan Bucklin property and old Messer property).
- ✓ Line distribution if a problem with distribution, also potential fire concerns
- ✓ Little Sunapee Lake may be an alternative source of water in the future
- ✓ Morgan Pond couldn't meet the need of the community. Morgan Pond is 52% of the watershed for Sunapee
- ✓ Pine Hill a concern, now the Water Precinct has oversight. All the utilities are over the water main. Pine Hill water main/ connector will increase water capacity in the Burpee Hill area, need to coordinate water main improvements with paving projects of the Public Works Department
- ✓ Provide water for drinking and fire protection
- ✓ Punch list issues of concern- Pine Hill is the most pressing, Hilltop, and fire hydrant – schedule of flushing.
- ✓ Seasonal lines water lines used to run to Lake Sunapee Road. Water to South Cove, Newport, and Burpee Hill roads will not happen.
- ✓ Selling water outside the Precinct was limited in the 1980s.
- ✓ Sewer system could be expanded but there is no obligation to provide more water.
- ✓ State found issues with bedrock wells, concerns about radon, longevity an issue over time, and capacity will lessen over time.
- ✓ Strawberry field near Kidder Point were identified but not evaluated, cost prohibited, and too far from the water precinct boundaries
- ✓ Supplemental water source needed in the future. The cost to go to Morgan Pond is huge.

- ✓ Water mains in good shape, but some sizing issues.
- ✓ Water source in the 1990 was a pond in the woods
- ✓ Water tanks. Where would they be located, complaints about views and tank went underground. Tanks nears- Twin Lake Villa and ½ million gallon tank at Colby- Sawyer College
- ✓ Water usage changed when the Sewer Commission rates when up and people started to pay attention. When the Middle School left New London there was a huge drop in water usage.
- ✓ Watershed protection important, including easements from high water make, and protecting land on the backside of the pond (own about 220 acres).
- ✓ Well ideas- near Exit 12 A and bedrock wells near Kelsey Fields
- ✓ Worst case – potentially draw water from Little Sunapee Lake, and have one treatment plant for surface water treatment. Anticipate using surface water as a water source in about 50 years. Little Sunapee Lake is shallow, the draw would be farther out in the lake.

General Comments-

- ✓ Discussed tax rate, water flow test and fire service fees (sprinklers).
- ✓ Engineering Study form 1984 (Whitman Howard), and 1990s, including the Colby-Point Study, would like to review or have them at the library.
- ✓ If any potential to expand the precinct boundaries? There are people in the precinct that don't get water and pay taxes but they don't get water precinct service.
- ✓ If Colby- Sawyer College were to expand, for example new dormitories, they would need to treat the water and this would be costly.
- ✓ If Little Sunapee Lake is anticipated to be used as a surface water source in the future, what are the short term and long term strategies for lake protection- swimming, use of motorized boats and general community goals?
- ✓ Lake Sunapee Country Club is on sewer, but not on Town sewer. They used to be a water precinct customer.
- ✓ Springfield has done some creative zoning and conservation land.
- ✓ Suggest having someone on the interview committee from the Water Precinct, when Richard Lee leaves.
- ✓ What if situation if there were severe drought conditions, what is the backup?

Next Meeting: The next meeting of the subcommittee will be Friday, July 17th

Motion to Adjourn: The meeting adjourned at 10:00 A.M.

Respectfully submitted,

DRAFT FOR BILL D REVIEW
New London Planning Board
CIP Subcommittee Friday, July 10, 2015
Meeting Minutes with the Water Precinct
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Lucy A. St. John, AICP
Planning and Zoning Administrator