

Eagle Lake Rt 74 water

From: rolf tiedemann (camptouchstone@yahoo.com)

To: camptouchstone@yahoo.com

Date: Sunday, April 17, 2022, 01:56 PM EDT

Hello all

I had some time this past weekend and was prompted by an email from a lake resident to do a little looking into the EL/Chilson water issue.

Please note, I am only the messenger here (I'm on the north shore and will never draw water from this project) and the following is NOT associated with the ELPOI as this is not a lake water quality/use issue.

I thought it important to share what is presented below as there are many year round and or seasonal residents that will be affected by the changes to the Rt74 water system that may or may not be getting or reading the information put out by the Town. I am presenting below just a glimpse into the information posted to the Town's website, problem is that much of the information needs to be mined to find excerpts in the meeting minutes or in the relevant pages where documents related to the topic are posted.

I found this to be the case with the March 29, 2022 meeting minutes that were shared with me by the resident email mentioned above.

It is my hope that by pointing to a few of the recent documents that folks will be able find and read and understand the stakes that are involved in this project and that all affected parties will be able to participate and make informed decisions. The digital age has made significantly more information available, but often times finding it is difficult.

From emails shared with me and from those that have attended several informational meetings this winter, the Town is trying to work to solve the EL water issue, but it appears that there are still many more unknowns than there are facts and or plans to complete a project.

From my reading, the original project looked like a "simple" system, with some localized wells serving those locations where a "large water main" did not make sense. In my reading of the full Project Report last summer it appeared that the Town was suggesting a much more robust plan that included significantly more infrastructure such as fire hydrants every 500 +/- feet, isolation valves etc. and a significantly larger water main to convey the necessary water to support these hydrants. NYS has specific guidelines for "new" municipal water system installations. These guidelines are available by doing a google search and within the guidelines you can find specifics to the hydrant locations and other details. See below for my link and in the attachments for an email I sent last year related to this. Costs associated with any plan is dependent on the details and deliverables, with the more robust plans costing more. Lesser plans may not meet NYS guidelines and as such may not be viable options.

In the most recent minutes from the last Town Sewer and Water meeting on March 29, 2022 (these minutes were shared with me in an email message and I don't find them on the Ti website as of 4/4/22), see screen capture image below (or full document as an attachment). Note that line item 5. indicates that, Mark, Town Supervisor, indicated that the "cost amount is not doable for the residents".

5. Discussion on Moving Forward with Chilson/Eagle Lake.


- a. Mark states that The Town will probably have one more conversation with the residents about the plan. The cost amount is not doable for the residents. The June 15th deadline is coming up quick. Matt believes there needs to be another meeting to find out who's in and who's out. We're down to the point of defining who has no option and figuring out how we're going to help them.
- b. A private water source seems to really be the only choice left. We need to find a way to help those who cannot put in a well due to their property size issues or septic placement issues.

More in full document

The above being said, there are indications that the Town is planning on holding additional meetings and these need to take place before an up coming deadline date in early June.

I offer the following images as a way to access more of the information that the Town has posted on its website. This can be found at townofticonderoga.org then looking for the Departments tab and selecting Water and Wastewater. Look for the first line for Eagle Lake and Chilson Water Systems. This includes:

1. Full plan document- this covers the 3 options, from basic to more robust- it also has much additional information about the geological conditions related to the install.
2. A question and answers document that details the options residents have for forming a district, getting into or options for not joining a district, along with other topics.
3. Map, Plan and Report "MPR" which includes in appendix A the Consent Decree - July 2018 - this details costs, deliverables, and what the State/ Federal Government wrote in their Decree that is driving much of this project.
4. Other pieces of engineering information related to the condition of the current water line and other infrastructure, as well as a properties map of those affected by this project.



