

**PUBLIC HEARING  
LIBERTY TOWN BOARD  
March 19, 2008 7:00 p.m.**

At a Public Hearing of the Liberty Town Board held on March 19, 2008 at 7:00 p.m. at Town Hall, 120 North Main Street, Liberty, New York to hear oral and written comments from concerned citizens with regard to the Small Cities Community Development Block Grant Program (CDBG). The following board members were present:

Supervisor John Schmidt  
Councilperson Maurice Gerry  
Councilperson Thomas Hasbrouck  
Councilperson Lynn Killian  
Councilperson Clarence Barber

Also present: Deputy Town Clerk Sara Sprague  
Code Enforcement Officer Mark VanEtten

Recording Secretary: Town Clerk Laurie Dutcher

After the pledge, Supervisor Schmidt called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

Mark Blauer of Blauer Associates Inc. outlined the engineering report submitted by Kelly Engineering.

**BACKGROUND**

The Loomis Water District, a municipally owned and operated water district in the Town of Liberty which provides water to approximately 72 hookups. The total population served is approximately 150 people.

**EXISTING SYSTEM**

The primary water source for this district is a covered and secured spring, which yields from 14 GPM to 25 GPM depending on precipitation and use. A deep rock well, capable of pumping 20 GPM for short intervals, serves as a backup water source augmenting the spring supply when necessary.

Water produced from the spring and well are pumped into a 75,000 gallon glass lined storage tank and then pumped to two storage tanks (upper reservoirs) having a combined capacity of 250,000 gallons which feed the water distribution system and provide fire protection within the district. Water pumped to the upper reservoirs is metered and disinfected with chlorine.

In addition excess water produced from the spring is collected in a 500,000 gallon open concrete reservoir. Water collected in this reservoir is used as a "backup" water supply and is used in the event of a primary system component failure.

### **EXISTING WATER USE**

Average daily consumption in the year 2007 was 27+/- GPD. Seasonal peak flows are 30+/- GPD.

### **PROJECT NEED**

The open 500,000 gallon concrete reservoir, used as a system "back-up", is susceptible to contamination by birds, animals, insects, foliage and dust.

Consequently due to the health and safety concerns the NYS Department of Health has ordered the open reservoir to be physically disconnected from the water supply by the end of 2009.

Due to the limited yield of the spring and deep well any major water main break or fire within the district allows the upper reservoirs to be emptied very quickly. The spring and deep well cannot keep up with the demand during these conditions.

In addition, during extended dry periods, the water supply becomes limited and water restrictions become necessary. Therefore the district is in need of an additional water source.

### **ALTERNATIVE SOLUTIONS**

The objective of the project is to provide a reliable additional source of water to the Loomis Water District. Two (2) options appear viable in accomplishing that objective.

1. Connect the Loomis Water District to the existing Route 55 Water District via a water main in the Ferndale Loomis Road. The water source will be the Sherwood Well via the Route 55 Pump Station and new piping and pump station from Stiers Corners to the Loomis Water District at NYS Route 52.
2. Provide a new source of water to Loomis by connecting the White Sulphur Springs Water District to the Loomis Water District via a water main in NYS Route 52. The water source would be the Sherwood Well. Two pumping stations, a storage facility and new piping would be required.

Exploring for a new ground water source in the Loomis area has been rejected due to the inadequate yield of numerous private wells installed in the area.

## **DISCUSSION**

Either alternative will accomplish the project objective. Consequently the estimated cost of both alternatives will be a major factor in recommending the best course of action. It is noted the average single family home within the District currently pays approximately \$975/year in water and sewer fees. Regardless of which alternative is selected grant funding for the project will be necessary.

No one from the public wished to be heard and no written comments were received.

Adjourn

On a motion by Councilperson Thomas Hasbrouck, seconded by Councilperson Lynn Killian the Town Board adjourned the meeting at 7:20 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Laurie Dutcher  
Liberty Town Clerk