

Village of Cold Spring
Village Board of Trustees
85 Main Street, Cold Spring, NY 10516

Trustees Workshop
10-6-2020

The Village of Cold Spring Board of Trustees held an online workshop meeting via video conference pursuant to Executive Order 202.1 on Tuesday October 6, 2020 at 6:30 pm. Present were: Mayor Merandy and Trustees Marie Early, Lynn Miller, Frances Murphy and Steve Voloto.

PRESENTATION & DISCUSSION OF CHAZEN COMPANIES WATER SUPPLY STUDY

Michelle Smith (HHLT) introduced the Chazen team and gave a brief history of the study noting that:

- The initial grant was solicited in 2017 and awarded in 2018
- Impetus for the study was to examine water quality, supply and demand in the context of climate change, weather events and future development
- Beacon has done a similar study

Russell Urban-Mead and George Cronk (both with Chazen Companies) presented the study and noted that:

- Demand is established in part by studying past usage and NYS issued guide for potential demand
- Current usage is 260K gallons/day with a treatment capacity of 800K gallons/day and a tank storage capacity of 500K gallons
- The upper and lower (middle) dams have a combined capacity of 65 million gallons, providing an eight month supply
- The Foundry reservoir has the capacity to provide a one-day supply
- A broken valve on the upper dam reduces the amount of water available. *Later in the meeting Water and Wastewater superintendent Matt Kroog noted that the valve was functioning and has been used. Urban-Mead and Cronk noted that this new information greatly improves water supply capacity for the Village.*
- The condition of water pipes was not a focus of this study

Chazen Companies Recommendations (some of the recommendations were rendered moot as the upper reservoir dam valve is functioning)

- Repair upper reservoir, with an estimated cost of \$4-5 million and 5-10 year timetable
- Draw more water from the lower and Foundry reservoirs
- Install Flashboards to increase capacity of the upper dam. Estimated cost \$150K
- Divert Jaycox Pond into the reservoir system, though this is not a year round water source
- Drill wells to offset water used from the reservoirs. Wells can be bedrock or sand and gravel, each with their own pros and cons

- Increase conservation efforts
- Perform infrastructure maintenance

Board Comment and Discussion

During the discussion it was noted that:

- Board members asked how tapping into Jaycox Pond would work. Chazen responded that it would be a gravity feed taken from the stream before it enters the pond. The Byram reservoir in Westchester is a nearby example.
- What would DEC concerns be (relative to tapping into Jaycox Pond)? Chazen responded that a pre-application meeting can be held to explore any concerns.
- What level of water flow can be expected from wells? Chazen responded that a bedrock well can produce 15-25 gallons/minute. Sand/gravel wells can produce up to 200 gallons/minute
- How much land would be required for wells and what would spacing between wells be? Chazen responded that the Board of Health stipulates a 100 ft radius, but that Chazen recommends 200 ft.
- If wells are too close and end up tapping into the same source, the flow at each well would be reduced
- Pumping water from Clove Creek is a possible source for additional water supply, but the cost will vary depending upon how it's exported. Clove Creek is approximately half a mile from the reservoirs.
- Chazen will forward a list of conservation resources for distribution to Village residents
- The existing storage tank is sufficient for current and anticipated needs
- Flashboards have a 5-10 year life expectancy
- Village reservoirs are solely dependent upon rainfall
- The current capacity of all reservoirs provides an eight month supply and that is a good benchmark when evaluating water supply needs
- Wells are less susceptible to weather and climate
- The cost to remedy outstanding DEC violations is a benchmark to evaluate the cost of other options that may be undertaken
- Next step for the Village is to determine the cost for a connection to Clove Creek and discuss the options presented.

PANDEMIC OPERATION PLAN

Board members noted that the majority of the state-mandated plan is already in place and only lacks being put into writing. Trustee Early will work with the Village Clerk on this matter.

RESOLUTION 16-2020

Resolution Of The Village Board Of The Village Of Cold Spring Authorizing The Execution Of The Settlement Documents Regarding An Employment Discrimination Lawsuit Against The Village.

