

Greetings from Eagle Lake

Spring is here, and although some mornings have been rather nippy here at the lake things are greening up now and as soon as the black flies are gone, we can all enjoy it again!

It has been a VERY busy winter, with the boat launch issue, causeway construction, ongoing ELPOI projects such as speed signs and passing along information as to the water situation (see attached article and petition at the end for the latest), there have been many all-nighters for some of us!

The impending closure of the boat launch is the up and front issue now, with ELPOI pursuing action against its closure on many fronts. ELPOI officers have made many contacts with local government, state government and even federal government and do in depth research on past and present actions and policies of the APA. We have uncovered numerous inconsistencies and actions that were not in compliance with previous APA policies and actions. We are putting these into letters to the APA and to the Governor in hopes that the decision, made by one APA director, can be opened up again for discussion where we can have a seat at the table.

We currently have a petition online with just over 1700 signatures in opposition. You can find it on our website Eaglelake1.org, on the Eagle Lake FaceBook page and other locations. A discussion will be presented at the Annual Meeting to bring residents up to date on what has been going on in the background since February 1st when we were

summoned to a meeting with APA representatives where, without any of our input, we were told our boat launch's fate.

Causeway:

Bridge construction is now complete as I write this, we did gain approximately 6" of clearance under the bridge. A second streetlight has also finally been installed on the west end of the causeway and 2-way traffic is open again. Reale Construction has been very engaging with ELPOI over the project and we thank them for nice work and communication.

Radar Speed Signs:

Some progress has been made in getting permanent radar speed signs installed along Route 74 and we have settled on the type of sign, the expenditure of approximately \$6000 will be mostly covered by accumulated cash funds, but help from local town officials has not yet gained traction. We will continue to pursue this to an outcome of having them installed.

Beaver Activity:

We have gone all winter without beaver issues; however, some suspicious twigs are showing up now. The boards are in the dam for the Summer and we will monitor the site for future Beaver activity.

Town Water Issues:

ELPOI will continue to pass along information as it is made available, and post it to our website.

Dues Survey:

In your dues renewal is a survey to gather opinion on raising Dues in 2024 to \$35 membership and \$25 associate membership. Dues have remained at the current level since the 1980's and while we are still solvent expenses have risen in the past year, including professional beaver removal, legal consulting regarding our boat launch closure, radar speed sign purchase/installation. There may be other expenses in the future regarding ongoing boat launch representation and invasive species mitigation as technology evolves and practical and affordable methods of control emerge. A full Treasurer's report is being prepared and will be presented at the Annual Meeting as well as discussion of the great many things that ELPOI has done for its members in the past year. We are looking forward to seeing ALL of you at the meeting to share this.

Officer Elections:

ELPOI needs a Secretary this year, do not be afraid to volunteer to help us out, aside from being really appreciated by your fellow officers it would give you the opportunity to be fully aware of all the doings around Eagle Lake year-round, and meet others on the lake and network. The current President, Vice President, and Treasurer are willing to run for another term, our Board Members have another few years to serve before reelection. Please let me know of your interest in filling the Secretary position and an election will take place at the annual meeting. Better yet, you can run unopposed for the open Secretary position.

Boat Launch Support:

After exhaustive discussion with a plethora of people from Government to Adirondack associations, what is likely our best option to getting the APA to reconsider their decision is to show overwhelming opposition. Several ideas have come up but this cannot come from just the Board and Officers, this will pivot on what the entire lake community and membership does to speak their mind.

Not everyone uses the launch, but the bigger picture here is coming together as a community, to support those that do, your neighbors, future generations, those that may be interested in buying your property should you ever decide to sell it. Will those that use private launches be able to do so in the future? There has been a lot of turnover on the lake in the past several years and your neighbors may be different at some point.

Writing Letters:

At the Annual Meeting we will have paper and supplies available to pen off a letter to the Governor about what impact this change will make to you or your neighbors at the lake should it be closed to float on/ float off boats and trailers; this note need not be long or involved but the more people involving themselves in this matter the better. We will be happy to stamp and send these letters out. For those of you that are not able to participate in this at the meeting please reach out and see how you can complete this at another time when convenient to you.

