

Town of Norfolk
Public Informational Meeting
Cook Street Water District
December 07, 2015

The Norfolk Town Board and the C2ae Architecture & Engineering Firm hosted an informational meeting for the Cook Street Water Project on Monday, December 07, 2015 at 06:00 PM at the SH 420 Fire Hall.

Present were Supervisor Charles Pernice, Councilwoman Jean Gang, Town Clerk Kathy Emlaw, Town Attorney Eric Gustafson, and Engineers Tim Burley and Kevin Feuka from C2ae.

*Supervisor Pernice opened the meeting and gave a history of the project to date. Approximately a year and a half ago surveys were sent out and 70% of returned responses were in favor. Approximately \$13,000.00 has been spent so far on the project. The Town of Norfolk is the Facilitator for forming the Cook Street Water District. Supervisor Pernice stated that he is not pushing the project on anyone. He was approached to pursue it and the decision is up to the people.

*Kevin Feuka of C2ae stated that this is an informational meeting only. There will be a petition to sign for all interested residents at the end of the meeting. The Cook Street Water District will extend from the Town of Massena water supply, and will include Cook Street, Hidy Ave., and Hough Road. A map of the area is available. He began review of a hand out with information of the project and process.

Mr. Ed Harvey Jr. asked for clarification of the 70% of surveys returned. Supervisor Pernice stated that 59 out of 104 surveys sent were returned and 70% of those returned were in favor of the project. Mr. Burley noted that the percentage returned was enough for the Town to make an investment on behalf of the residents. Mr. Harvey stated that there was not enough information available when the survey was originally sent one and a half years ago. Some residents were concerned about not getting the initial survey. Kevin Feuka asked if all of the residents present received the

current mailing. They did. He stated that the questionnaire will be on file with the Town Clerk.

Residents expressed concerns that the Massena drinking water was not of good quality and contained fluoride.

*Kevin Feuka continued with the presentation. He stated that the project is affordable and has many benefits and advantages such as Fire Hydrants. Cost comparisons were reviewed. The project will use 10,000 feet of pipe and include the cost of connecting to the residents plumbing for those who choose to be hooked up during the project construction. There will be water meters.

Mr. Ed Harvey Jr. asked if there was any possibility of annexation to the Town of Massena. Supervisor Pernice stated not while he is the Supervisor. Tim Burley explained that there will be an Intermunicipal Agreement (IMA) signed between the Town of Norfolk and the Town of Massena and annexation will not be included in it.

*Kevin Feuka reviewed the funding for the project. USDA Rural Development will provide a grant covering 42% of the project. A 38 year loan for the balance of the cost of the project will be financed at a 2 5/8 % interest rate. The new water district must be formed first by petition.

*The costs to the residents were reviewed. The annual average cost per residence will be \$599.00. The cost of construction will be \$280.00 per each residence and \$140.00 per each vacant lot. Supervisor Pernice noted that it is a State Regulation that the cost of construction must be paid by all parcels in the project and nothing can be done to change that regulation. There was discussion.

Residents asked how many signatures are needed for the project to pass. Tim Burley stated half of the assessed value must sign the petition approving the project. This amounts to 51 signatures.

*Kevin Feuka noted the next step will be for the residents to sign the petition authorizing the Town of Norfolk to schedule a Public Hearing the Board will vote.

Mr. Ed Harvey Jr. asked how long the petition will be open for residents to sign. There was discussion. Supervisor Pernice stated thirty days. There was more discussion.

Supervisor Pernice asked for a show of hands of residents present in favor of the Cook Street Water Project. The majority of residents present were in favor.

The meeting was closed and Town Clerk Kathy Emlaw accepted signatures for the petition.

Dated: December 07, 2015

Kathy M. Emlaw – Norfolk Town Clerk