

MINUTES OF MS4 COMMITTEE MEETING
January 11, 2016

Present: Jim Colligan, Jay Card, Laury Dowd, Chris Tehan
Absent: John Colby, Billy Banks

The committee reviewed the current function and status of the temporary MS4 permit issued by the NYS DEC. The permit is short-term and in the process of being rewritten to address issues raised during litigation. The general purpose and demands of the MS4 permit were reviewed with new MS4 Jim Colligan.

Laury showed the committee the draft revision to MS4 regs being prepared by the EPA. They are proposing more definitive and quantifiable MS4 compliance indicia. Eventually this will trickle down to the DEC and on to the Town of Shelter Island and other MS4s.

Laury also discussed the Town of Shelter Island's membership in the Peconic Estuary Protection Committee. The PEPC involves the Towns of Brookhaven, Riverhead, Southampton, East Hampton, Southold and Shelter Island as well as the villages of Greenport, North Haven and Sag Harbor. The PEPC focuses on implementation of the MS4 permit requirements as well as other water issues of interest to the East End. Shelter Island has signed into this group for 2016 and Laury anticipates that Shelter Island can leverage on the work already done by larger MS4s.

One of the projects currently underway is a GIS database from the PEPC members that will collect available data to make it available in an easily accessible format. This will ensure that the Nitrogen Management Plan for Long Island currently being prepared by the DEC and LI Regional Planning Council is developed based on accurate and timely data. It should also expand Shelter Island's database of information.

Laury also noted that the PEPC meeting with the DEC on what standards are used to designate 303d waterbodies is planned for February. Southold will be discussing Maratooka Lake, which in many ways is similar to Fresh Pond. This will allow the town to better understand and comment on future DEC designations.

Laury noted that the Community Preservation Fund Law was amended in December 2015 to allow up to 20% to be used for water quality improvement projects, which can include projects to mitigation stormwater runoff. The Town is establishing a staff group to identify whether, how and what projects the town would address for uses of the CPF fund.

This would give the town funding to help match applications for various grants for stormwater runoff projects. The DEC recently identified Water Quality Improvement Program Funding of up to \$3M for MS4s (for projects between \$25K to \$500K) to implement a SWMP, with a special emphasis on removing barriers to green infrastructure and comprehensive system mapping. This would be a 75% grant requiring a 25% match. Now that the Town has a grant writer this could be a viable grant application. Next meeting the committee will review projects listed in the Shelter Island SWMP to identify projects suitable for a grant application.

Another project to be considered at the next MS4 meeting will be to update the MS4 review of town facilities (which needs to be done every 3 years).

Jay noted that some inland construction projects have resulted in significant runoff damaging drywells (ie at West Neck Road and Brander). It was suggested that stormwater runoff controls be required on all construction projects to prevent damage to drywells that costs the taxpayers to remedy.

Laury noted that Southold feels they have developed an adequate method for washing town vehicles that involves a trench and is a far most cost-effective method than an elaborate facility.

Jay advised the committee that he has found a cost-effective way to reinforce the salt storage facility which had been suffering from the corrosive effects of salt.

A new calendar was approved for 2016. The dates will be:
1/11, 2/8, 3/14, 4/11, 5/9, 6/13, 7/11, 8/8, 9/12, 10/17, 11/14, 12/12

The meeting adjourned at 3:45pm.
The next meeting will be on February 8, 2016.