

**MORRISTOWN/MORRISVILLE
PLANNING COMMISSION
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Minutes of May 18, 2004

Members Present: Richard Duda, John Meyer, Bruce Tomlinson, Bill Henchy

Members Absent: Sam Guy, Kelly Rogers, Bill Bourne

Guests: Scott Corse (Manager, Morrisville Water & Light Dept), Joe Duncan (project manager, Forcier Aldrich & Associates)

Recorder: Mark Leonard, Zoning Administrator (ZA)

Bill called the meeting to order at 7:10 PM. Minutes of May 4, 2004 were reviewed and approved on a motion by Bruce, seconded by Bill H, with one correction.

The primary agenda item was discussion of how best to undertake the task of identifying what areas of town should be considered for inclusion in the proposed town sewer service area (TSSA). The broad issues to be considered include whether to just look at undeveloped parcels in a given area or also those already developed, whether we should focus solely on commercial and industrial areas, and which, if any, residential zoned areas should be included in the TSSA.

Scott Corse identified the areas outside the village that are currently on the system, as well as parcels outside the village that have applied for and received sewer allocations. He provided information on the system's capacity and limitations and on factors that need to be considered when looking at a given geographic area (such as whether a pump station might be needed in a given area). Asked whether the proposed town allocation of 50,000 gallons per day of wastewater treatment was sufficient to meet the town's anticipated needs, Scott stated that MW&L can build in enough flexibility to allow for sewer service wherever the market demands. He stressed, however, the trustees' position that the cost for any such expansion would have to be borne by those using the expanded system, not the current village customers.

Joe Duncan, from Forcier Aldrich and Associates (FA&A), reviewed their 2000 study on a possible sewer line extension in the commercial and industrial areas on the north end of town. He explained that they are under contract with the town to update flow projections and sewer extension alternatives from that study, with their report due in July. He said that they had expected to focus on the same geographic area as the earlier study, but that they can provide analysis for other areas if desired.

Bill H expressed the view that this task will have far-reaching impacts on future development in the town and needs to be carefully pursued. He felt that the Commission needed to look at the possibility and desirability of extending the sewer lines south of the village, along Route 100, and to the east along Route 12 and Washington Highway, in addition to the north end of town. He added that there needed to be broad public input to this process. He did not feel that the Commission could provide an answer to the Select Board by the end of June as requested and that they should be so informed.

The members present agreed that the next meeting should focus on laying out a realistic timeline for completing the broader review, with plans for a public forum as soon as possible. They will also review the Town Plan for guidance. The town administrator will be asked to attend the next meeting to present his views on how and where the system should be extended. Joe Duncan said that FA&A would wait on the Commission's gameplan before proceeding with the update of the 2000 study.