

**Meeting Minutes**  
**Glenville Wellfield Protection Committee**  
**January 23, 2012**  
**3:30 p.m.**

Attending (Committee members): Carl George, Phil Adams, John Garver, Jacqueline Smith, Cal Welch and Sarah Newell

Attending (staff and others): Mark Kestner, Lindsay Kestner, Roger Harrison, Thomas Coppola, James MacFarland, Mike Burns and Kevin Corcoran

Absent: Jason Pelton

- Carl opened the meeting at 3:32 p.m. The meeting today is being held at the Glenville Water Treatment Plant (WTP). Carl thanked Town staff and Roger Harrison, in particular, for hosting the Committee at the WTP.
- The minutes of the December 19, 2011 meeting were approved as distributed by e-mail.
- Introductions were made of those in attendance, with special recognition of new Committee member Sarah Newell and first-time guest Lindsay Kestner.
- Carl asked Jamie to brief the group on recent appointments and actions by the Town Board relative to the Committee. Jamie noted that the Board formally appointed the Committee at the Board's January 4<sup>th</sup> organizational meeting. He went on to point out that the Committee reports to the Board and that the Committee doesn't have policy-making authority of its own, but rather must run any recommendations through the Town Board. Jamie also noted that all of the Committee's meetings are open to the public.

Further, Carl was appointed Board Chairman. Carl then noted that, unless there are objections, he would like Phil to serve as Vice-Chairman. There were no objections. Kevin, as one of the staff members, will continue to act as secretary.

Carl asked if there were any other housekeeping matters. Kevin noted that the Committee is scheduled to meet on the 3<sup>rd</sup> Monday of every month at 3:30 p.m. at the Municipal Center. This month and next there are holidays on the 3<sup>rd</sup> Monday so both this meeting and February's meeting have/will be moved back a week to the 4<sup>th</sup> Monday.

- Carl turned the meeting over to Roger Harrison. Roger began by handing out recent water sampling results taken at the treatment plant. Following this, Roger pointed out some of the features of the water treatment plant monitoring system, including items such as wells in operation and water levels in the Town's three large storage tanks.

A discussion followed wherein Roger reinforced that the Town is taking steps to get reliable cable-based internet service to the treatment plant for improved communication and monitoring. This led to a revisit of discussion held last month about the limitations of having telephone lines serve as the communication medium between the treatment plant and remote features of the water system such as storage tanks and lift stations.

- The Committee was then led on a tour of the water treatment plant, inside and out. While outdoors, Roger showed everyone the two production wells. When we returned indoors Committee members were given a tour of the chlorination system, clear well area, electrical control room, indoor production wells, map storage room, etc.
- Mike Burns noted that the Town will be submitting a grant application next week to the State Emergency Management Office (SEMO) to determine if we are eligible to receive funding from the Federal Emergency Management Agency to construct a dike or levee around the Town's wellfield. Mike gave a breakdown of the types of flood mitigation projects that SEMO/FEMA is funding, the matching requirement and specifications, and other particulars of the grant program.

The application at this point is a straightforward one page submission, but we need to supply a reasonable cost estimate for the dike. This led to a discussion of where exactly the dike should be constructed, whereupon it was determined that along the perimeter of the fence would be appropriate. Also, it was agreed upon that the dike should be built to an elevation that is two feet above the elevation of the 500 year/0.2% flood plain.

Carl noted that he, Phil and Tom are trying to schedule a visit of the dike at the Schenectady International plant in Rotterdam Junction. This might give us some ideas relative to dike size, composition, placement, etc. Hopefully this meeting/site visit can be accomplished before the grant application is due next Tuesday.

Upon inquiry from James MacFarland, Mark Kestner has agreed to put together a preliminary cost estimate for the dike so that the Town has a reasonably good number to accompany our grant application. Mark will need to know the elevation of the 500 year-floodplain in order to work up the estimate. John Garver indicated that he will assist in this regard.

- The Committee then turned its focus to next month's meeting, and the invitation that has been extended to NYSDEC Region IV by James to have someone attend our meeting in February to discuss the mining operation adjacent to the water treatment plant and the need to safeguard the plant and adjacent gravel pit from flooding. Carl developed a list of questions to be asked of the DEC representative. Kevin circulated the list of questions to the Committee members a couple of weeks ago and will do so again. Committee members are encouraged to develop additional questions.
- Cal informed the Committee members that flood stage in Schenectady, as measured at Freemans Bridge, was recently changed from 223 feet to 220 feet by the National Weather Service. John

noted that the new 220-foot figure was arrived at via less than ideal methodologies and that this number may be subject to change.

- Carl and Mike briefly reported on last Thursday's second meeting of Stockade resident Jim Duggan's Mohawk River flooding interest group. Mr. Duggan assigns much of the blame for flooding of the Stockade and surrounding areas to the presence of the Vischers Ferry Dam, which, in his belief, acts as a barrier and creates a higher than necessary pool of water upriver of Lock 7. John offered that Mr. Duggan does not have the complete picture of flooding within the Mohawk River basin and that Vischers Ferry Dam is probably not the cause of severe flood events on the Mohawk.

Fred Miller, a retired engineer with significant knowledge of the hydrodynamics of the Mohawk River was in attendance at last week's meeting. Carl believes that it would be helpful to have our group host Mr. Miller at a future meeting.

The next meeting of the Committee is scheduled for Monday, February 27<sup>th</sup> at 3:30 p.m. at the Glenville Municipal Center.

With there being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 5:29 p.m.