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July 18, 2008

Nathan Poore, Manager  
TOWN OF FALMOUTH  
271 Falmouth Road  
Falmouth, ME 04105

Re: Falmouth on the Green - Sewer System Acceptance

Dear Nathan:

Based on the most recent Wright Pierce report on the existing Falmouth on the Green ("FOG") sewer system, the association would like to meet informally with the Council to develop a plan to move forward with:

- (i) the acceptance of the system by the town; coupled with
- (ii) work by each of the FOG lot owners at their expense to bypass their existing septic tanks, which Wright Pierce believes could result in significant wet weather flow reductions.

For the benefit of the Council members who may be unfamiliar with the problem, the FOG subdivision as originally approved had a central community septic system connected by a series of sewer mains and pump stations to each of the lots. That system failed in the early part of this decade.

At a cost of over \$2 million FOG then connected its system into Town sewer system by constructing a sewer main along Winn Road and, in an effort to reduce water infiltration, renovated its "legacy" sewer mains and pump stations located within the FOG subdivision. Each of the FOG lot owners now pays full sewer charges to the Town.

For the past two years the administration and FOG have been actively addressing the conditions to be satisfied in order for the Town to accept the Winn Road sewer main extension and the "legacy" system, with the focus being on the additional flow that occurs during wet weather.

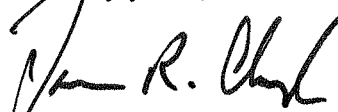
A total of four different engineering firms and consultants have been involved to date. FOG has done further remedial work on its system since the connection to the town system.

My observations are as follows:

- (a) Notwithstanding the extensive dialogue and investigations over the last two years, it is impossible to know with certainty the source of the remaining infiltration;

- (b) No sewer system is ever perfect;
- (c) The primary remaining suspects as the source of the residual infiltration are the individual septic tanks servicing each house, which remain in place but serve no function— other potential sources of infiltration have been investigated and addressed. These tanks are not watertight. Given their location below grade they inherently collect ground water which passes into the sewer system in times of wet weather. If agreement is reached, they will need be bypassed at a cost of \$1,500 to \$3,500 each plus the costs of repairing lawns and landscaping which will be paid by each homeowner;
- (d) The administration wants FOG's support before enforcing a requirement that homeowners bypass their septic tanks;
- (e) Before agreeing to proceed, FOG wants a commitment from the Town to accept the entire FOG sewer system;
- (f) Only the Council can legally commit the Town to accept the FOG sewer system and only the Council has the legal authority to require septic tanks to be bypassed; and
- (g) At present the Town's sewer system is accepting the FOG sewage and if nothing is done, then the existing infiltration levels will simply continue.

Sincerely yours,



Lawrence R. Clough

LRC/w

cc Joseph Bousquet, President  
James O'Donnell, Dirigo Management