

WASTEWATER TREATMENT PLANT SEWER SUSTAINABILITY MANAGEMENT
MEETING HELD ON OCTOBER 17, 2018 AT 12:30 P.M. AT VILLAGE HALL

PRESENT: NYRWA Steve Grimm, Trustee Strauss, Jim Conklin, WWTP Operator Conklin, and C/T Decker

ABSENT: Jim Durning, WWTP Assistant Operator Luke Smith, VOD Supervisor Evans, and John O'Connor

The meeting was opened at approximately 2:10 p.m.

Mr. Grimm asked the Village for a letter of support as his colleagues head to Washington soon to solicit continued support for the New York Rural Water Association. The Association goes to Washington annually to lobby the various politicians on their behalf and the more letters of support the better!!! The Village agreed to make sure Mr. Grimm has a letter.

This month's meeting is about FINANCIAL VIABILITY. Mr. Grimm asked if the Village wanted to be part of a PILOT program that helps us optimize our water rates. We agreed to find out more about it – mostly cost of participation. The pilot program would analyze our water rates to give us a short term and long term outlook.

Some of the biggest challenges were addressed. Because financial viability is a serious challenge to small communities with a shrinking tax base, it was decided to concentrate on one action plan for the time being as the challenges are substantial. Options discussed were:

Promote the Village and its assets - marketing

Improve our image for tourism and sportsman's activities such as hunting and fishing

Bring in more revenues

Bring in businesses that are here to stay

Jim Conklin stated that we need to change the mindset of the community. He felt that there is much enthusiasm for seasonal activities such as the Lumberjack Festival and the Oktoberfest, however, those same people (and certainly others) need to look at long term sustainable community ideas for growth, revenues and prosperity. Scott Conklin mentioned River St park and camping as a good resource for the Village. Decker explained that the Mayor had the idea of an RV park and FEMA would not allow it. We are looking for a boat launch in the future.

Next, Mr. Grimm asked who needs to be involved in the marketing of the Village. All agreed it would start with the Mayor. Decker informed the committee that the Mayor

had intended to start a “marketing” group of various people in the community that would be a mix of a chamber of commerce, an events organization, and a business coalition. His vision is to form this group to market all the resources of the Village. At this time Mr. Conklin suggested we get the Mayor to one of our meetings to hear his plan and possibly encourage this idea. The next meeting is November 14th, 2018 at 12:30 p.m. We will be discussing Financial Viability. Next, we will all meet with the Mayor at 3:00 p.m. the same day. Decker was instructed to invite the Mayor.

REMINDER, we are still on target to present the Village Board with a Draft Wastewater Infrastructure Sustainability Improvement Plan on December 11, 2018.

Meeting was adjourned at approximately 2:15 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted