



TOWN OF BROOKLINE, NEW HAMPSHIRE

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Brookline Well and Water Committee Meeting Minutes

Location: Zoom Meeting

Date: 06/17/2020

Time: 7:00 PM

Attendees: Lindsay Machado, Rob Danckert, Buddy Dougherty

Absentees: Jay Chrystal

Lindsay made a motion to approve May 20, 2020 meeting minutes as amended. Motion seconded by Rob. Vote Yes: 3-0.

Lindsay summarized recent discussions she has had with home owners and residents on Russell Hill Road (six homes), Westview Road (two homes), and Old Milford Road (one homes) that have been experiencing recent issues with their private wells.

Lindsay also summarized some general discussions she had with Roger Skillings of Skillings and Sons regarding regional water supply issues. Skillings and Sons may be able to provide information on historical periods when private wells had gone dry.

The committee also discussed potential recourse for homeowners in the event a well initially passed state yield standards but no longer met them after a certain point.

Chris Duncan provided some high level perspective on processes and timelines required to get ordinances approved. The committee and Chris Duncan further discussed the deliverable to the town and what is expected of us (ie, the final report that provides options and suggestions to the original questions asked of the committee).

The committee decided to narrow down the focus to present those ordinance options which may have the greatest assurance of adequate water supply for future homes. Of those were:

Potentially mandating a shared community well for residential homes of three or more (eg, residential development);

Greater assurance of a long-term sustainable yield from a single private well by increasing the testing standards beyond those of the state. A building or occupancy permit could not be granted until standards were met;

Requiring a hydrogeological study performed prior to development of a site. Such a study should conclude the likelihood and viability of a long-term water supply within a proposed development.

The committee discussed how examples of the above should only be from towns with characteristics (ie, geology) similar to Brookline.

Next meeting date will be July 8th, 2020 at 7 PM.

Meeting adjourned at 8:45 PM.