

**PLANNING COMMISSION
ZOOM PUBLIC HEARING
SOUTHAMPTON VILLAGE
OCTOBER 7, 2021**

The public hearing of the Planning Commission for the Village of Southampton was held on Thursday, October 7, 2021, at 5:30PM via Zoom.

Chair opened the meeting. Pledge of allegiance was conducted.

Present were Co-Chair Michelangelo Lieberman
Michael Anderson
Laura Devinney
Christian Picot
Summer Stelling
Pamela Gilmartin
Edoardo Simioni
Robert Essay

Absent were Co-Chair Marc Chiffert

Chair invited new members Christian Picot and Summer Sterling to introduce themselves.

REVIEW OF MINUTES

MOTION by M. Lieberman, second by E. Simioni

To approve the minutes of the September public hearing.

ON VOTE: Chair M. Lieberman, Michael Anderson, Laura Devinney, R. Essay, P. Gilmartin, C. Picot and E. Simioni

PRESENTATION BY ROUX ENGINEERING REGARDING PROGRESS REPORT ON ENVIRONMENTAL AND WATER QUALITY

Peter Campbell was present for a presentation regarding the proposed dredging of Old Town Pond, he sees using their technology as one that can potentially solve the problems with water quality. The remediation project of dredging is removing a layer of sediment. They will have significant dewatering that requires a large amount of space. This will typically happen in winter months. They remove collected sediment on a same day basis and do not rely on bio bags for months of dewatering. They do a slow and steady approach that does not disrupt the neighbors. Instead of a three-to-four-week process, they use a period of months but leave a much smaller footprint with lower noise, disruption and waste having to stay on site.

They have been working with Roux Engineers and are looking at putting together dredging for Old Town Pond. The challenges of dredging are not feasible many times because of cost, but their technology is less costly and with less hassle. M. Anderson asked to explain the process of dewatering. P. Campbell noted that their tech takes a slurry, and they take it on shore and run it through a machine to separate the solid and then leave cleanish water which can go back into the pond. The sludge filter cake, which

has been pressed to remove as much water as possible, is then conveyed into a container to be transported off site on the same day. The bio bags are the usual way; however, they do not use that process. They haul away the material that day, so there is no sitting material. They anticipate a truck load per day. It is a press; their machine is self-contained, and all of the lines are piped. Their machine is self-cleaning and continuous running. They try to get moisture content down to make debris transportation lighter and less costly.

The ecological impact and the damage to wildlife is little to none. Roux Engineering is well placed to talk about that, but their tech will not affect the environment adversely. If they have to use a binder, they use vegetative starch, it does not pass into water though. The dredging is a simple barge with hydraulic pump and possibly an agitator with pulling through a pipe. He believes the sediment analysis has been done by Roux, at an average between 3-4'. The timeline could be soon because the neighbors are behind it, he thinks possible by this winter, he would like to see it happen. He believes that Old Town Pond is a good site because of Village property to the North. He is not sure how long the approvals will take for the dredging; their purpose is to tag in behind them. They will start with Old Town Pond, with a goal of Agawam in the future, they want to prove to the Village that dredging is not this scary endeavor. M. Lieberman asked about DEC approval process, and the cost of project. Roux is the driving force for scope of this project, they have the project and are in a better position to comment on scope and cost.

R. Essay asked if solids are trucked off Island or reused. P. Campbell noted that for Old Town Pond there is nothing toxic, however, Agawam is another story. Converting the dredge to fertilizer is something they are looking into; however, some may have to be trucked off the Island. R. Essay asked if they could use a high heat furnace to get rid of some of the sediment. Taking electricity to power the furnace would not produce cost saving, it is easier to transport the waste. P. Campbell was thanked.

UPDATE OF MASTER PLAN

Bill Manger was present and noted that there are demographic changes, and they are looking at data. In the meantime, they developed a survey that will go out to everybody, and it is available online. It is not all limited to Village residents, Southampton Town residents can weigh in as well. This will give them a public view of the way that the Village would like to proceed. The first public hearing will be held on 27th of September via Zoom from 6-8PM. They will have break out groups and they want to get the word out and it will be on Village website. The public is encouraged to participate. There is a lot coming up this month and getting public involvement is important and they have the technology to handle. M. Anderson asked how the public will be made aware, B. Manger noted that they will handle getting the word out. Town and Village residents will be taken into consideration; however Village residents will be given weight. R. Essay is frustrated by traffic, he feels like left hand turn signals must be added to the Village. He feels that lights should be synchronized on County Road 39 as well. B. Manger said they should note all they want to accomplish on a State level so they can categorize.

CANNABIS LOCAL LAW

The Village opted out and the decision has been made, but they are welcome to voice their opinion. L. Devinney knows that Village opted out and Shinnecock nation are going ahead, they will see how it works out. Southampton Town is not opting out. L. Devinney asked about the revamping of the Master Plan, she is not sure that the things they were concerned about have been conveyed. M. Chiffert took

the lead on the list and delivery the list, he will follow up at next meeting. M. Lieberman has not attended any meetings, he is not sure they have met. L. Devinney feels they should be involved with this; they do not want to stop and start.

Laura Devinney left the meeting.

Their action items need to be actioned, they have to make sure that they can assign a member to pursue, and they can be updated. M. Lieberman wants a member to take a leadership role, he suggested Michael Anderson because of his experience he will be the person for infrastructure, he could contact the Mayor to see if they want them to move forward and then go forward with a letter.

C. Picot is interested in being a Building Department liaison. P. Gilmartin noted that Building Inspector has leeway to make decisions but there is no flat answer, they interpret code. She feels that it would be hard to make a hard and fast rule and it would abolish the ZBA. Building Inspector may need to provide something that explains the determination.

Charlie McGuckin from Roux Engineering made a brief presentation that there is 25,000 yards of sediment between four feet of depth and four feet deep sediment. The sediment samples did not show environmental contamination. In the two samples it was not impacted, but more data is necessary. They also sampled for nitrogen and phosphorus, and it is excessive. The nitrogen were 5-6 times higher in sediment than in the sand. They will be speaking with DEC for wetland dredging permit and they have been speaking to people within the agency. They need to talk to solid waste and need additional information and need a licensed site survey and wetlands survey, as well as outlets for dredge material. All of those are steps required. The Village needs to support potential outlets whether impacted or non-impacted. They will be generating a good percentage and nice clean sand that can be used for some other purpose. It is 25,000 cubic yards, and it will be multiple million of dollars. They have a hearing with the Town on October 12th.

Chair will follow up with M. Chiffert and Michael Anderson will reach out regarding infrastructure and C. Picot can be champion with Village BD.

SIS high school new member, Summer Sterling, was invited to share with her classmates the information since they are residents as well and their voice matters too.

MOTION by Chair, second R. Essay

To adjourn the meeting.

On Vote: Chair M. Lieberman, M. Anderson, R. Essay, P. Gilmartin, C. Picot and E. Simioni

Respectfully Submitted by:

JoLee Sanchez

File Date: _____

Village Clerk