Town of Ticonderoga

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Upcoming Events Media Things to Do Employment Our History



Eagle Lake – Chilson Water System Improvements

[Engineering Evaluation of Existing Transmission Main](#) ↘

[Survey Summary of Mapped Public Responses](#) ↙

[Eagle Lake & Chilson Q&A](#) ↘

Upcoming Events

THU 07 PLANNING & ZONING BOARD
 April 7 @ 6:00 pm

THU 14 REGULAR TOWN BOARD MEETING
 April 14 @ 6:00 pm

TUE 19 BUILDINGS & GROUNDS/PARKS, RECREATION, HISTORIC LANDS, CEMETERIES & BEACH
 April 19 @ 8:30 am

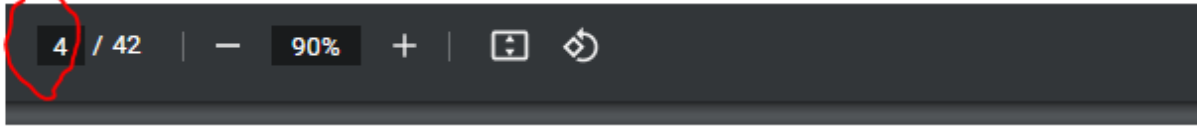
[View More...](#)

KEY DATES	REQUIREMENTS	DELIVERABLES
by June 30, 2020	submit a preliminary engineering report for the Eagle Lake – Chilson Water System Improvements	Preliminary Engineering Report
by June 14, 2021	submit final map, plan, and report for the Eagle Lake – Chilson Water System Improvements	Map, Plan & Report – <i>Revised 5-17-2021</i>
by June 15, 2022	begin final design of Eagle Lake – Chilson Water System Improvements	

Further down the Water and Wastewater page under Related Documents, information can be found about the Department of Justice's Complaint and also the Decree documents that have driven some of this project.

Searching further on the Towns home page under the tab Meetings/Minutes the following most recent meeting minutes can be found. The excerpt of the meeting minutes captured above are also posted here.

The follow is an excerpt from the March 10th meeting, page 4, the full minutes are attached below. There is considerable discussion here about some previously suggested and or new alternatives for filtering water and discussion about what might take place at a future meeting. A suggested date for that meeting being the 17 of March.



**Minutes for the Ticonderoga Town Board meeting held on
March 10, 2022, commencing at 6:00 p.m.**



Chilson/Eagle Lake Discussion

Supervisor Wright understands that there are a lot of people here tonight that would like to present some information regarding Chilson/Eagle Lake water issue. He doesn't need to tell anyone that this issue goes back quite some time, back to the 90's. The board is certainly open to hearing any new information that you want to bring tonight. Time will be limited, so he encourages you to focus on your main points that you would like to make tonight. He is a big proponent of communication, but he will remind you that we do have some town business that we need to also do this evening. We are more than willing to entertain a special meeting and meeting time to discuss this in more detail so you have the opportunity to present all of your information, you deserve the time to do that. He has placed a placeholder on the agenda tonight to make a resolution to set a such a meeting up. He was looking at March 17th at 6:00 p.m. and we will finalize that at the end of our meeting. One thing that he would like to say, the comments about what was done or what was not done in the past have no place in this discussion and no place for any further discussion, that does not move us forward to a solution. So, he is asking that you please refrain from that. The town has applied for funding and met with various state and federal officials regarding the solutions for this issue in addition to discussing the options we have also sought help from those officials to gain funding to make options viable. The county was notified from the DOH that we are eligible for a drinking water state revolving fund in the amount of 3 million dollars of interest free financing and 5.3 million dollars for 40 years. The Town has made a promise to the residents to seek out funding and this is one benefit of that work. It is only a first step, but it is a step forward. The Town has encouraged residents and continues to encourage residents to contact their legislative officials regarding this matter, however, he will share with you all that we have been informed that some representatives have received conflicting information regarding the claims that the Town has not been forthright or truthful with those representatives. Communicating with our elected officials is great, however, communicating from a position of division or even the perception of division impairs the Town's ability to secure the confidence of these officials. It impacts the abilities to secure any support

The only further reference to the March 17th information meeting is captured in the image below. This was found on the Meeting Minutes page under the heading March 2022 meeting schedule. There appears to be no minutes posted for this meeting.

