



959 Paris Avenue Circle North, Minnesota 55082
651/436-4773 · <http://www.westlakeland.govoffice2.com>

June 9, 2021,

Virtual Meeting

Present: Present: Chairman Dan Kylo, Supervisor Dave Schultz, Supervisor Marian Appelt, Carrie Seifert, Clerk; Viet Hanh Winchell, attorney; Ryan Stempksi, township engineer

Call to Order

The special meeting to review the status of water quality management resulting from the 3M Settlement funds was called to order at 7:04 PM. The primary focus of this meeting is to review the results of the resident survey. Ms. Winchell explained the rationale for a remote meeting under MN Statute 13.02.1. Ms. Seifert, clerk, called the roll, noting the presence of Chairman Dan Kylo, Supervisor Dave Schultz, and Supervisor Marian Appelt.

Survey Results

Metre was contracted to survey residents with regard to the options for managing the PFAS water contamination. Results of this survey were presented by Kerstin Boudrea and Justin Garvey. Survey results are available through the township clerk. 1,114 households were surveyed, with 1,109 of these households impacted by the PFAS contamination. 934 surveys were completed, with 775 of the completed surveys from households impacted by the PFAS contamination.

In response to a question on survey methodology, Mr. Garvey noted that an address was required to complete the survey, which was held blind from the results. Only one survey was allowed per residence.

Mr. Stempksi, as township engineer, shared the map detailing the extent of the contamination in West Lakeland Township. He noted that the recommended solution from the Environmental Protection Agency and the Minnesota Department of Health is a centralized treatment system. The intent of the 3M Settlement funds is to provide for a long-term solution to managing PFAS and other contaminants in drinking water. The final decision remains with the co-trustees appointed for the 3M Settlement funds. Mr. Stempksi noted that the current proposal requires that private wells be sealed to connect as part of the settlement solution to a municipal water system. The township has consistently protested this requirement and has been unable to move the co-trustees from this position. The township was able to persuade the co-trustees to include fire flow as part of the system design for the township. The township also contracted with Stantec Engineering to review the system design, and this review resulted in improved design of the proposed structure. To understand the ongoing expenses that would be the responsibility of the township, the Township contracted with Ehlers for a water rate study. The rate study was modified to consider higher usage and lower connection rates. Mr. Stempksi noted that Washington County did not raise any concerns over the proposal.

Public Comments

Chairman Kylo opened the floor for public comments. Clerk Carrie Seifert noted the township did receive a number of written comments that have been shared with the members of the board. Two were in support of a municipal water system, and two were not in support of a municipal water system solution.

Mr. Thomas Fox, 14527 19th Street N, thought the estimated water usage was still low, and prefers to remain with his private well.

Bob and Paula Schwartz, 12040 18th St N, believes there needs to be better reasons to require wells to be capped. Mr. Schwartz noted that to simply be consistent with other communities is not sufficient reason for the requirement. Chairman Kylo noted that the town board and staff have



WEST LAKELAND TOWNSHIP

959 Paris Avenue Circle North, Minnesota 55082
651/436-4773 · <http://www.westlakeland.govoffice2.com>

June 9, 2021,

Virtual Meeting

consistently and persistently worked to persuade the co-trustees to allow for wells to remain for non-potable uses, with no change in the position of the co-trustees.

Mr. Sean Flaherty, 2682 Northridge Ln, expressed concern over the structure of the survey and the way the questions were worded. Mr. Stempski noted that the focus seemed more involved in the municipal water system is because this is the option least understood by the township, as the GAC systems are currently installed. Mr. Garvey noted the methodology of the survey is designed to minimize bias.

Tom and Pam Barnes, 1734 Manning Trail, noted their belief that if the survey included the requirement to cap the well were noted, less respondents would have noted a desire to connect to the municipal system.

Mr. David Green, 14559 24th St N, does not believe the survey provides conclusive results.

Mr. Timothy Hanson, 2097 Quant Ave N, believes that the survey did not present the POETS systems as equally sufficient to manage the contaminants.

Ms. Sylvia Zinn, 1495 Neal Ave Ct N, expressed concern with future intervention by the Metropolitan Council.

Ms. Debra Leptien, 15141 19th St N, expressed concern that the data was biased.

Mr. Steve Norenberg, 795 Midwest Trail, asked if any written documentation would be available that will ensure those who do not connect to the municipal water system will not be required to bear any tax burden for water services in the future. Chairman Kylo noted that the requirements to connect to the system are set by the co-trustees, not the township. He also noted that the water bills are designed to provide funds for future maintenance and ongoing support of the water system if installed.

Ms. Jessica Campbell asked how long a water system is expected to last, and when major repair would be required. Mr. Stempski responded that the lifespan of each component of the system can vary and has been considered in the system design and cost modelling. The largest cost component is the piping which should have a minimum life span of 50 to 60 years.

