

Town of Montville Water Pollution Control Authority
Meeting Minutes of the Public Informational Meeting for the Montville Facilities Plan
For the Oxoboxo Lake Area held at
Oakdale Elementary School Cafeteria
30 Indiana Circle, Oakdale, Connecticut
Thursday, February 18, 2010 6:30 p.m. – Meet & Greet
7:00 p.m. Presentation & Public Comment

Doors to the Public Informational Meeting opened at 6:30 p.m. and residents were encouraged to speak informally with the project team regarding recommendations being considered for the Oxoboxo Lake community in the Montville Wastewater Facilities Plan. Maps and documentation regarding the project were available for review.

1. Call to Order

Chairman May called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

2. Roll Call

Present were Commissioners May, Siragusa and Hillman. Absent were Commissioners Thorn and Schober. Also present were Administrator Brian Lynch, Superintendent Michael Didato, Assistant Superintendent Tom McNally, Steve Loiler and Richard Kruczek from URS Corporation, Rocky Hill, CT.

3. Presentation of the Montville Facilities Plan for the Oxoboxo Lake Area

Chairman May started the presentation by stating this is a preliminary, educational presentation to inform the residents of the Oxoboxo Lake area progress to date regarding the Montville Facilities Plan and to answer any questions or concerns residents may have. He invited anyone with questions or concerns to address the staff and questions will be answered to the best of the ability of the project team.

Richard Kruczek, URS Corporation, 500 Enterprise Drive, Suite 3B, Rocky Hill, CT presented a power point presentation regarding the Facilities Plan for the Oxoboxo Lake area. He stated the purpose of the Town of Montville's WPCA's Facilities Plan is to make sure that the WPCA facilities comply with all Connecticut Department of Environmental Protection consent orders and sewage treatment requirements. The Study will evaluate the sewage collection and treatment needs of the Town of Montville over the next twenty years and will recommend infrastructure enhancements to meet the community's needs and benefit public health and the natural environment. The Plan will address some of the critical needs including septic systems that are not meeting the towns design standards and address the issues with failing septic systems resulting in water quality issues. The plan will evaluate the existing septic systems and public sewer alternatives for the Oxoboxo Lake area and cost estimates for recommended

infrastructure improvements will be developed and environmental studies conducted to ensure that the impacts from infrastructure improvements to ecologically sensitive areas are avoided, minimized and mitigated. Expansion of the public sewer system to the Oxoboxo Lake area and the installation of pumping stations and grinding pumps may be recommended in the study. He stated the Water Pollution Control Facility is responsible for treating approximately 2.7 million gallons of residential, commercial and industrial wastewater per day and complies with State and Federal quality limits to protect the ecosystem of the Thames River. The Town of Montville Water Pollution Control System includes more than seventy six miles of sewer piping and twenty two major pumping stations maintained twenty four hours a day. Mr. Kruzcek discussed project history, the Oxoboxo Lake study area, future land use maps, major plan components, lake and potable water analysis, sampling locations, on-site disposal evaluation, permitted repairs, on site disposal alternates, gravity sewers, financial impact, low pressure sewers, funding resources, pumping stations and how the public can get involved during his power point presentation. (attached, schedule A) He explained a draft of the facilities plan is due to be completed by April, 2010, followed by a public hearing on the Facilities Plan. The Plan will be finalized after addressing comments received at the public hearing.

The public expressed concern regarding water pollution, failing septic systems and the costs to property owners relating to hooking up to the public sewers if and when they are available.

Chairman May stated this is not a public hearing and there is no plan in place at this time to install public sewers, the purpose of this meeting is to educate the public regarding the Montville Wastewater Facilities Plan that will identify and evaluate the sewage collection and treatment needs of the Town of Montville for the next twenty years. The Plan is required by the Connecticut Department of Environmental Protection and they recommend infrastructure enhancement projects to meet the community's needs. The Plan includes an analysis of water quality of the Oxoboxo Lake and potable water sources in the area, evaluation of on-site septic disposal systems on properties in the Oxoboxo Lake community, compliance with the CT DEP regulations and the Town's zoning regulations and consistency with the Town's Plan of Conservation and Development and consideration of public sewer alternatives for the Oxoboxo Lake community.

Richard Kruczek discussed the cost estimates for installation of the infrastructure improvements and the potential costs to the property owners to utilize the system. Discussions were held regarding grant money available and the costs with and without the grants to the homeowners over a twenty year borrowing period.

Residents recommended more water tests for the lake in order to determine if it is polluted and if it is what is polluting the water. They expressed concern for a lack of information regarding the depth of the wells tested and the small number of wells that were tested. They requested results of the wells tested as well as results of the lake water tests. Residents expressed concern regarding the locations of the pump stations. Residents asked if it would be a requirement to hook up to the sewers if their systems are

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in compliance and in working condition. Questions were asked regarding the motivation for moving forward with the study in the lake area. Discussions were held regarding a lot by lot study to determine who is in compliance and which lots have failing septic systems and contaminated wells.

Chairman May adjourned the meeting at 9:15 p.m. and encouraged anyone who would like additional information or concerns to leave their names and telephone numbers so that someone can get in touch with them regarding their issues. He thanked everyone for attending the meeting and stated there will be additional meetings in the future prior to the finalization of the Facilities Plan and before the Public Hearing to address any future concerns.

Respectfully Submitted by:

Audrey Ulmer, Recording Secretary for the Town of Montville