

Conservation Advisory Council, Town of New Lebanon
Minutes for monthly meeting
November 13, 2024

Present: CAC members: Bob Gilson, Donald Lamonaca, Peg Munves, Bill O'Neill, Steve Powers, Bruce Shenker

The meeting was called to order at 5:00 P.M. The minutes were approved as presented.

Water Source Protection Plan: Donald and Peg have now tested over 150 wells and plan to do more. Peg is concerned about what to do with the data. While the results are strictly confidential, Peg has the data with a number assigned to each test. She wondered if it might be useful to divide the town into geographical sections to analyze the data.

Open Space Inventory: Peg, Bill, and Bob had a productive zoom call with Nan Stolzenberg to discuss the Open Space Inventory. We asked Nan if the OSI needed to be in any particular format to satisfy state requirements. She said that we could format the document any way that we like. It does however need to be presented to the Town Board for adoption. Nan suggested that rather than create another paper document, it might be useful to put the information on the Town's website so that it is searchable. The cost would be between \$3,000 - \$5,000. Nan showed us Austerlitz's OSI as an example:

[https://upstategis.maps.arcgis.com/apps/instant/portfolio/index.html?](https://upstategis.maps.arcgis.com/apps/instant/portfolio/index.html?appid=f242e1f9f072434599f2c36016033a33)

[appid=f242e1f9f072434599f2c36016033a33](https://upstategis.maps.arcgis.com/apps/instant/portfolio/index.html?appid=f242e1f9f072434599f2c36016033a33) We were all impressed. Nan also suggested adopting the OSI as part of the Comprehensive Plan to give it more weight.

Wastewater Feasibility Study: The Water Feasibility Study is moving forward. Most potential users in the business district are interested, others are not. Eleven sites have been perked to date. The engineers are looking for a site to put a water treatment facility and where to put a muni water tower. One possibility for muni water is at the Darrow School. If that were to happen, Shaker Road might also get muni water which would lower the cost per user.

Hazard Mitigation Plan: Steve said that there is going to be a county-wide presentation on hazard mitigation on November or December 18.

CSC: Steve said that the Town has been awarded \$260,000 which will be used for heat pumps and battery storage packs. He said it may be the end of the line for Clean Energy Communities funding. There was \$24 million in the budget through 2024, but he is not aware of any additional funding for next year.

Wyomanock Creek: Bob had been working on a possible grant to provide funds to curtail the erosion of Wyomanock Creek in Shatford Park. There are a lot of questions that need to be answered (if a design has been created to ensure that the work will not only stem the erosion, but also enhance the beauty of the park; or how to budget direct and indirect costs) in order to apply for the grant. It was decided that we are not ready to apply at this time and that we should meet with the Recreation Committee to discuss the project before moving forward. They will be invited to December CAC meeting.

The next CAC Meeting is scheduled for December 9, 2024 at 5:00 pm at the Town Hall. The meeting adjourned at 6:15 P.M.

Respectfully submitted by Robert Gilson