

Town of Inlet
Clean Waters Committee
May 25, 2004

The Clean Waters Committee meeting was held on Tuesday, May 25, 2004 in the meeting room of the Inlet Town Hall at 7:30 PM.

Present:

Tom Prevost, Chairman
Mick Lehman, Bernier, Carr and Associate
Matt Cooper, Bernier, Carr and Associate
Ken Nelson
Dayt Cleaveland
Joe Spilka
Paul Chambers
Adele Burnett, Recording Secretary

The committee reviewed maps of Inlet that had been marked with existing septic system and well locations. Areas with lots that do not meet Department of Health and Environmental Protection Agency size regulations for water and sewer separation were highlighted.

Tom Prevost stated that Gary Gunther, NYSEFC Environmental Engineer, and Vincent Kavanaugh, NYSDEC Wastewater Engineer, had recently been in Inlet and had suggested that this committee consider a combination of community sewers and a public water system for areas where water and sewer separation is a concern. A letter dated May 17, 2004 from Mr. Gunther was sent to this committee, the Inlet Town Board, the Inlet Planning Board, the Inlet Town Clerk and the Director of the NYS Department of Health stating the same.

Tom Prevost stated that he had brought to the Town Board a recommendation from this committee that more water testing be done. It was noted that no recent testing had been done. Mr. Prevost stated that although the Sixth and Seventh Lake Association does dye testing in their area, he was not able to obtain any data on this. Mick Lehman reminded this committee that many people felt not enough testing had been done the first time. Paul Chambers stated that he would check with Hamilton County Soil & Water to see what, if any, testing is currently being done.

After a brief discussion, the committee agreed to ask the Town Board to consider creating a local law addressing the rules and regulations on septic systems. Mr. Prevost will take this suggestion to the next Town Board meeting.

The group then went into a lengthy discussion on cluster sewer systems and public water. Mr. Prevost explained that a cluster sewer system would include a small number of

buildings that would share a leach field. The committee suggested that a smaller system might be easier to fund and might be better accepted by the community.

During discussions on public water it was mentioned that the previous committee had worried that creating a public water system might add to the already existing sewer problems. Nick Lehman also stated that there might be grant money available to the town if they put in a public water system. He also mentioned that including the public school might also open more funding opportunities.

After all the discussions, the committee agreed to recommend to the Town Board that they rehire the engineers of Bernier, Carr and Associates to look at the maps this committee has marked up with nonconforming lots and come up with a study for a sewer district and a separate study for a public water district, both in the downtown area. With these studies they will be asked to produce a cost estimate.

The committee agreed that more water testing in the downtown area along the Fifth Lake outlet still needs to be done, and Mr. Prevost stated that he would again ask the Town Board about this.

The committee discussed the idea of surveying the community on public sewer and water. Mr. Prevost stated that he had asked for help with this, but no one from this committee had come forward. The group suggested only surveying those who would be included in the new districts, and because there are so few, maybe it would be better for the committee members to see these people in person. This will be brought up again.

Public Comment – No public present at this time.

The next meeting will be held Tuesday, June 22, 2004 at 7:30 PM in the Meeting Room of the Inlet Town Hall.

The meeting adjourned at 9:50 PM.

Respectively yours,

Adele M. Burnett