

Approved Minutes
New Durham Water Quality Committee
Town Hall
July 17, 2019 6:30PM

Present: Fred Quimby, Art Hoover, and Bill Meyer

Absent: Susan Hoover, Penny Meyer, Cynthia Quimby and Tom Rogenski

Fred Quimby opened the meeting at 6:30PM

The Minutes of May 15, 2019 were discussed but approval of the Minutes was deferred due to the lack of a quorum.

Quimby reviewed the Harvest notes from Aqualogic Inc. for DASH operations on Downing and Jones Ponds in July. One hundred twenty-five gallons of milfoil was collected, primarily from Jones Pond, just before the application of the chemical which was used in Jones and Marsh Ponds.

Quimby presented a tentative budget created for the CIP Committee with three days notice. Fred was told by Scott Kinmond to create a one-year budget and a ten-year budget and while it may not be entirely accurate it should anticipate the expenses to the town over the next 10-years based on NDWQC work. Fred included the Town matching funds for section 319 grant applications based on requesting \$160,000 per year for 10 years and having the town put up \$40,000 each year cash from a total of \$60,000/year as the town's match. Since the town can use town employee salary and equipment to offset for cash, it isn't likely that \$40,000 per year in cash will actually be necessary each year. Other budget items included milfoil treatment with chemicals each year at \$20,000. And DASH operations at \$4000/year. This is the worst-case scenario. Finally, the Water Quality Testing and public education as part of the watershed management plan execution comes to \$4000. and \$2000. respectively. One item not included in this budget, which will likely be required, is \$15,000. for sediment analyses in Jones and Marsh Ponds, however, this will not be done until after the hatchery completes a terminal waste water treatment facility and the phosphorus from the hatchery into the river is minimized. We can either amend our budget when the time is appropriate or see if the figures requested in this budget are realized and, if not, we can re-appropriate unused funds for this activity.

Quimby discussed the cyanobacteria situation in Jones Pond and the fact that the NH DES posted an advisory for Jones Pond on July 11, 2019. Cyanobacteria numbers are also high in Marsh and Mill Ponds but do not exceed the State's maximum of 70,000 cells/ml.

Quimby read emails from Jason Smith at the hatchery explaining that the new septic system will be demonstrated on July 18 (Thursday) at 10:30AM. All are welcome to visit at that time. Fred also provided a table demonstrating the high levels of phosphorus in various portions of the Merrymeeting River and Mill Pond as well as the tributaries to Mill Pond. The deep sites at Marsh, Jones, and Wentworth Ponds are already becoming stratified and deep oxygen levels are very low. Fred explained that he was asked to discuss the situation at Mill Pond with the Alton Board of Selectmen in early July and they are very concerned about this situation and its impact on the Merrymeeting River.

Quimby made everyone aware of a Baysider article coming out July 18, 2019 with a detailed description of the watershed management plan.

Quimby also reminded everyone of the July 30,2019 event called Septic Sense which will be given at the Gilman Library in Alton at 6:30PM. The presenter will provide all you need to know about your septic system.

The Conservation Law Foundation continues to develop signed declarations in preparation of the January 2020 legal case against the NH F&G.