

SOUTHAMPTON VILLAGE - BOARD OF TRUSTEES
SPECIAL MEETING: MARCH 2, 2020

In Attendance: Mayor Jesse Warren, Trustees Mark Parash and Andrew Pilaro, Russell Kratoville.
Absent: Trustees Kimberly Allan and Richard Yastrzemski

Mayor Warren made a motion to open the Public Meeting at 3:05PM; Trustee Parash seconded the motion and a unanimous vote followed.

Mayor Warren introduced Carrie Meek Gallagher, Regional Director from the New York State DEC who introduced other members of the DEC who were in attendance and said the team had been working on this plan since October.

Ms. Gallagher reviewed the DEC's proposed Lake Agawam HAB Action Plan, stating that it has been developed with Southampton Town Supervisor Schneiderman, The Southampton Town Trustees, Lake Agawam Conservancy and the Village's Clean Water Committee.

Ms. Gallagher gave an overview of the Hazardous Algae Bloom (HAB) situation and Dr. Christopher Gobler who has been monitoring Lake Agawam since 2003 joined in and they made the following points:

- HABS are common throughout NY State and all water bodies are vulnerable, no water body is safe from them and they aren't completely sure what triggers them.
- Addressing the problem is a complicated situation and there is no magic bullet.
- Lake Agawam is a Class C waterbody, 64 acres in size, average depth is 10 feet; .82 miles long
- Approximately 70% of nitrogen loading in the Lake comes from wastewater.
- Ms. Gallagher and Dr. Gobler reviewed data from 2013 – 2019, NY City has the best monitoring system for blue green algae. Dr. Gobler reports every week to the DEC from Spring to Fall. They go from spring to fall and sometimes into winter but are worse in the summer.

Ms. Gallagher stated that all agencies have been working together and from those meetings the DEC has developed an action plan with short term (0-3 years), mid term (3-5 years) and long term (5-10 years) priorities: Short Term 0-3 years, Mid Term: 3-5 years and Long Term: 5-10 years.

Ms. Gallagher said the various groups need to agree on the Action Plan and then create a narrow, focused plan with sampling analysis and a complete sediment study to present to DEC who would help with permitting needs and concerns. The Village Trustees and various stakeholders all need to support the plan; DEC can help advise on the project and assist with getting the permits.

There are 2 technologies that have been recommended for the Village to try: Hydrogen Peroxide, which is considered a pesticide and requires a special permit and Ultrasonic technologies.

David Bohnett, Board member of Lake Agawam Conservancy and co-founder of predecessor to the Lake Agawam Conservancy spoke saying he has lived on Lake Agawam for over 20 years and appreciates the support of the Village particularly with storm drainage improvements. He stated that the Lake Agawam Conservancy is a 501c3 nonprofit organization and are there as part of a strong public/private partnership and can help to raise funds. The Conservancy supports the DEC's recommendations and in particular the Hydrogen Peroxide and ultrasonic technologies and have the means to help fund it.

Megan Nadosy Magyar, Lake Agawam Conservancy, said they are presenting a free seminar on April 3 at Southampton Arts Center, that will focus on septic and residential sewage treatments.

Carrie Gallagher asked if it was possible to have a joint Public Hearing between the Southampton Village Board of Trustees and the Southampton Town Trustees. Mayor Warren said he was in support of that and would like to have Public Notice made so that the Public Hearing could take place before the end of March with the idea to adopt the plan at the same time.

Trustee Parash said it all seems to be going in the right direction and he looks forward to working with the group; he noted that while this was his first meeting with the DEC group he had been getting the information from Mayor Warren and Trustee Allan who attended the meetings..

Trustee Pilaro said that it sounded like everyone was in favor of the proposed plan and the question is how it all comes together. He thanked Ms. Gallagher and the DEC for their help and offer to assist with the permitting process which seems to be laborious.

David Bohnett of Lake Agawam Conservancy said that with the momentum there is a tremendous opportunity for funding sources that hasn't been seen before.

Carrie Gallagher said that one of the important things in relation to getting support is the Regional Economic Development Council; funding opens in early May and the grant is due in late July/early August so it's important to keep the process moving. Grant recipients are announced in December for spending the following year. For the current year the Village would have to pay for the hydrogen peroxide treatment, but the DEC could potentially fund the ultrasonic.

Mayor Warren asked about timeline for the permitting process for these or other technologies. Ms. Gallagher said that the Village needs to have a consultant on board to submit the HABS application and should show the research on what is behind the decision to use a particular treatment.

Ms. Gallagher said that it depends on the technology as to who applies for the permits; if it's related to the bottom of the lake then the permit is filed by the Town Trustees, for the ultrasonic technology it may just be the Village that applies.

Gary Goleski asked about the cost for the hydrogen peroxide treatment; Dr. Gobler said that there is a hydrogen peroxide product that is recommended, "Green Clean". Dr. Gobler said that it would be best to do the hydrogen peroxide application earlier in the season and to couple it with the hydrosonic technology as it may not be enough on its own to achieve the desired results. He said that the estimate is \$3,000/acre at a high dosage which would be most effective. Trustee Pilaro said that it appeared that costs would be approximately \$200,000 for one application and asked if the Conservancy would be able to support it. Mr. Bohnett said that the Conservancy would support it but that there would need to be a combination of public/private support.

Mayor Warren asked if the Board were to partner with the Conservancy does the Village have the funds in the budget and what line item would it fall under. Russell Kratoville said that the Village has capital expenditures each year, the Village has money in its fund balance and that this project could be a combination of spending through capital reserves and borrowing.

Mayor Warren thanked Carrie Gallagher and the DEC team for their commitment to the Village and the Town; Dr. Gobler, the Village's Clean Water Committee and the Lake Agawam Conservancy and said it's been a great pleasure to work with the public/private partnership.

The Mayor made a motion to adjourn at 3:49PM, Trustee Parash seconded the motion; a unanimous vote followed.