

**Minutes for a Public Information Meeting held by the
Town of Ticonderoga Town Board on February 26, 2019 commencing at 5:00 p.m.
regarding The Portage Sewer Project**

Present: Joseph Giordano, Supervisor
Joyce Cooper, Councilwoman
Dorcey Crammond, Councilwoman
Dave Woods, Councilman
Tonya M. Thompson, Town Clerk

Absent: Wayne Taylor, Councilman

Others: Greg Swart and Kevin Farrington (AES), Scott Montville, John & Rita Burroughs, Alan & Julie Trombley, Jerry Peeters, Steve teRiele & Nicole Pressley, Tim Rowland, Steve and Dianna Donat, Ed Vosburg & Sarah Aunchman, Jim Bergeron, Marge Cross, Raymond Francis.

Mr. Swart from AES described the project on the Portage as being sewer project based. The Town has a combined system of storm water and sanitary water which tends to be too much for our system and have been directed to separate. This is the Portage's separation portion. The street will be torn up and it is hopes, with suggestions and comments from the public, that the street will be put back in a better way. It is a very expensive project and the Town would like to do it correctly and the best way to accommodate as many people as possible. We are proposing a plan of sidewalks on both sides of road, a parking lane on one side (may switch sides at some point), a grass utility strip on both sides, and striping on the lane for shared roadway with bikes (no bike lanes); 2019 is the design phase along with bidding, 2020 is construction phase and 2021 is road work, paving.

Mr. Farrington added that this project is proposed to be from Cannonball Path to Alexandria Avenue and this is your neighborhood, which means you know it better than he, so he would take comments, questions and suggestions at this time.

John Burroughs wanted to be sure that there is ledge in areas, his water line is 4' down because of ledge.

Don Peterson asked about curbing and driveway aprons.

Mr. Farrington explained the reasoning for putting in curbing which helps the longevity on integrity of the road pavement. Driveways will be tied into any new pavement with asphalt unless they are of a different material and then they will look at it closer.

Steve teRiele questioned the sewer for those houses where it attaches in the back such as his (and several others on The Portage).

Mr. Swart acknowledges the fact that some sewer lines are behind houses and it is hopes to get those lines to the new road; it will be a case by case scenario, however.

Nicole Pressley wanted to be sure that there is going to be no cost to the homeowner to move the sewer lines.

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Mr. Swart agreed and again added that some may not get moved. There may be an instance of someone getting a grinder pump. He assured the residents that there will be employees walking around and surveying the areas. The goal of this project is to separate the storm water from the sewer.

Jim Bergeron asked if the power poles will be moved.

Mr. Farrington stated that this would be very expensive and preferably we do not want to get involved with moving power poles.

Jim Bergeron wanted to point out that there is no need for a bike path on The Portage. He also asked about parking on one side and pointed out the need in areas around the church all the way to the dentist office, he also questioned the safety if blasting ledge, these are old houses and foundations are very old and unstable.

John Burroughs asked if water lines would be moved. (He is on ledge)

Mr. Swart reminded that the goal is to separate storm water and sanitary sewer, along with water lines since the road will be torn up. Some water lines may be moved, but they are not sure yet.

Jim Bergeron added that the water lines are inadequate, if there is a fire and the department hooks up to the line it blows the line.

Mr. Swart agreed and again noted that we are tear up the road for sewer, so the time is now to replace the water lines.

Sarah Aunchman gave a bit of history to the engineers about water run off from and the natural flow from Colonial Heights. She stated how her basement and several of her neighbors basements are continuously wet from that road being put in and the natural flow interrupted. It was decided that the engineers would meet with her for a walk through of the area when the weather is better.

John Burroughs agreed with Ms. Aunchman and related how the area in front of his house is a sheet of ice all winter long from this run off.

Mr. Farrington agreed that a road is only as good as its drainage and hopes this will alleviate these problems. He thanked the public and assured them that they will be looking at all these areas. He reminded though that there are limitations as to what they can do with public funds and working out of the public right-of-way. Stone curbing will help with water run off

Mr. Swart agreed and assured that the intent is to divert the water and they will look into the run off. He stated that this is exactly why these meetings are held, to get this information from the people that know it.

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Supervisor Giordano agreed with the engineers and stated that the town is moving forward to hopefully reduce or eliminate these issues so we don't have to keep coming back and fixing problems. He explained again how this project is coming out of the sewer project.

Marge Cross asked if this is going to be done on all the main fairs in town.

Supervisor Giordano stated that this all comes down to money. He added that there will be some work on Lake George Avenue, but this is the main project to separate storm water and sanitary sewer. This is a unique project and if successful, the plan is to implement this on other streets throughout the town at some point.

Marge Cross asked why the Portage first.

Supervisor Giordano again explained the project in progress right now and the storm water separation with the new Daylight Stream being put in by this Community Building on the side lawn. It all ties in together. This is a critical part of the Town's SPEDES permit.

Nicole Pressley had a concern about the road work, in the last three years the road has been torn up in front of her residence and it has been an issue of getting in and out.

Mr. Farrington assured her that this should not be a problem with this project and if it is she is asked to report it to the supervisor on the project (white hat) or call him personally. (He handed out business cards.)

The meeting was closed at 6:00 p.m. and anyone interest were invited to come to the front of the room to look at plans and ask any more questions directly to the engineers.

Respectfully submitted, Tonya M. Thompson, Town Clerk.