

**Water Quality Committee
Village of Millbrook
March 26, 2012**

In attendance: Trustee Mike Herzog, Stanley Morse, Emma Rossi-Marshall, Dr. William Augerson, Scott Osborne, Howard Schuman and Clerk Linda Wiltse. Shortly after the February meeting Frank Genova resigned from his position on the Water Committee.

Call to Order-Trustee Herzog at 5:05 PM

Stanley made a motion to accept the minutes from the February meeting and Howard seconded. All were in favor.

Mike stated long term goals as follows:

1. Review the model ordinance for the Village in conjunction with the Town of Washington for the existing aquifer
2. Identify areas in the water shed area to let property owners know of detailed responsibilities
3. Review 1992 law in detail
4. Develop education materials for property owners in water shed area
5. Develop inspection system so they can make recommendations and review
6. Deep rock wells at current site

Bill stated the minutes needed clarification on the deep rock wells and the recommendations need to be prioritized. A separate action and different priorities would be required if the Village had a spill at the current aquifer. He added that perhaps a deep rock well should be at the same level as the second aquifer. The deep rock well deserves continuing attention. Emma stated the Village has enough water and great quality water and this may be a good time to bring this up when discussing a model ordinance. Scott agreed the Village has plenty of water even in drought conditions. Emma asked if the ordinance was going to be a Town of Washington ordinance. Mike stated yes.

Bill asked if the committee has looked at the existing ordinance. NYS has a law but no local ordinance is in place according to Emma. Bill getting cooperation and attention to state the protection and reasons needed for the ordinance are important. Emma asked about the core site wording on the model ordinance. The regional ordinance encompasses the entire Town of Washington for example. More restrictions on the core site are needed where 100 acres are the location of the water aquifer and the water shed area. Howard stated a two stage model ordinance may be the way to proceed. Emma added they need to figure out where to draw the lines. Howard also stated the 1992 map is not adequate. The core must be larger such as in the Mabbettsville area. Bill stated the arguments will come from the setting of this area. They will need analytic back up to defend the core ordinance being more restrictive.

Howard stated this is the perfect time to implement this ordinance since a new Comprehensive Plan is being formulated by the Town of Washington. Stanley added they may need to list the benefits to the Town of Washington and the Village of Millbrook residents. The Village may be able to assist or provide inspections required under the law. This would be done at no cost to the Town of Washington. Stanley proposed a new joint water council. Mike was thinking about asking a representative from the Town of Washington board to be on the Water Committee. Stanley recommended Steve Turlettes as a Town of Washington board member and Howard recommended Dave Greenwood from the Town of Washington CAC. Stanley also discussed Al DeBonis who is the newest member of the Town of Washington board. Emma discussed the permit requirements. Howard stated the Planning Board may review permits requested by property owners in the water shed area on a case by case basis. Bill added that farm operations and contaminates would be hard to regulate. Stanley brought up paying Russell Urban Mead for continued consulting charges. Howard asking for a budget line for the water committee may be the way to proceed. Mike would have to be very specific as to what funds would be spent on.

Bill referred to the section on consumption issues and stated he likes the idea of protecting out small local water supply. He added that a lot of measurements and rates are fairly specific and detailed and if there is resistance to adopting this they must have the knowledge of the consumption side. Emma asked for a copy of the Town of Amenia's ordinance. Bill stated when the committee gets to the regulatory numbers; the committee should understand how they came to these numbers to present to the Town of Washington board. Mike added this may allay some fears they have. They want to protect abuses in the future and not to over-regulate. Emma referred the committee to page 9 and discussed consumption. Bill stated they should think about restricting consumption of water such as Poland Spring for example. Stan stated there is a lot of disagreement in the community as to whether we have enough water or not. Emma added it would be helpful to know the number and type of permits issued currently in the Town of Washington and the Village of Millbrook. Bill informed the committee that the ecological impact is not looked into when for example the individual wells are approved. Bill added there is a county requirement to have a well but there is no follow up once the well is dug.

How much water the town is using may be looked into according to Howard. Mike responded they may not want to go that far. Bill added they may or may not have to confront permitting a certain business activity by the Town of Washington. They may need to be prepared to discuss these issues. Emma referred the committee to page 7 which lists special permits required. Mike added the Town of Washington permit issuance can be based on current businesses who may obtain a permit to continue to operate. Bill stated this is for future use and gives them a frame of reference.

The next meeting agenda items may include looking at the Town of Amenia's ordinance they have adopted. They will reproduce and distribute copies to the committee. They will also contact Russell Urban Mead. Bill asked if anyone has formally spoken with the Town of Washington. Mike stated that to his knowledge, not formally. Bill stated the

committee may give them a strategic warning so they can be better informed. Howard stated the Mayor officially presented information at the Comprehensive Plan meeting. Emma added they should involve the Town from the very beginning. Howard also recommended Josh Mackey as a new member of the committee. Emma argued that the Town of Washington has just as much to gain from this ordinance. Bill added it will help to prepare a condensed version of what the committee has gone through to help them to understand how the committee has come this point. Stanley presented to the committee what was shown to the Board of Trustees in the Village of Millbrook. Mike offered to look into what the Town of Washington uses when issuing permits for property in the water shed area.

Future Meeting Scheduled-The committee will examine the model ordinance during the next meeting scheduled for the last Monday in April on the 30th at 5 pm. They will also discuss the recommendations concerning what was discussed today.

The meeting concluded at 6:15 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Linda T. Wiltse
Village of Millbrook
Clerk/Treasurer