

MEETING MINUTES

Clean Water Community Partnership – Dennis, Harwich, and Yarmouth

Date: 11/17/2017

Time: 9:00 AM

Location: Dennis Town Hall

Attendees: Diane Chamberlain, Taylor Cobb, John Terrio (Town of Dennis)

Larry Ballantine, Chris Clark (Town of Harwich)

Chris Dwelley, Mark Forest, Dan Knapik, Shawn MacInnes (Town of Yarmouth)

Kara Johnston, David Young (CDM Smith)

Items

1. Previous Meeting Minutes
 - a. Chris Clark made motion to approve, Diane Chamberlain seconded. Vote unanimous.
2. Update on Community Compact Grant Application
 - a. Grant Application submitted Wednesday 11/15/2017. Expect to hear a response in 30-60 days.
 - b. \$150,000 requested for DHY Discussions and \$50,000 for Yarmouth & Barnstable Discussions.
 - c. Barnstable looking to expand WWTF, but will need effluent recharge sites. Yarmouth and Barnstable will determine if a partnership for sending Yarmouth's Lewis Bay wastewater flow to the Barnstable WWTF and recharging effluent at Buck Island Road site is feasible for both towns.
 - d. Would be nice to have an award ceremony if the grant is awarded.
3. Town Updates:
 - a. Internal Governance Structure
 - i. Dennis
 1. Wastewater Implementation Committee still actively working on wastewater plan.
 - ii. Harwich
 1. Re-forming a Wastewater Support Committee

iii. Yarmouth

1. Created a new Water Resources Committee.
2. Legislation for Town Meeting Article Discussed.
3. Wastewater was included in the 10-year capital plan recently presented to the Town.

b. Internal Financial Structure

i. Dennis:

1. Cost Recovery Plan completed by subgroup and was voted unanimously by the Wastewater Implementation Committee. Plan will now move forward to Finance Committee and the Board of Selectmen with joint meeting on November 28, 2017.
2. Cost recovery plan shows average tax increase of \$240 over 70 years (peak in 2048 of \$480) on \$350,000 property.

c. General Wastewater

i. Dennis:

1. Approved educational brochure for Swan Pond River abutters and planning a community meeting to educate the town on the aquaculture project being implemented this spring.
2. CDM Smith met with archaeological group to review any archaeological impacts at the future Dennis WWTP site.
3. Working with UMass Donohue Institute to evaluate economic impact of wastewater collection and treatment in Dennis. Question for the analysis: What would be economic development potential if a wastewater program was provided in the Town of Dennis, and what would be the economic development potential without a wastewater program?

ii. Harwich:

1. Reviewing and summarizing sewer regulations.
2. Finance Committee voted unanimously to support the Spring Town Meeting \$22 Million Sewer Construction Article.
3. Harwich attending Pleasant Bay Watershed Permitting Process Meetings with MassDEP and Pleasant Bay Alliance.

iii. Yarmouth:

1. Authorized CDM Smith to perform additional field investigations related to effluent recharge at Bass River Golf Course.
 2. Yarmouth received grant for anaerobic digester at the Septage Treatment Facility. Issuing an RFP for this project soon.
4. Special Legislation Update
 - a. Review of Draft Town Meeting Article.
 - b. Towns will provide edits to DHY group at next meeting.
 - c. Towns agreed they should move forward with bringing Special Legislation to Spring Town Meeting to allow for a Community Partnership option.
 - d. Public outreach will be needed prior to Town Meeting.
5. Preparation for MassDEP Meeting Nov 20th
 - a. Questions:
 1. Should a community not move forward and fund implementation of their wastewater program to meet water quality needs, will MassDEP designate a Nitrogen Sensitive Area (watershed) and require all property owners in that area to install nitrogen removing septic systems?
 2. If the answer remains yes as stated in the February 21, 2017 letter, then under what timeframe would MassDEP take that action and how long would a property owner have to make that installation? As you recall, an individual nitrogen removal septic system is estimated to be three times more costly (capital and O&M) to a homeowner than the proposed town programs.
 3. Would MassDEP consider working with EOEEA for the creation of a Clean Water Grant Program to incentivize communities with capital construction funds (similar to MassWorks Program)?
6. Topics for Future Meetings
 - a. Public Outreach Planning prior to spring town meetings.
 - b. UMass Donohue Institute Economic Analysis in Dennis (January or February 2018).
7. Meeting Summary
 - a. The working group members from Dennis, Harwich, and Yarmouth (DHY) met on November 17, 2017.
 - b. The Towns provided general updates to their wastewater and cost recovery programs.

- c. The Yarmouth on behalf of DHY working group has applied for a \$200,000 grant through the Efficiency and Regionalization Grant Fund Program and expects to hear back in 30-60 days.
 - d. The towns will be meeting with the MassDEP Commissioner on Monday 11/20/2017 in Boston to discuss MassDEP's position on nitrogen sensitive areas and the future requirement of homeowners installing a nitrogen removal septic system.
 - e. Towns agreed to move forward with town meeting articles next spring to file special legislation that would allow for the potential creation of a community partnership option.
8. Discussion of topics not reasonably anticipated 48 hours before the meeting.
- a. None
9. Next Meeting: December 15, 2017 at 9:00 AM
10. Action Items

Assigned To	Action Item
Dan Knapik	Share DOT Briefings about Revitalizing Local Downtown
CDM Smith	Email Word Version of Draft Town Meeting Article
CDM Smith	Email Meeting Minutes