



Sauquoit Creek Basin Intermunicipal Commission

c/o Herkimer-Oneida Counties Comprehensive Planning Program
The Boehlert Center at Union Station
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MEETING MINUTES

August 16, 2022

4:30 PM

Whitestown Recreation Center

1 Championship Way

Whitesboro, NY

Present

Chairperson Dave Glenn (T. of Whitestown)
Kyle Tritten (V. of Whitesboro)
Tom Hughes (V. of New Hartford)
Rick Sherman (T. of New Hartford)
Chris Burtch (V. of Oriskany)
Dan Appler (E-911)
Quinn Pratico (Rep for Assemblyman Miller)

Terrance Gilbert (A/M Buttenschon)
Gary Kielar (Resident)
Jim Frederick (Sherill Brook Forest Coalition)
Jim Bramley (Sherill Brook Forest Coalition)
Chip Bassett (Kirkland Trails)
Maggie Reilly (Ramboll)
Kristin Campbell (HOCCPP Staff)

There was a last-minute change of venue due to early voting at the Town offices. The meeting was opened at 4:30 pm by Chairperson Dave Glenn. The June 21, 2022 minutes were approved with a motion by Kyle Tritten and a second by Rick Sherman. Approval of the minutes passed unanimously.

Whitestown Flood Plain Bench Update

Maggie R. provided updates on all phases of the flood plain restoration project in Whitestown. Project 2 at the CSX tracks is now complete and looks great. Wildlife has been making its way to the area and setting up homes. Project 1 design/permit for repairs to the bench is still under review by FEMA.

The Town of Whitestown submitted a funding application to NYS EFC for Project 3 that will enhance the Project 2 bench and include the Wadas Property. In addition, the Town received a Forestry Grant from NYS DEC to purchase property as part of the bench project for Project 3 across from the car dealerships on Commercial Drive.

NRCS recently mailed homeowner's commitment letters approving them to be in the project including everyone who indicated they would like to be purchased regardless of how the project is designed. This means that even if your property is not reconnected to the floodplain, homeowners could still be part of the buy-out regardless of your neighbor accepting an offer. This is great news and the hope of Whitestown officials. The Town had sent a letter to headquarters emphasizing they want all homeowners who indicated interest to be included in the project and this was supported by the Syracuse NRCS office. The next steps will be title commitments and then contracts with purchase offers.

Upper Portion of Sauquoit Creek in New Hartford and Utica

Rick S. reported on several projects in the Town. New Hartford is working with Utica to get easements from property owners to clean the ponds near White Pine and Sylvan Way. The town grant writer is moving on the next step with the grant application for the Clinton Street Bridge replacement. The concrete is complete for the Mud Creek Dam Project near Preswick, and the final berms and landscaping should be complete in 30 days. The Town has been working with NYS DEC and Yahnundasis Country Club on a detention basin and mitigation by creating some wetlands on the golf course property.

Treasurer’s Report

The balance in the Commission’s bank account is \$92,698.35. Upon a motion by Tom Hughes and a second by Kyle T., the motion passed to accept the Treasurer’s report.

There were two bills submitted by Ramboll for \$15,000 for survey work to update the hydraulic model near the Clinton Street Bridge in New Hartford and \$9,350 for the watershed study of the upper portion of the Sauquoit Creek. Upon a motion by Rick Sherman and a second by Kyle Tritten, the motion passed to accept the Treasurer’s report and pay both invoices from OBG/Ramboll.

2022 Proposed Budget

Members reviewed and discussed the proposed 2022 budget below. The consensus was to keep with the regular \$25,000 annual budget split by the membership.

Proposed 2022 Budget

Member	Municipal Share	Calculated Share of Budget
Budget amount		\$ 25,000.00
NEW HARTFORD (T)	45.3%	\$ 11,330.00
WHITESTOWN	14.7%	\$ 3,682.50
NEW YORK MILLS	10.4%	\$ 2,595.00
WHITESBORO	5.5%	\$ 1,375.00
NEW HARTFORD (V)	3.1%	\$ 780.00
YORKVILLE	1.7%	\$ 425.00
PARIS	13.9%	\$ 3,485.00
UTICA	5.3%	\$ 602.76
Totals	100%	\$ 24,275.26

Upon a motion by Tom Hughes to pass the proposed budget and mail invoices to members, with a second by Kyle Tritten the motion passed unanimously. Kristin’s office will prepare and send out invoices next week.

Other Business

Member Reports

Chairperson Glenn requested members discuss any projects and concerns in their representative communities.

Whitesboro

Homeowners are nervously waiting for the next step in the buy-out program. Rumors circulate and there is a request to NRCS about having a special meeting with residents to help stop misinformation.

The property with codes violations has been cleaned up along the creek and the lot is now paved as part of an access agreement with the landowner for project 2. The landowner paid for additional work to be done on the property outside of the access agreement.

Public

Residents from the Town of Kirkland were in attendance to bring to the attention of Commission members a proposed 5MW solar farm near Mud Creek. Residents have concerns about the large number of trees being cut and stormwater impacts in addition to wildlife and loss of recreational opportunities for local trail enthusiasts. The group felt that stormwater could be of concern to the Commission as they have been working on this topic.

The next meeting date is September 20, 2022 at 4:30 with the location to be determined.