

Fred and Ed,

Bill filled me in on the background of the letter from Dave Holdridge.

I would like to see a motion on the next agenda that endorses the addition of a phase to the project (in order to utilize federal funding) which addresses the decades-old desire to have sewer in Ledyard Center to promote the economic development of the Town center. The motion should not be worded in a way that suggests the new phase is intended to support future housing development or the potential Habitat project. If necessary, the motion should authorize the preliminary design of the new phase.

If there is time sensitivity here, we should consider a special meeting since we don't meet until the end of the month and the holidays are upon us.

Terry

On Tuesday, December 5, 2023 at 11:12:39 AM EST, stanjub@juno.com <stanjub@juno.com> wrote:

It appears that Dave is misinformed about the position of the WPCA. A sewer line IS in the process of being extended to Ledyard Center, and the WPCA was the motivating force behind that.

Maybe he could be more specific about what he means by "extend the sewer line to all of Ledyard Center"? Is there a specific property or area that he has in mind? Does he want to expand the capacity of the treatment plant to handle any potential development?

Stan

----- Original Message -----

From: Christina Hostetler <mayor.clerk@ledyardct.org>

To: Ed Lynch <catalyst05@comcast.net>, Jeremy Norris <jeremynorris@gmail.com>, "Jim Ball " <jimaball@earthlink.net>, "Kevin J. Dombrowski" <KJDom@ledyardct.org>, Monir Tewfik <monirtewfik@gmail.com>, "swadecki@comcast.net" <swadecki@comcast.net>, Stan Juber <stanjub@juno.com>, "ftjones@prodigy.net" <ftjones@prodigy.net>, "tcapon@pitt.edu" <tcapon@pitt.edu>

Cc: "Fred Allyn, III" <mayor@ledyardct.org>, Roxanne Maher <council@ledyardct.org>

Subject: FW: Need for Sewers in Ledyard Center

Date: Tue, 5 Dec 2023 14:11:09 +0000

From: David Holdridge <daveholdridge@aol.com>

Sent: Monday, December 4, 2023 4:19 PM

To: Christina Hostetler <mayor.clerk@ledyardct.org>

Subject: Need for Sewers in Ledyard Center

Christina, Please forward this to WPCA members, also copy the Mayor and Town Council Liaison.

We heard that there has been some hesitation in the Ledyard WPCA about extending the sewer line to Ledyard Center. Of course, it has been a long term goal in our community to bring public sewers to Ledyard Center. That need has been verified and supported many times over several decades of our history.

All of the renditions of our Town Plan since the 1960's have stressed that Ledyard Center is an appropriate place for village development. A typical statement in our Plans advocates for "the development of a town center with a variety of commercial, governmental, and cultural establishments."

Each year, at budget time, townspeople ask why we can't bring in more businesses to augment our tax base. However, the theory of zoning and "Smart Growth" suggest that communities should designate certain areas where commercial development is encouraged. Ledyard Center is one of the few areas in our Town where business is encouraged.

There was a "Ledyard Town Center Committee" established by the Town Council in 2007. Associated with that Committee, there was a Sewer Feasibility Study done for Ledyard Center. It found that there were limitations to using on-site septic systems because of soil conditions. Also, private landowners have financed dozens of test holes and consistently discovered a high groundwater table in Ledyard Center. This information caused the Committee to report that severe limitations would exist until we could find a solution to the septic issue. In addition, it was pointed out that nearly half of Ledyard Center is within the reservoir watershed. The watershed fact alone confirms the need for public sewers.

Nevertheless, the Town Center Committee gathered many public comments in favor of the village concept. At about the same time, an Advisory Question was placed on the Town ballot asking "Should village development be encouraged in Ledyard Center? This would include denser residential and commercial buildings..." More than 60% of voters said yes to that question.

The ongoing view of Town political leaders has been that we would like to develop the village concept for Ledyard Center if and when we could find a way to fund a

feasible solution to the sewer issue. That opportunity has now presented itself because of State and Federal grants. After all of this planning and waiting we need to stay the course and make sure that there will be plenty of capacity for all of Ledyard Center.

If we are realistic about promoting village development in Ledyard Center, we must extend the sewer line to all of Ledyard Center..

David Holdridge

daveholdridge@aol.com