A special meeting of the Village of Freeville Board of Trustees was held on July 17, 2019, at the Village Hall to meet with GHC Consulting Services in order to comply with a request from New York State Department of Environmental Conservation.

Call to Order: Mayor Fogel called the meeting to order at 2:00 pm


The New York State Department of Environmental Conservation sent a letter to the Village of Freeville requesting a Flow Management plan for the Village’s sewer system by August 1, 2019 because the annual average flow of the facility has exceeded 95% of the design flow.

Patrick Brennan spoke about the two options provided by GHD Consulting Services (below) to address the Department of Environmental Conservation’s concerns with the Village’s sewer system. He suggested that the first option would not satisfy the DEC.

Option 1:
Prepare the Flow Management Plan (FMP)- We could prepare this plan for a fee of $6k and we would need about 30-days to complete it once we are authorized to proceed. The DEC May 31 letter indicated the Flow Management Plan submission deadline is no later than August 1, 2019, and is required because the WWTP exceeded 95% of the design flow. If this deadline cannot be met; DEC requests a proposed schedule from the Village for the FMP submission. DEC indicated the FMP must fully address the causes of excessive flow/loadings to the WWTP. We could prepare an Agreement for our services and send to you as soon as possible to help meet DEC requests.

Option 2:
Apply for an Environmental Planning Grant (EPG)- This grant is designed to help cover the cost of engineering and planning services to prepare Flow Management Plans, Engineering Reports, and Inflow/Infiltration Studies. Maximum grant for the Village would be $30k, based on the Village’s population. Deadline for grant application submission is July 26 2019. Awards are announced in late fall 2019. Village would be required to make a 20% match of the requested grant amount. The match may include cash or in-kind services. The Village may have a good chance in receiving a grant as the EPG money would be used towards advancing a water quality project and addressing DEC concerns. We could assist the Village with preparing the on-line grant application.

Jon Putnam spoke about the various ways to test the sewer system for excess water coming into the sewer system. He and Pat also noted the other types of things that could be affecting the flow, such as residents’ sump pumps draining into the sewer system, broken pipes or leaks and how to test for them.

Jon also answered questions as to how the grant works. Discussion was held regarding George Junior Republic’s use of the sewer system.

Trustee Cuykendall made a motion to authorize GHD Consulting Services to apply for the Environmental Planning Grant (Option 2) on behalf of the Village. Seconded by Trustee Radford. All members present voted aye. Motion passed.
Trustee Cuykendall made a motion to authorize Mayor Fogel to sign the Environmental Planning Grant application on behalf of the Village. Seconded by Trustee Radford. All members present voted aye. Motion passed.

The Board went through the list of questions that GHD Consulting Services will need to have answers to in order to proceed with processing the grant application.

Trustee Cuykendall motioned to adjourn the meeting. Trustee Radford seconded the motion. All members present voted aye. Motion passed. Meeting adjourned at 2:48 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Virginia Mott
Village Clerk-Treasurer