**New Durham Water Quality Committee (NDWQC) Meeting November 15, 2023**

New Durham Community Room 6:30pm

**Present:** Maureen Knepp, Bill Meyer, Deb Geer

**Absent:** Fred Quimby, Mike Hudon, Casey Buell

Maureen K opened the meeting at 6:31p

**Minutes:** Bill moved and Deb seconded the minutes of 10/18/23 be accepted as written. Unanimous approval.

**Budget:** Casey and Maureen presented to the Budget Committee on 11/8/2023. We had requested:

$5600 for Water testing all ND waterbodies

$ 300 for mileage

$2000 for education

$ 500 for equipment

$13,700 for Shaws Pond Project (Contracted service for BMP Matrix and LLRM study) per quote of Weston & Sampson Engineering, with $5,000 coming from ARPA Funds. Discussion with the Budget Committee was left with $1 in the Shaws Pond Project. Once Wolfeboro Watershed Management Plan has been completed (estimated Jan/Feb 2024) use their modeling of Shaws Pond to supply Weston & Sampson and get new quote. We would then return to Select Board. They are supportive of this and will decide if this should come out of the CRF (Milfoil Fund) or ARPA or both. After all the transfers from 2022 and 2023 there is estimated to be $34,500.97 in CRF.

**Dam Bureau at the BOS meeting 10/24/2023:** Attended by Maureen Knepp, Fred Quimby, Deb Geer. The fate of the Jones dam in ND and the Alton Power Dam in Alton were discussed at length. These are no longer used as power facilities and have become “at risk” of failing. The new bar is set that dams must be able to withstand a thousand year storm + 1ft. Merrymeeting does not meet this and will need to be revised. The other 2 dams are being evaluated and are at risk of failing and the Bureau no longer wants to take that risk. The town is not interested in picking up the risk. Many concern citizens raised questions of property values and property lines around Jones Pond. Other questions of wildlife protection were also discussed. No decisions have been made, but they will come back in (Spring?) 2024 to the Select Board to discuss again. Probably a decision will not be reached till Fall 2024.

**Septic Survey:** Still 140 more properties to review.

**Milfoil Update:** met with Dominic Jude of Aqualogic and he indicated that since the mapping in June of 2023 the milfoil has increased and he would need 15 dive days to do the job. Since the weather turned bad the diving was discontinued after 6.5 days. A bill for $8,570.00 was submitted. Unknown what the grant will be for this at this time. Bibs have also been submitted for 2024 year and Bill Meyer is handling.

**Shaws Pond Eutrophication**

Chloride test have come back indicating the two end marshes of Shaws Pond have elevated chloride levels consistent with Road Salt Contamination. UNH labs have been able to extrapolate this back to the deep testing site of Shaws Pond. The highway Department (Judy Purington) was invited to one of our meetings to discuss how we can safely cut down on salt use in the Shaws Pond watershed and other watershed in New Durham to prevent road salt contamination. Unfortunately they have Budget meeting tonight. Will connect in the near future.

Engineering quote for Shaws Pond for BMP matrix also included a LLRM for $13,700. Will await Wolfeboro’s modeling of Shaws Pond and supply Weston & Sampson engineering, Jan/Feb timeframe. Pending that will ask for a new quote and go to Board of selectmen for payment. Wolfeboro’s engineers have contacted us for Shaws Pond results for 2023 and shoreline survey. This has been supplied, as long as they do not publish address of residents.

**New Business:** none

Possibly no meeting in December if no new business will send email to confirm.

Bill M moved and Deb seconded for adjournment, unanimously accepted 7:15pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Maureen Knepp

Co-chair NDWQC