Monthly-Committee-Meeting-Schedule-march-rv1.pdf

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Last Tuesday	Public Safety	03/29/2022	1800 8:00 A.M. 0800	Comm. Bldg. Basement Mtg. Room
Last Tuesday	Public Works	03/29/2022	10:30 A.M. 1030	Comm. Bldg. Basement Mtg. Room
4th Thursday	Black Watch Library Board	03/03/2022	11:30 A.M. 1130	Black Watch Library
Last Thursday	Financial (other lawful business)	03/24/2022	8:30 A.M. 0830	Comm. Bldg. Basement Mtg. Room
Last Monday	Municipal Facility Evaluation	03/28/2022	6:00 P.M. 1800	Comm. Bldg. Basement Mtg. Room
Last Wednesday	Ti Area Adult Seniors	NO MEETING	1:00 P.M. 1300	The Armory
TBA	Health Insurance Committee	TBA	1:30 P.M. 1330	Comm. Bldg. Basement Mtg. Room

Special Town Board Meetings & Public Hearings for MARCH 2022					
FREQUENCY	COMMITTEE / DEPARTMENT	DATE	TIME	LOCATION	
	Water Workshop	03/15/2022	12:00 P.M. 1200	Comm. Bldg. Basement Mtg. Room	
	Chilson/EL Informational Meeting	03/17/2022	6:00 P.M. 1800	Comm. Bldg. Basement Mtg. Room or Auditorium	
	Public Informational Meeting	03/23/2022	6:00 P.M. 1800	Comm. Bldg. Basement Mtg. Room	
As Required	Special Town Board Meeting	03/24/2022	8:30 A.M. 0830	Comm. Bldg. Basement Mtg. Room	

Some of my personal interest in sharing the following is from the standpoint that as the causeway gets redone the ELPOI proposed that a dry hydrant be included at this site. In a recent project update conversation that ELPOI Officer Keith P. had with the DOT (all details to be shared in the up coming Spring ELPOI newsletter) Keith found that NO dry hydrant would be included, despite the fact that the Chilson VFD supported this. There was however discussion related to wet fire hydrants and the Town Water project in the engineering reports, and also whether the Water Project would include a dry hydrant. Based on what the DOT has said, and what was stated in the last meeting minutes that the "Water Project" "cost is not doable", it might look like EL residents may find that they not only don't have a drinking water option but they they may loose any access to water for emergency purposes.

Fire hydrants code link

<https://codes.iccsafe.org/content/NYFC2015UP/appendix-c-fire-hydrant-locations-and-distribution>

I am presenting the above information so that all residents of EL can become informed. It is shared based on contact information we have in the ELPOI Eagle Lake database. This information will not be shared with any inside or outside group for any purpose.

If you have comments about what is shared above please feel free to contact me.

If you would like to share something with the "group" I will offer to collect and share well written comments. This will be done on an "as my schedule allows bases". If you would like something shared contact me with the words "EL water info to share". ALL comments will have to have a name associated with them to be shared. If you want your contact information shared you are welcome to ask me to include this, that way others can contact you directly. I reserve the right to not share poorly written comments or jumbled notes, rants, etc. Remember I am only the messenger and have NO connection to this project, I only hold access to the database for contacts and its appropriate use.

For any specific information related to the project please contact the Town Supervisor or those that are named in the specific documents.

Sorry to those that will receive this notice that are not impacted by the Rt74 water issue, our database is not set up to filter for any specific events.

As Treasurer I would ask that you please consider the ELPOI's up coming request in their Spring newsletter of continuing your ELPOI membership or joining as a new or returning resident member. The ELPOI Officers would like to thank those, the many residents on EL, for joining the ELPOI with paid dues. Your support makes completing water testing, the website with the remote view cameras and other projects possible.

Respectfully,

Rolf Tiedemann



MINUTES March 29, 2022 Water and Sewer Committee Meeting.pdf
84.4kB



2022-03-10-Town of Ti Board meeting Minutes-RTB-Mtg.pdf
2.3MB



2021-2-21 Mail - Chilson water- Rolf redacted fire hydrant spacing- pipe size to feed.pdf
394.4kB