

## Draft Minutes

New Durham Water Quality Committee(NDWQC)

Meeting Wednesday January 18, 2023

New Durham Community Room @6:30PM

Present: Fred Quimby, Bill Meyer, Maureen Knepp, Casey Buell, Mike Gelinas, and Keith Barnard

Absent: Penny Meyer

Fred opened the meeting at 6:32PM

Minutes: The Draft Minutes of the Meeting on 14 December 2022 were reviewed. Bill made the motion, seconded by Keith, that the Minutes be approved with one change ("was" replaced by is) after the phrase: Main Street Bridge on page 1. The vote in favor was unanimous.

### New Business:

Fred had previously distributed the award announcement from the New Hampshire Department of Environmental Services (NH DES) to New Durham for a 50% match to be used for the treatment of Milfoil in 2023. The State will contribute up to \$11,600.00 in 2023. Fred also had a signed contract between the Town and State as well as the proposed invoice for the work from Aqualogic Inc.

Fred had also previously distributed the Pollutants Control Report written by the Town's engineer, Eric Reitter, and sent to NH DES evaluating the efficacy of the completed s319 stormwater runoff BMP at South Shore Road. Table 4 summarizes the results of this evaluation showing that the amount of total suspended solids (TSS), total nitrogen (TN) and total phosphorus (TP) withheld from the Merrymeeting River (MMR) exceeded the amount projected in the Watershed Management Plan (WMP).

Fred also previously distributed the Final Report to the NH DES concluding the s319 project listed above. The engineers left for Christmas vacation before the final due date of this report so Fred wrote it and sent it in. The NH DES paid \$93,325.00 and the Town paid \$102,309.00 from which \$17,000.00 was volunteer labor and equipment O&M bringing the Town's actual expenditure to \$85,309.00.

Mike Gelinas and Fred led a discussion on the problems in the HDR Report entitled: Source Water and effluent Characterization and Effluent Treatment Technology Review. Some of the data reported didn't make mathematical sense. Gelinas also reported that the last Planning Board Meeting was cancelled and the next meeting will be a joint meeting with the NDWQC and Zoning Board of Adjustment (ZBA) which is to be scheduled in February. At this meeting Water Quality Ordinances will be discussed. Fred will send out a reminder to all members as soon as a date is set.

Maureen discussed the progress made by the septic system inventory subcommittee. On January 17, 2023 Maureen, Casey and Fred met with Scott LaCroix, Health Officer and Building Inspector. He explained that he had met with the group in Meredith who enforce the Septic System ordinance there, he has borrowed heavily from their Ordinance to develop a similar ordinance for New Durham and he brought back their excel spread sheet which we all modified to suit the demands of the New Durham program. Scott told us that every house on MML taken down to be replaced by a new structure has also replaced the septic system. He plans to require a new septic system for all new

homes, within 250 feet of surface water, in New Durham unless the existing system was built in the past 10 years. Scott is also making the spread sheet flaggable, that is: a flag will show up in the data base next to the home address any month a homeowner is expected to provide the Health Officer some additional information, such as a new certification of their septic system. Casey also discussed some of the problems Scott has already encountered with people renting lakeside homes, via Air BNB and similar agencies, to be occupied by many more people than the septic system was designed for; people changing their own use of their lakeside home from summer use to full time without changing their septic system; and people adding extra bedrooms to the existing structure without modifying the septic system for the extra room. Some of these problems should be addressed by ordinance changes in the future. Fred handed out copies of the newly proposed new Septic System Ordinance and the Septic System Evaluation and Certification Form. This has been approved by the Town lawyer and is ready for endorsement by the Select Board. Maureen shared that Robin McClain, assistant to the Building Inspector, Land Use Office, Planning Board and NDWQC, has left employment in New Durham for Alton where she was offered a full-time job. This will hinder the activities of the septic system inventory subcommittee.

Bill introduced New Hampshire House Bill (HB) 276 which makes \$25 million available for low interest loans a portion of which is forgivable. This Bill is being read in a public meeting on January 25, 2023 in Legislative Office Building (LOB) 305-307 at 10:00 AM. We should support adoption of this bill which has the Lake Winnepesaukee Association endorsement. Fred plans to attend.

Fred brought up a new report dated January 19, 2023 entitled: Sampling Plan for the MMR Phosphorus Study. Fred read it today and wrote a letter outlining his concerns with the report. If anyone wants a copy just ask, but it is being sent by Fred as a member of the Consent Decree Committee member. Fred had previously been given permission to release the Consent Decree to NDWQC members and it was distributed two days ago. Please read it and get in touch with any questions. Bill asked where the EPA discharge limits for phosphorus were found and Fred answered: on page 2. If there are a lot of questions, we will discuss this document at the next meeting. Fred then announced this is the first of some 400 pages of documents sent yesterday on Hatchery Water Testing and Waste Water Treatment. Fred has not begun to read this yet but in scanning the costs for Powder Mill State Fish Hatchery (PMSFH) reconstruction they range from 38M to 80M dollars.

The next meeting is scheduled for February 15, 2023. If this conflicts with the proposed joint Planning Board meeting, Fred will change the date of the next NDWQC meeting so we can plan before the Planning Board meeting. The Town's Deliberative Session is Saturday February 4, 2023 starting at 3PM in the Elementary School. This is the last chance to change any of the warrant articles before the Town vote.

Respectfully Submitted,

Fred Quimby, chair