

10/9/16 – DM Comments added 10/10/16

Hi Dave/Dana

I am finally done farming for a while. I have the following policy questions/headings from the Final Report to put on an agenda for Selectboard discussion. Anything either of you think I should add?

Fritz

Capacity Questions

Increase the existing permitted capacity from 4,999 GPD to 6,499 GPD.

This increase can readily be accomplished through the submission of a State Wastewater Disposal System application which allows applicants to take advantage of the opportunities set forth in the current State of Vermont Environmental Protection Rules. No physical changes to the system are required to realize the additional disposal capacity.

Policy question:

How much of the system capacity should be reserved for existing and future municipal uses? The recommendation is 3,962 GPD.

Shared Use Eligibility Questions

Policy question:

1. *Are you only eligible to tie into the system if you do not have an on-site solution?*
2. *What uses are eligible to tie into the system?*
 - a. *Primary Area = All permitted and Conditional Uses*
 - b. *Secondary Area*
 - i. *Failed wastewater systems*
 - ii. *Home occupations*
 - iii. *Conversion of single family homes to duplex.*
 - iv. *Additions to single family home for an apartment.*

Connection Fee Based Questions

Policy question:

In setting a user fee, how much of the original system construction costs should be recovered by the future users of this system? Should all of the original design, permitting and construction cost be recovered? Or some percentage? The high end creates a base fee of \$21.60 per gallon of design flow.

Should this include an inflation adjustment? On the high end, this will add \$8.17 per gallon of capacity used.

Policy question:

The policy question is whether a connection fee should be adjusted down (depreciated) to reflect the age of the system. Assuming a 30-year design life for the system and straight line depreciation,

The connection fee would be reduced \$10.80 per gallon ($\$21.60 \times 15/30$) to reflect the current depreciation of the infrastructure.

Policy question:

Will the fee include the costs for physically expanding the collection system. This is proposed to create a cost of \$42.10 per gallon of design flow.

Policy question:

Should a fee should be charged for the use of the Burns property? Should this be based on

- 1. the physical loss of use of the land; or*
- 2. The loss of development potential where this capacity could be applied to a Town project?*

Policy question:

When it comes to financing the expansion of the collection system,

- 1. Should the Town pay for the costs to expand the collection system; or*
- 2. Should the costs be borne by the each individual user (recommended)?*

Operations Based Questions

Policy question:

As part of a true community based collection and disposal system, who should pay for the cost of pumping the private septic tanks? At Thompson's Point, pumping is done on an as-needed basis and is coordinated and paid for by the utility, which then distributes these maintenance costs to all of the system users.

Policy question:

Should all users have a water meter installed to measure usage or should the operation costs be based on design flows?