

September 27, 2022
Town of Lyme
Public Hearing Point Salubrious Water District 6:30 P.M.

Public Hearing for Point Salubrious Water District:

Supervisor Countryman called the Point Salubrious Water District Public Hearing to order at 6:30 P.M.

Those present included Supervisor Countryman, Deputy Supervisor Bourquin, Councilwoman Gosier, Councilman Farrell, Councilman Villa, Town Clerk Ariana Henderson, McKenzie Lehman, Gregor Smith, Cynthia Fusco, James Branski, Barbara Peck, Tom Peck, David Sieffert, Suzanne Sieffert, Warren Johnson, Paul Carr, Kathie Carr, Rich Miles, Chris Rowland, Carrie Aubertine, Lynn Chavoustie, Margaret Stevens, Thomas Stevens, Peter Moles, Karin Ripka, Mary Clark, John Valentine, Mike Stratton, Sheila Buckingham, Eszter Kruger, Daniel Kruger, James Warner, Luke Jones, Justin Edgerton, Mary Hyde, Dean Hyde, Heather Hurtubis, Caleb Ragan, Dwight Goutremout, Dawn Munk, Rodney Buckingham, William Pfaff, Patrick Hathaway, Kristina Hathaway, Nikki Hathaway, Charles Tiles, Cynthia Ahlheim, Wendy Fibison, Kelly Goutremout, Keith Goutremout, Sally Slate, Jim Slate, Joel Block, Thomas Stoffel, Linda Stoffel, Stephanie Doney, Gary Bird, and Bonnie Bird.

Supervisor Countryman introduced McKenzie Lehman and Gregor Smith from BCA Architects and Engineers to present the Point Salubrious Water District No. 6 PowerPoint presentation. The new water District includes all of Point Salubrious up to the Village Boundaries.

Total Costs per EDU

- Total Project Cost \$ 17,480,000
 - Grants
 - NYS WIIA (up to 60% / \$5m) \$ 5,000,000
 - USDA RD (up to 45% / \$3m) \$ 3,000,000
 - Loans
 - USDA RD (3% / 38-year) \$ 9,480,000
 - Annual Debt Service \$ 421,475
 - Annual Debt Service per EDU \$ 1,476
 - Bimonthly Debt Service per EDU \$ 246
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- Annual DANC, O&M, Capital, and Usage Fees \$ 572
 - Bimonthly DANC, O&M, Capital, and Usage Fees \$ 96
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- Total Annual Cost per EDU \$ 2,048
 - Total Bimonthly Cost per EDU \$ 341

Public Hearing Questions and Comments:

Supervisor Countryman opened the floor for residents to speak.

Chuck Tiles: Mr. Tiles was questioning the financials of the project. He asked how long residents will pay \$2048.00 a year.

Gregor Smith (BCA): Gregor responded that this figure is based on 38 year funding.

William Pfaff: Mr. Pfaff asked if the NYS Comptroller would allow the project to go through considering that it was so far over the limit.

Joel Block: Mr. Block asked if there would be a vote and if it was mandatory to have water.

Supervisor Countryman stated that there will be a vote based on who is in the district and stated that if the project is approved it is mandatory. He then explained the entire process involved in the new water district.

Joel Block: Mr. Block inquired about continuing to use the water filtration system that he currently has installed in his home.

Gregor Smith (BCA): Gregor responded that the NYS Department of Health would not allow current water filtration systems to be in place because of possible contamination. This would be a health code violation.

Warren Johnson: Mr. Johnson spoke regarding the regulation of the lake levels. He depends on his shore well for water and in the winter he can see himself pumping water into his shore well due to the current low lake level. He has seen this project through for 10 years and the only reason it didn't pass the first time was because DANC didn't have the water to supply the project. The Fire Department has downgraded and this has increased his insurance premium. He said this project needs to be ready for when infrastructure funding comes down the pipeline.

Stephanie Doney: Ms. Doney expressed her concern about how terrible the water that they do have is. She hauls water every week for her household. She asked how long each construction phase would last.

Gregor Smith (BCA): Gregor stated that it will most likely be 2 seasons of construction.