Sandwich Boards:

Another suggestion is to make up sandwich board signs and display them along Route 74

in front of your property. Details for this will be presented at the Annual Meeting. These need not be fancy, and can simply state "save our boat launch" and be hand painted with an old brush on scrap plywood but must be easily visible and readable. If we can get a majority of residents to do this it will show undisputable opposition to the closing and can be used to get the media interested in running a story on this that could be the money shot. Please consider this a plea to help with this.

Can you help support the effort in other ways? We are always open to suggestion and could certainly use more resources in the way of folks to help **create** and **edit letters** to involved parties, follow up on **phone** conversations and connections made with **APA, DEC, Government, and town officials**, you need not be an officer or board member of ELPOI to help out and we would be very supportive of any time and efforts you could put forth. If people hear from more of us, rather than a couple of spokespersons they will be more likely to put forth effort on our behalf.

Please keep in mind, the decision to close the launch to trailered traffic appears to **HAVE ALREADY BEEN MADE**, it's a done deal in the view of the APA, if we are to reverse this decision or get a seat at the table to open this up for discussion again it has to be from a lot of opposition from everyone, otherwise come 2024, the barrier will be up and nobody will be able to get their trailered boat on the lake again using the public launch.

ANNUAL MEETING:

10AM July 8th at the Chilson Community Center, Putts Pond Road. Following the meeting we will have the usual good eats and time to mingle. Please bring a dish to pass.

Please RSVP using the enclosed prepaid envelope prior to July 8th with the membership renewal form and your picnic reservation so we have dues and a head count. Late renewals will be accepted prior to 10am at the meeting, a courtesy call to our Treasurer at 585-310-2514 indicating this would be appreciated.

Even if you choose not to be a member we would like to hear your reason for that.

Hoping to see everyone at the meeting and wishing you all another wonderful and memorable summer at Eagle Lake.

Keith Park

Keith Park

ELPOI President
2023/6/11

There are 2 items that have been shared with the ELPOI with regards to Gooseneck water; the article on the next page is one, link to article: [Town board discusses water options for Chilson and Eagle Lake residents | Sun Community News TICONDEROGA](#) and images of a petition that is posted in numerous locations around Ticonderoga is the other.

Town board discusses water options for Chilson and Eagle Lake residents

Concern grows as scheduled June 2025 Gooseneck closure looms

BY Shaundra Bartlett Yaw

STAFF WRITER

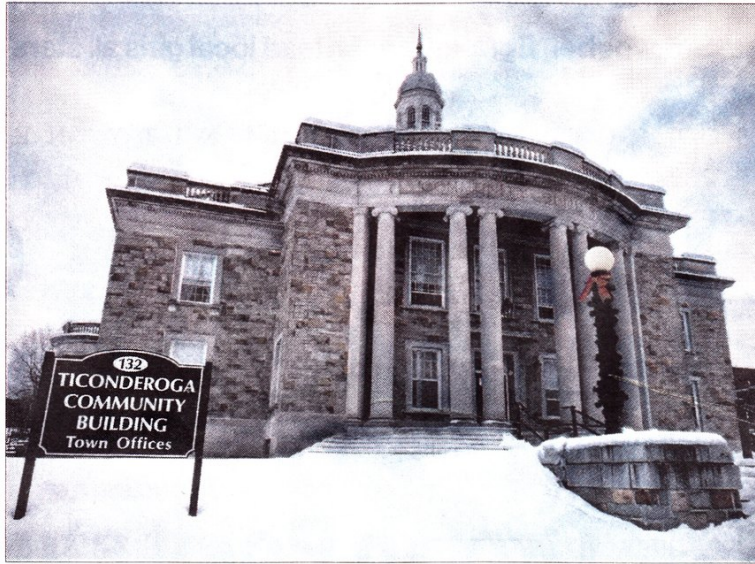
TICONDEROGA | The Ticonderoga Town Board was put on the hot seat March 7 when a special meeting was held to discuss the implications and potential solutions to Chilson and Eagle Lake homeowners of the federally ordered 2025 loss of Gooseneck as their water source.

