

**Minutes of Lost Lake Sewer Committee**  
**November 6, 2008**

Present: Carol Quinn, Tom Doyle, Jean Wright, Angela Garger, and George Wheatley

**Old Business**

1. October 16 meeting minutes were reviewed and approved.

**New Business**

\*George Wheatley from the West Groton Sewer Committee attended and provided us with information on several things.

1. George provided us with the meeting minutes from the West Groton Sewer Committee (WGSC) and the questionnaire that they circulated to residents.
2. At the last WGSC meeting the Board of Health attended. They suggested having a joint meeting with the Board of Health, the WGSC and the Lost Lake Sewer Committee, (LLSC). Bob Rafferty from Woodward and Curran would also attend. The meeting would be informative in nature and provide information about title five guidelines, and related issues and procedures for residents. It is also intended to explain the implications of title five for homeowners. George has already arranged for notifications for residents to go out in the next tax bill in the beginning of January to announce the meeting. The meeting is scheduled for February 2, 2009 at 7:30 pm at the Groton Town Hall.
3. He said the Bob Rafferty of Woodward and Curran had attended one of their meetings and been quite helpful answering questions about a potential system in West Groton. Bob Rafferty's contact information: phone 866-702-6371 and 978-557-8150; email [brafferty@woodwardcurran.com](mailto:brafferty@woodwardcurran.com).
4. The next WGSC meeting will be on November 18, 2008 at 7:30 pm at the Senior Center off of 225 in West Groton.
5. He said that he had not found much available for funding sources and what was available had to be paid back. He suggested we try the Groton Lakes Association, (GLA) and the Great Pond Management Advisory Committee. Jean and Angela noted that the GLA would not have the type of funds needed for such a large project. George also briefly mentioned low interest loans and bonding as possible funding sources.
6. He recommended the following website for helpful information:  
[www.mass.gov/dep](http://www.mass.gov/dep).
7. George mentioned a wastewater study by Dufresne-Henry done in 1982 or 1984 for the Lost Lake area that he thought might be helpful. He said that we might be able to obtain a copy from the Sewer Department Office at Town Hall.
8. George mentioned the possibility of the formation of a Groton Department of Public Works.

\*Tom attended the Groton Sewer Commission meeting. His meeting notes are included below.

The Lost Lake Sewer Committee has no funding nor does it have civil engineering expertise within the committee. In order to make real progress toward the goal of providing a sewer system for the Lost Lake area, a number of engineering activities are required. It is assumed that these services must be paid for.

The Lost Lake Sewer Committee will request that Woodard & Curran, at no cost to the town of Groton, develop a detailed proposal that defines the scope of the work described below as well as the cost of these activities. The goal of this proposal will be to request and secure funding from the Town of Groton at Town Meeting in April 2009 to fund Lost Lake Sewer Committee (LLSC) engineering consultant.

1. Fund Woodard and Curran (W&C) to close open issues related to the Woodward and Curran report. This includes, but is not limited to:
  - a. Perk testing of sites proposed in the W&C report as to their suitability as a leach field. (The Town of Groton has not accepted donated land from Grotonwood due to the unknown suitability of this land for sewage leach bed use. Other areas identified in the W&C report have similar unknown suitability for practical use as a leach field.)
  - b. Prepare a Request for Proposal in accordance with Massachusetts law and Groton processes that will solicit bids from an appropriate number of contractors, for the design of each of the five (5) identified regional Lost Lake Systems.
  - c. Submit, publish, and distribute the RFP in accordance with Town procedures.
  - d. Receive, review, and analyze each completed bid and present results in writing and at a public town forum.
  - e. Identify specific Federal, State, DEP, etc agencies that potentially fund sewage systems in environmentally sensitive areas.
  - f. Submit applications with appropriate backup to above identified agencies to secure funding for this project..
2. Lost Lake Sewer Committee.
  - a. Collaborate with West Groton Sewer Committee.
  - b. Determine "septic" load of each of the Lost Lake areas identified in the Woodard and Curran report by accessing data in the Assessors DB.
  - c. Determine ownership of proposed Leach areas and identify ownership and research availability for use by Lost Lake Residents.

The construction of a Lost Lake Sewer system must be funded. It has not been determined where the funds for any stage of the Lost Lake Sewer System will come from. Therefore, a preliminary requirement to any request for funds, from any source (Federal, State, Town, etc), it is to know, or at least have an estimate, of the cost of preliminary design, detailed design and construction of each system.

Tom said that the Groton Sewer Commission was planning on contacting Bob Rafferty about some of the issues listed above.

Other New business:

Carol mentioned that she would like the committee to look into the possibility of providing town water to Lost Lake Residents.

Action Items

1. Angela will review the Woodward and Curran report and try to identify other areas of the report that may be useful to the committee. On going.
2. Jean will continue to try and reach Lucy Wallace in Harvard. On going.
3. Tom will go to the assessors' office to meet with them. They are having trouble getting the information we need from their database regarding the number of houses and number of bedrooms in the different areas on the lake.
4. Carol will contact Bill Carson who was involved in the Lost Lake Sewer Committee when it was formed last to see what information he may be able to share with us. On going.
5. Tom will scan the West Groton Sewer Committee minutes, the Pipeline Newsletter and the facilities planning report from Dufresne-Henry to the other committee members.
6. Angela will contact the Board of Health about the February 2, 2009 meeting.
7. Carol will contact the Merrimack watershed to see what information they might have regarding sewer systems on lakes. Specifically what regulations might exist with regards to lakes and whether any grants would be available for initiatives in the Merrimack watershed?
8. Angela will try to contact the Great Pond Management Advisory Committee to find out about funding sources.
9. Carol will contact the new assessor, Jennifer Evans, about getting the information that we need from the town database.