Introduced by: Mayor Merandy

Seconded by: Trustee Early

Date of Adoption: October 6, 2020

WHEREAS, there is currently a pending employment discrimination lawsuit in the United States District Court for the Southern District of New York, which lawsuit was filed by Kenneth Trimble, III (“Plaintiff”) against the Village of Cold Spring and David Merandy, Mayor of the Village of Cold Spring (the “Village”); and

WHEREAS, the Village Board discussed the pending lawsuit in executive session with its legal counsel appointed by the Village’s insurance carrier and authorized its attorney to engage in settlement negotiations; and

WHEREAS, the Plaintiff has agreed to settle this proceeding pursuant to the terms previously discussed by the Village Board with its legal counsel; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, THAT:

- (1) the Village Board hereby agrees to settle this matter and authorizes the preparation of a stipulation of settlement pursuant to the terms previously discussed with its legal counsel (“Stipulation of Settlement”); and
- (2) the Mayor is authorized to execute any and all settlement documents, including but not limited to the Stipulation of Settlement, subject to review and approval of the final terms by the attorneys for the Village; and
- (3) the attorneys for the Village are authorized to take all steps necessary to effectuate the purpose of this Resolution.

Upon Roll Call Vote:

Mayor Merandy: Aye
Trustee Voloto: Aye
Deputy Mayor Early: Aye
Trustee Miller: Aye
Trustee Murphy: Aye

Vote: Resolution Carried by a vote of 5-0-0-0.

TREE REMOVAL AND MAINTENANCE RFPs

Tree Advisory Board (TAB) chair Jennifer Zwarich told the Board that:

- The TAB has prepared two RFP’s soliciting services for tree removal and maintenance.
- TAB plans to plant some new trees in the general area of those being removed
- TAB has received a \$49K grant to cover these services

- RFPs to be advertised on the Village website, social media and local papers. As well J. Zwarich will be contacting potential vendors directly

Mayor Merandy made a motion to approve the issuance of the RFPs. Trustee Voloto seconded and the motion passed unanimously.

APPROVE HIRING OF GROUNDSKEEPER

Mayor Merandy made a motion to hire Giacomo Del Vecchio at the rate of \$16/hour. Trustee Early seconded and the motion passed unanimously.

APPROVAL OF BILLS

Trustee Miller made a motion to approve Batch #5748 in the amount of \$18,957.26. Mayor Merandy seconded and the motion passed unanimously.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Mayor Merandy made a motion to adopt the 9-15-2020 minutes as amended. Trustee Miller seconded and the motion passed unanimously.

Mayor Merandy made a motion to adopt the 9-17-2020 minutes as submitted. Trustee Miller seconded and the motion passed unanimously.

Mayor Merandy made a motion to adopt the 9-22-2020 minutes as submitted. Trustee Early seconded and the motion passed unanimously.

Mayor Merandy made a motion to adopt the 9-29-2020 minutes as amended. Trustee Murphy seconded and the motion passed unanimously.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Mike Turton (The Highlands Current) asked what the Board planned as their next steps regarding the Chazen Companies report. Mayor Merandy responded that the Board will discuss the report in more detail. Repairs to the upper dam will be addressed first.

Turton asked whether the Chazen Companies report would have any impact on the ongoing discussions with the DEC regarding the Catskill aqueduct. Mayor Merandy responded that those talks were ongoing.

Stephanie Hawkins, 10 Academy Street, suggested the Board confer with the Village Attorney as to whether the Village Code should specifically address how future development will impact the water supply. She pointed out that while this is addressed by SEQR, the Planning Board (of which she is a member) would benefit from specific direction in this matter.

CODE UPDATE REVIEW

Trustee Early has spoken with NYSEDA regarding an extension of the code update timetable. She reported that while NYSEDA is reluctant, they have agreed to a 15 month extension, moving completion to the second quarter of 2022.

AJOURNMENT

Mayor Merandy made a motion to adjourn. Trustee Early seconded and the motion passed unanimously at 8:21 pm.

Submitted by: M. Mell

Mayor Merandy

Date