However, the proposed private well project put forth seemed uncertain at best, and dire at worst.

"The Town of Ticonderoga is under no legal obligation to provide water in this situation," explained Ticonderoga Town Supervisor Mark Wright. "There is no current municipal water district in existence for this area. Obviously, we do have a moral obligation in doing whatever we can to provide the residents with water - it is the right thing to do."

The Town had sent letters to homeowners of each affected parcel, alerting each one of their option eligibilities based on data collected on which parcels could support private wells and which could support a shared well system. Four different types of letters went out - either a private well packet, a common well packet, a municipal district well packet, or a lake withdrawal packet, which addressed the ability to take water from Eagle Lake.

"We compiled that data, have a list of everyone's info and those letters were sent to those parcel owners, approximately 104 of them. We spent a lot of time, money, and labor on this to identify these particular parcels and what they could or could not possibly support," said Wright. "This effort to provide water is a two-way effort, it always has been."



A March 7 meeting discussed a potential private well project for residents who will lose their Gooseneck water supply.

Photo by Shaundra Bartlett Yaw

Wright continued, stressing there is no funding currently that has been confirmed. He did note that possible funding for the wells could come from a \$4 million grant from Congresswoman Elise Stefanik the town was notified it received, which was issued as a result of a funding request. Passed in the recent Federal Omnibus bill for Route 74 Water Source and Distribution, the specific grant language is still unknown.

"Right now, we don't have a lot of information of the specifics of that money, we are not sure how or if we can apply it to this private well project," Wright admitted. "I have heard it is a 75/25 match which is reimbursable. We would have to spend money first and get reimbursed later."

Once the floor was open for discussion, residents were full of inquiries made in earnest, with some valid questions put forth. One resident questioned what the quality of the drilled well

water would be, with no answer provided. Another expressed concern if drilling their own well wasn't feasible and they had to sell their home and move, how would they be able to sell a home without water access? And some residents were baffled as to how a concrete solution hasn't already been established, the loss of Gooseneck old news at this point.

"We are trying to find a method using the funds that we believe we might have to get people water," Wright emphasized.

"What if someone can't share or doesn't want to share a well? It's common sense what is going to happen," one resident fired off to the board. "What is someone going to do if they can't join on? If there is one person that can't get water, we stay on Gooseneck. I know you don't want to hear that."

Wright firmly stated there will be no staying on Gooseneck, as he has said publicly many times prior.

A sobering dose of reality was delivered about potential pitfalls of well drilling when a Chilson resident shared her family's experience when drilling their own private well. What she documented was a nightmare that could potentially be experienced by her Chilson neighbors if well drilling is the only viable option the Town can come up with. It didn't paint a very optimistic picture.

"We drilled and we drilled; there was red material that kept shooting up all over the trees, all over our house, all over our pool, all over the cars, it was absolutely horrible," she recounted. "Out of our retirement, I took out the whole thing - \$15,000 almost, and put it on the line. You're literally gambling. That's all you can do. They kept testing and testing and digging and digging. Finally, at 330 feet we did hit water, but it had

to be all casing all the way down. The water is pure red and we can't use it."

Granite breaking down after millions of years resulted in the red liquid, which is common on Chilson due to the geological makeup of the landscape. Now financially tapped out, the well project was a total of \$22,500 and the product it yielded is unusable. Her cautionary tale gave many people something to think about, to say the least.

Before the discussion concluded, Frank Sheldon announced his intention to pursue legal action against the Town of Ticonderoga if the board is "unwilling to make an effort to renegotiate the 2018 Consent Decree to find out what is needed to meet the minimum requirements to get Gooseneck into compliance for everyone. This includes Ticonderoga, Chilson, and Eagle Lake."

A letter from the retained office of Young/Sommer LLC out of Albany stating that the Town's implementation of the 2018 Consent Decree between the Town and the United States Environmental Protection Agency, as well as the intention to discontinue the existing Chilson and Eagle Lake water supply was disastrous in the extreme.

"In sum, all the current plans (such as they are), seem completely inadequate and will lead not only to loss of personal property and possible health impacts, but also to a sharp devaluation of the market value of each affected home... A new plan is required, and quick," the letter continued.