Jim Branski: Mr. Branski said that he agrees with what everyone else was saying regarding shore wells; sometimes you have water and sometimes you don't. The amount of chloroform that is showing up in their shore well is unsettling. He stated that if the water would have gone through on the Point 10 years ago they would only be paying \$1000.00 a year. He then listed the benefits for the water being installed and how it will increase the value of the properties.

Jim Slate: Mr. Slate asked if a referendum was to happen what percentage would allow it to pass.

William Pfaff: Mr. Pfaff voiced his concerns including the constructions cost is subject to change and when they may decide to place the water line.

Patrick Hathaway: Mr. Hathaway owns four properties on Point Salubrious. He stated that the DANC water line is very dependable, listed the benefits and said that it works without power. He recognizes the concerns the residents have but the benefits will outweigh them. He said most people pay more money for entertainment in a year.

Barbara Peck: Ms. Peck stated that most people believe shore wells are free and they are not. There are filters, water softeners, salt and electricity to keep them running. She thinks that the expenses are more than \$2000.00 a year now to have a shore well and then they still have to haul water.

Nikki Hathaway: Ms. Hathaway added to Barb's comments regarding shore wells costing money. She stated that it cost \$2500.00 last winter to thaw her shore well once.

Keith Goutremout: Mr. Goutremout said that he has to replace all of the electronics and fixtures in his house every few years because the water eats through everything.

Chris Rowland: Mr. Rowland said amen to the last 4 speakers. He said the water levels being so low has impacted his shore well. He was also wondering where the water lines would be placed.

Gregor Smith (BCA): Gregor stated that it would be based on preliminary design steps. They would work with homeowners to the all of the water mains.

Chuck Tiles: Mr. Tiles asked if shore wells or anything that was broken with current water systems were broken if they would be repairs by BCA or the contractor.

Gregor Smith (BCA): Gregor stated that no current water systems would remain hooked up because the Department of Health would not allow any cross contamination into the water lines.

Warren Johnson: Mr. Johnson volunteered to have a fire hydrant on his property.

Caleb Regan: Mr. Regan is building a house 1200ft from the road and asked if the price would change for users depending on how far the water line needs to be ran. He also asked if the price will change with growth of the project and what was considered an EDU.

Gregor Smith (BCA): Gregor said that there is no limit on how far back the water line will go to your property that is already factored into the cost and estimated. He said they did not factor EDY growth into the project but they did for the water system. An EDU is considered to be a buildable lot and would be counted toward a ½ EDU (vacant land).

Tom Peck: Mr. Peck questioned if the fire department was having a problem driving the water truck. Chaumont Fire Chief responded that they need more members of the fire department but there are no problems driving the truck if it is needed for a fire call.

Joel Block: Mr. Block asked if the cost could rise. Gregor Smith responded that they included inflation to an extent.

Supervisor Countryman read emails submitted from residents. All residents that sent emails were in support of the Point Salubrious Water District.

Tom Stevens: Mr. Stevens said that they have to thaw their water line every winter. Shore wells are very unreliable. In 2008 their shore well was wiped out. He has to pump water to their water tank in their garage every year.

Joel Block: Mr. Block asked how long the residents would go without water. Gregor responded that the system would be down for a very short time period.

Supervisor Countryman explained that the Public Hearing will be left open because of the timeline that needs to be followed by the Town. If anyone wants to reach out with comments or concerns they can contact the Town Office or email him before the regular Town Board meeting October 12, 2022.

The public hearing ended at 7:33 p.m.

Supervisor Countryman opened the regular meeting at 7:45 pm.

Resolution 2022-144: Councilmember Villa made the motion to hold the public hearing for the Water District #2 Extension on October 12, 2022 at 6:15 p.m. at the Town of Lyme Office; Deputy Supervisor Bourquin seconded the motion; all were in favor; motion carried.

Adjournment:

Resolution 2022-145: Councilmember Villa a made the motion to adjourn; seconded by Deputy Supervisor Bourquin; all were in favor and the motion was carried; meeting was adjourned at 7:47 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Ariana Henderson

Ariana Henderson
Town Clerk