Ms. Tamara Morrissey, 2465 Periwinkle Ave, noted the presentation did not provide a complete view of the survey, as results to a number of the questions were not reported. She has concerns that there needs to be better understanding of the cost of maintenance.

Carol and Ted Ousdigian expressed concern over the health hazards and supported the municipal water system.

Mr. Philip Moosbrugger suggested the state consider more strongly the lower cost solution of the POETS system. He also believes the survey showed some bias.

Ms. Suzanne Devlin, 12141 22nd St N, indicated she will not opt to connect to a municipal water system and asked if a class action had been initiated to allow for retention of the private wells.

Mr. Brad Cornell asked if there will be any expense to the township or any tax increase to the township as a whole to support a municipal water system.

Ms. Kelly Stichter, 1530 Overlook Tr N, asked where the tower would be located, and if the proposal includes sewer. Supervisor Appelt responded that sewer service is not part of the proposal, and the location of the tower has not been determined.

Mr. David Josephson asked for the timeline. Supervisor Appelt noted the final recommendations from the trustees are due in the June/July timeframe.

Mr. Mike May, 1513 Oldridge Ave, asked who makes the decision. Supervisor Appelt noted that the decision is made by the appointed co-trustees, who are considering input from local municipalities and residents.



959 Paris Avenue Circle North, Minnesota 55082
651/436-4773 · <http://www.westlakeland.govoffice2.com>

June 9, 2021,

Virtual Meeting

Ms. Karen Bonnert, Omaha Ave, asked about the cost of rebuilding roads. Chairman Kylo noted that any road repair as a result of this project will be funded by the project. About two thirds of the roads in the township would be impacted by this proposal

Rachel Dana, Oakgreen Ave, asked if PFAS contaminates transferred to crops. This is currently under study.

Mr. Kevin Weber asked about the difference in the results for those with or without irrigation systems. Ms. Boudrea noted that the results were considered along those lines, with no substantial difference in results.

Ms. Carrie Brockman asked about the cost of maintenance and repair. Mr. Stempski replied that these costs are designed to be covered by the water rates charged to those using the system.

Mr. Jim and Lisa Dupong expressed concern that the corridor on Manning would be annexed by Lake Elmo or Woodbury.

Mr. Del Miske, 14155 10th St, would connect to the municipal water system. He saw benefits in terms of health and fire suppression services. He does not believe that a municipal water system would change the rural character of the township.

Mr. Larry Kline requested more detailed results of the survey.

Mr. Mike Campbell, 1970 St Croix Trail, asked about the cost of maintaining the pipe from the street to the home. Mr. Stempski noted this is generally the responsibility of the homeowner.

Ms. Annie Benjamin believes the primary concern should be the health concerns.

Mr. Craig Albert asked if the design and maintenance would be done through an RFP and asked for the process for reimbursing residents for installation. Mr. Stempski noted the work would be done through an RFP process, and no specific program for reimbursement of connections has been established yet, but the township is fully prepared to manage the connections and ensure the costs are covered.

Mr. Terry Spawn, Oriole Ave, thought the presentation of the survey results were incomplete and biased. He believes the POETS option is safe and a better choice over the long term.

Ms. Allison Holbrook, 1323 Orwell Ave N, believes there was a lack of information and that the presentation of the results of the survey were incomplete.

Mr. Lloyd Vasilakes, 14725 28th St, asked for the survey results for question six. 25% of the respondents indicated they do not know, 33% selected a municipal system and 42% a GAC/POETS system.

Supervisor Schultz noted that the issue may be larger than PFAS. This is the third issue with contamination of ground water in the township.

In response to a question on the board's action, Chairman Kylo responded that the board has made no decision. The co-trustees have made a recommendation, and the board is trying to understand why the co-trustees have selected that recommendation. The co-trustees have moved the timeline by a number of months to allow the local municipalities to investigate and understand the options. Chairman Kylo suggested that additional comments and concerns be forwarded to the board and another special meeting be scheduled to continue to review. He asked that the raw data and complete results of the survey be made available, in addition to the summary presentation from this meeting. Ms. Boudrea will provide raw data and complete results to the clerk.

Chairman Kylo and Mr. Stempski will meet with the co-trustees and note the concerns raised and the need to have additional time for review. It is not known how this will impact the co-trustee's timeline.

June 9, 2021,

pg. 3



959 Paris Avenue Circle North, Minnesota 55082
651/436-4773 · <http://www.westlakeland.govoffice2.com>

June 9, 2021,

Virtual Meeting

Next Meeting

The board discussed an additional special meeting to further review the proposal. If possible, the clerk was directed to arrange for an in-person meeting at Oakland Middle School.

Adjourn

Chairman Kylo moved to adjourn the meeting, Seconded by Supervisor Schultz, the motion carried by unanimous roll call vote (3-0). Chairman Kylo adjourned the meeting at 11:24 PM.

Respectfully Submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Elizabeth A. Vance". The signature is written in a cursive style.

Elizabeth A. Vance
Secretary