

**WATER ADVISORY COMMITTEE**  
**PO Box 970**  
**Shelter Island, NY 11964**

**MINUTES OF MEETING**  
**April 14, 2014**

**Members Present:** Chairman John Hallman, William Anderson, Ken Pysher, Hoot Sherman

**Members Excused:** Peter Grand, Town Liaison Supervisor Dougherty

**Others Present:** Julie Lane

The meeting opened at 7:30 PM

The next meeting is scheduled for **Monday, May 12, 2014 at 7:30PM.**

**New Business:**

**Monitoring Well Information:**

Member Pysher reported that things are turning around with ten well levels going up and only a few wells still trending down: Menantic and Brander are still down as compared to their previous month's reading, and the Congdon Road well did not change. He noted that except for Little Ram being higher than its March average and Brander being equal, eleven wells remain below their monthly March average.

The WAC agreed that a lot of replenishment needs to occur between now and June when the withdrawal season begins. They also agreed that they should certainly see all wells trending up soon.

Member Pysher reported that he has posed some questions for the hydro-geologist regarding the correlation between the rising of our sea level due to global warming in regard to the rise in the level of the monitoring wells. He said he referenced a 2007 study by James Rozell of Stony Brook University titled Qualifying the Impact of Global Warming on Saltwater Intrusion on Shelter Island, in which the author used ground water flow model data to come up with the effects of global warming on Shelter Island. He said the conclusion was that as the sea level rises the salt water may be pushed into our wells causing water quality issues. He noted that he has sent his findings to Irrigation Committee Chairman Milton to be forwarded to the hydro-geologist. Member Pysher said that the real question we are faced with is the quality of our water in the future. He stated that he has not yet received any answers from the hydro-geologist.

**Update on Irrigation Committee:**

Chairman Hallman reported that the Irrigation Committee tends to go off on tangents and it has been difficult to reign in the Chairman.

Chairman Hallman also reported that he suggested that the properties that are using automatic irrigation systems should have their wells tested for chloride levels at the start of the season and then again at the end of August, so that we can all get a better understanding of how irrigation is affecting the quality of their wells. He stated that these results would be much more informative than testing stagnant monitoring wells for chloride levels.

**Water Challenged Areas of Shelter Island:**

Chairman Hallman reconfirmed that there are people who can no longer drink their water due to salt water intrusion as a result of Hurricane Sandy. He opined that the Town should consider helping these people in some way. He reported that he spoke with the Town Engineer John Cronin who recommended looking into a solution that is being implemented in the state of Ohio: a cistern to catch rainwater. Periodic droughts caused Ohio and a number of other states to explore ways to ensure water availability and according to information from Ohio's Department of Health, cisterns and hauled water storage tanks may be used where ground water is not available or is impractical to treat for home use.

The WAC reviewed and discussed this issue and the possibilities.

**Green Fair:**

Chairman Hallman announced that the Town Board has rescheduled the Green Fair to coincide with the annual August Craft Fair and Fire Department Country Fair. The WAC agreed that the August date should encourage more people to attend. Member Sherman announced that he will be unable to participate as his time is already committed to the Fire Department. Chairman Hallman said that the Irrigation Committee is looking to replace the WAC at this event.

**Gardiner's Bay Country Club:**

Chairman Hallman indicated that he would write a letter to the new manager of Gardiner's Bay inviting him to attend a WAC meeting in the future. The WAC agreed this is a good idea.

Meeting adjourned 9:00 PM

Respectfully submitted,  
Danielle LiCausi  
Clerk to the Committees