

Moretown Clean Water Committee
Tuesday May 14, 2024
Minutes **DRAFT**

Meeting called to order at 4:30.

Present: Jack Byrne, Clark Amadon, Jay Pilliod, Deb Carroll & Rae Washburn. Also: Emily Hackett and Achouak Arfaoui

There was no public comment.

Recession letter discussion:

Emily helped the committee with suggestions for the Moretown reply to the ARPA Recession letter.

Suggestions:

- * If possible include funds needed to proceed as far as possible with test pits and property purchase.
- * What steps is the town going to take.
- * Include an amount the Town would like to keep for land purchase
- * Specificity is important.

Questions that arose in discussion.

If the money goes elsewhere to whom would it go? Emily said the funds would go to towns further along in their process.

Emily also said that for a 90% PER to be completed than land acquisition is necessary. She also mentioned that perhaps the study could include what an "ideal design" could look like.

Emily answered to the question of what towns have paid for land for land that it had been in the range of appraised value plus \$100K. An appraiser would be necessary as a part of purchasing land. There would be no State or Federally required town vote re land purchase unless the town was going into debt.

Additional test pits:

Emily reminded the Committee that for the town to be reimbursed the archeological review must happen. If the town did decide to dig test pits with that review then no reimbursement. Emily strongly advised the town not to take this path.

The archeological review also needs very exact points in order to do the review.

Archeological review is also required at other points in the process like design and permitting.

The Committee discussed going ahead with test pits on the soccer field with archeological review. The cost would be modest. Permission of the Selectboard would be necessary for this to occur. Rae mentioned that after June 24 there would be an excavator on site and personnel that would operate it.

Jack moved to approach the Selectboard to dig test pits on the soccer field. Rae 2nd. Committee approved.

Discussion regarding a public hearing.

The committee felt the process for the project and its purpose was understood by those present at the meeting. It was mentioned at the meeting that a good ending point would be for the town to acquire land for the disposal site. There is also concern for the overall cost of the project and a good deal of skepticism re getting the project done. Overall the Committee is satisfied with the meeting.

Next Meeting is on Tuesday May 21st at 4:30.