**Town of Grafton**

Water/Wastewater Study Commission

Via Zoom Meeting

December 16, 2020

6:30 pm

MEMBERS PRESENT: Suzanne Welch, Meg Gonzalez, Paul Hallock, Chris Wallace, Matt Siano

EX-OFFICIO MEMBER NOT PRESENT: Stan Mack

PUBLIC PRESENT: None

GUEST SPEAKER: Mark Johnson

AGENDA APPROVAL

Motion. Chris Wallace

Seconded. Paul Hallock

Approved. Unanimous

November 18, 2020 MINUTES APPROVAL

Motion. Paul Hallock

Seconded. Meg Gonzalez

Discussion. None

Edits: Name correction on DeRosia

Approved with edit noted unanimous

ACTION ITEMS

Brief Item discussion of previous and ongoing topics regarding septic survey and Town Meeting article consideration that will be due on January 14, 2021

Path forward to 2021 Town Meeting

Guest Speaker: Report from Mark Johnson

Mark Johnson spoke on DEC engineering study funding along with Federal funding possibilities.

Engineering Firm selection and RFQ are important initial and next steps.

Mark mentioned it is up to the Selectboard rather than a Town vote for planning funds. Planning funds would be included with a “bond vote”. It is possible to move forward with funding options without an article at Town Meeting should it be decided to move forward without an article to do an updated Engineering Study.

Regarding ”Engineering Advance Program”, Grafton is still in a very good position and eligible for planning funds.

Previous 2001 study was performed with this program.

A new study cost would be rolled into one cost along with the previous study.

There is also a “Pollution Control Grant” funding that would pay back studies performed.

Typical studies costs range from $10-30,000.

In choosing an Engineering Firm, it is suggested to have the selected firm utilize previous information but that a “fresh look” would be more advisable based on any new regulations and technology available for what is needed for Grafton.

When choosing a firm, ask what their qualifications are rather than cost.

Interviewing three firms would be best.

Mark mentioned “Clean Water SRF”, and the method for point scoring to put a wastewater project on a project priority list.

Putting Grafton high on this scoring list through answering the questionnaire list found on the website will get Grafton the best results for a pollution control grant.

River Corridor Report was mentioned as part of the questionnaire list and needs further discussion on it’s impact as currently presented in the Town Plan.

Grafton is in Basin 11 and further explanation and understanding will be necessary.

Additionally, Grafton’s Village Center Designation will bring further benefit in the points list.

The commission realizes that there is much more information to obtain with the funding process and will consider inviting Linette to speak further on this.

In lieu of time consideration, the status of the wastewater survey and details moved to the next January meeting.

New Action Items to consider include:

* River Corridor explanation per Town Plan and impact (if any) that it may have regarding funding for a wastewater project.
* Investigate Clean Water SRF website and point questionnaire.
* Invitation to have Linette speak further on funding.

OTHER BUSINESS None

PUBLIC COMMENT. None

NEXT MEETING January 14, 2021

ADJOURN 7:30

Motion made by Chair Suzanne Welch

Seconded. Matt Siano et.al.

Approved. Unanimous