

Town of Norfolk
Special Meeting of the Town Board
Meet with residents on grinder pumps
February 20, 2014

The Norfolk Town Board held a special meeting on Thursday, February 20, 2014 at 6:00 PM to meet with residents who own four homes on lower West Main Street to discuss the installation of grinder pumps as part of the sewer project.

Present were Supervisor Charles Pernice, Deputy Supervisor Kevin Enslow, Councilwoman Jean Gang, Councilman Robert Harvey, and Town Engineer Aaron Jarvis.

The residents present were Diane Bond who owns 5 Furnace Street, Eva Enache who owns 60 West Main Street, Angus and Margaret LaDue who own 72 West Main Street (2 apartments), and Tim Oakes who owns 84 West Main Street.

Supervisor Pernice explained that the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation (DEC) has mandated that the four above listed properties be hooked into the sewer system.

Supervisor Pernice stated that the Town will install grinder pumps with proper pipes as part of the sewer project and then turn all over to the owners. The owners will be responsible for maintenance and all further costs.

Mrs. LaDue stated that they will sign over property to the Town for the installation of the pump and the Town should maintain it.

Supervisor Pernice stated that the Town's installing the grinder pumps is a compromise and the costs of the sewer rates can be negotiated. Mr. LaDue asked what the cost per month would be. Mr. Jarvis will look into the expected costs and the information will be provided.

Mr. Jarvis explained the reasoning for the individual grinder pumps as opposed to running a sewer line along the river. Easements would have to

be obtained across all of the other properties to connect all four homes and there would be legal fees involved.

Mr. Oakes stated he is fine with maintaining the system as long as it is installed correctly.

Mr. Jarvis described the grinder pump system noting that the maintenance will be minimal. It compares to a sump pump. Mr. Jarvis stated that the pumps can handle two to three residences including washing machines. He noted that the only thing that could likely go wrong is the occasional sticking of the float, which can be washed off and it would be fixed.

Mr. LaDue asked where they would be able to get parts for the pumps. Mr. Jarvis stated that these pumps have been around a long time and he will get a list of suppliers.

Councilman Harvey stated that the residents do not have an option for a leach field with a raised bed.

Supervisor Pernice stated that the DEC is requiring that the residences be connected to the sewer and that legally the Town does not have to do anything.

Supervisor Pernice stated that the residents must agree, the Town will install the grinder pumps with the sewer project and the contractors will need to get into the houses to do the electrical. There was discussion on the cost of the electricity. It was noted that it would be minimal.

There was discussion on the option of discounted sewer rates to the residents and Supervisor Pernice noted he will look into it.

Mrs. LaDue asked if they should have spare parts on hand and Supervisor Pernice noted it has not yet been looked into.

There was more discussion. Supervisor Pernice noted that the residents have a lot to think about. The residents reviewed the project map to see where the pumps would be located.

Supervisor Pernice asked the residents to come in and sign an agreement with the Town as soon as possible.

The meeting was adjourned.

Supervisor – Charles Pernice

Deputy Supervisor – Kevin Enslow

Councilwoman – Jean Gang

Councilman – Robert Harvey

Dated: February 20, 2014

Kathy M. Emlaw – Norfolk Town Clerk