

Meeting Minutes
April 29, 2011
Glenville Wellfield Protection Study Group

In attendance: Dr. Carl George, Phil Adams, Mike Burns, Tom Coppola,
James MacFarland and Kevin Corcoran

- Jamie brought everyone up to speed on the Town's request to provide the back-up water supply for Global Foundries. We do want to pursue strategies to safeguard the quality of the Town's water supply, but until Global Foundries has selected a back-up water supplier(s), we want to avoid any potential negative attention about our water supply (we don't want to make it known that our wellfield is vulnerable to flooding, for example).
- Jamie thanked Carl for his recent presentation to the Town Board. The Board greatly appreciates Carl's efforts, and they all benefited from Carl's research and presentation.
- Even though we want to remain low key, the group should continue to meet on a regular basis. We may want to invite a representative from Scotia Sand & Stone/Cranesville Aggregates to join the study group.
- It was also acknowledged that yes, the Town should make protection of our water supply a priority, but we also want to increase our water customer base, especially given Saratoga County's efforts to capture existing Glenville customers whose properties are located in Clifton Park and Ballston. The Town's water revenue has been reduced by \$500,000/year because of the loss of our former customers from Clifton Park and Ballston.
- Tom Coppola shared more details on Saratoga County's proposal to be the back-up water supplier for Global, while noting that Glenville can provide a truly redundant, better quality back-up supply than Saratoga County.
- In contemplating how to prioritize tasks of the study group, Phil suggested that focus be placed on the following three topics:
 1. Flood prevention of both our treatment plant/wells and the exposed groundwater in the neighboring Scotia Sand & Stone gravel pit.

2. Need to establish baseline testing of the exposed aquifer in Scotia S & S's pit, with emphasis on manganese and pharmaceuticals. We may want to test for creosote chemicals, as well as base traits such as pH, temperature, hardness, etc.
 3. Town should explore its own back-up supply and look for ways to improve redundancy, and in particular, pursue a connection with the City of Schenectady's water distribution system.
- Another task that should be undertaken is determining the location of existing monitoring wells around our wellfield. These monitoring wells are valuable for water quality testing and to track potential threats to our water supply. Kevin noted that Jason Pelton may have information and mapping showing the locations of existing monitoring wells. Carl suggested that a couple of monitoring wells should be placed south of the railroad tracks and north of our wellfield, if wells aren't already in existence there.
 - In discussing the potential harm that could be caused by flooding, Phil suggested that the access road to the water treatment plant should be elevated to prevent flood waters from reaching the exposed aquifer in the gravel pit. Flood protection should be the Town's #1 priority relative to protection of our water supply. It would seem that a gravel company would have the resources to undertake such a project. This is another reason why we would benefit by having someone from Scotia Sand & Stone join our group.
 - Discussion followed on the idea of purchasing the gravel pit adjacent to our wellfield. Perhaps a long-term bond should be considered for purchasing the mine property, since the greatest threat to our water supply is likely the vulnerability of the exposed aquifer to flooding and railroad derailments. Funding for purchase of the property might also be available through the Environmental Facilities Corporation (EFC), although EFC funding would take the form of a low interest loan (i.e. it wouldn't be a grant).
 - Tied in with the purchase would be the suggestion by Clarence Mosher that the gravel pit property be converted into a Butchart Gardens-type operation. Butchart Gardens is located in Vancouver, British Columbia. The Gardens used to be a quarry, and then it was converted into a magnificent public gardens facility of national renown.

- Discussion followed on the composition and roster of the study group. We don't want to become too unwieldy by greatly increasing the size of our group, yet there are a number of Glenville residents who are extremely well qualified to serve on our group and who could bring considerable knowledge and expertise to bear. The notion of subcommittees was also discussed and will be considered at future meetings.
- It was agreed upon that invitations to join the work group would be extended to Jason Pelton, John Garver, either Mike Wright or Andy Vitolins of the GECC and someone from Scotia Sand & Stone/Cranesville Aggregates. Tom will keep Councilwoman Gina Wyrzbowski in the loop. We may also want to entertain the idea of inviting James Eldred of DEC-Region IV to some meetings and to also involve the Town's Engineering Review Committee, when appropriate.
- Kevin, who was selected Chairman of the group, will ask Jason Pelton if he would like to join the group. Carl will invite John Garver. Jamie will reach out to Scotia Sand & Stone.
- Kevin will get back to the group to set the next meeting. There seemed to be general agreement that we would like to avoid meeting in the evening.