A full transcript of the meeting minutes in their entirety is available at townofticonderoga.org. ■

NEW YORK HOMEOWNERS

NOTICE OF PETITION AND REQUESTED ACTION

To: The Town Board of Ticonderoga

Dated: April 23, 2022

We the people of the Town of Ticonderoga will file the petition to utilize Lake George and Gooseneck Pond as the Primary Water Source serving the Ticonderoga Water Districts with the Ticonderoga Town Clerk for transmittal to the town board for immediate action no later than June 15, 2022.

Question of Importance and Issue here is:

“Does the Town of Ticonderoga have the responsibility to provide the people of Ticonderoga with the BEST possible water?”

Reportedly, Street Road Wells with an extreme water hardness of 220 has proven to be too hard scale as a desirable water source for International Paper, Hudson Headwaters, Tony’s Sports- and Car Wash, Montcalm Street restaurants and other large scale water users!

Not a good omen for the future of business development in downtown Ticonderoga or any other section of Ticonderoga forced to live with or cope with Street Road Well water and the ensuing water hardness issues it presents!

Most Chilson Hill and Eagle Lake residents would like to keep using Gooseneck water upgraded to DOH/EPA rules and regulations at a minimal cost.

The people living in the village and merchants on Montcalm Street are just feeling the short term effects and beginning to realize the possible devastating long term effects and related costs of using very hard water as the primary source of water for water districts in communities across the board!

And it might be fair to say, that these 1000 plus village home owners deserve the Best possible water our town administration can provide to protect the Heart of Our Community, Our Way of Life and Our Children’s Future! So

Whereas, the NYS Constitution Bill of Rights states “Each person shall have a right to Clean Air and Water and a healthful environment”;

Let’s upgrade Gooseneck Pond water as suggested by the DOB/EPA ... utilize the Street Road Wells until we get that task accomplished and

“Keep Gooseneck Pond for the BEST Possible Water”!

NOTICE OF PETITION AND REQUESTED ACTION _ page 2

IN Conclusion,

Because of the pressure exerted by the DOH on the town board, we now have the resulting situation. A ton of money spent on Street Road Water Wells that now prove not to be the BEST possible water for Ticonderoga to utilize going forward.

We the people of Ticonderoga that pay the bills are willing to cut our losses now and;

We hereby request the Ticonderoga Town Board to immediately adopt the following resolutions:

1. Be it resolved that the Town of Ticonderoga will utilize Lake George and Gooseneck Pond as the Primary Water Source serving the Ticonderoga Water Districts with Gooseneck Pond water upgraded to meet current DOH/ EPA water rules and regulations by the end of 2024. And a scheduled plan of action will jointly be developed in full co-operation with residents of Chilson Hill/Eagle Lake and implemented, in good faith, to insure that the above state Goals are achieved and the completion date is met.
2. Be it resolved that the Street Road Water Wells will only serve as a primary source water for the village until item one above is accomplished and only utilized from then on as an emergency backup source of water as needed by the water districts.
3. Whereas, the 5 states of California, Texas, Connecticut, Massachusetts, Michigan and others, along with communities in over 30 states have banned salt-based water softeners for several reasons, resolve to investigate this issue with a resulting possible ban, as well, in the Town of Ticonderoga and hold a non-binding referendum to let the Voice of The People be heard and counted prior to issuing a ban in Ticonderoga.

If these resolutions are not passed in an appropriate and timely manner and if the Ticonderoga Town Board holds the petition issues in abeyance, we request the Ticonderoga Town Board to make the necessary arrangements to have all petition issues placed on a referendum ballot in the Nov. 8, 2022 general election.

Thank you all for supporting our action plan for this petition.

Signed By: "We The People of the Town of Ticonderoga" to include all signatures on the petition.

Petition available at four locations:

• Bains Sunoco • Tony Sports • Napa - Wicker St. • RB Motors - Schyler St.

Please visit the Ticonderoga business mentioned at the end of the petition to add your name. Remember that even if the water or boat launch do not directly affect you they will have an indirect impact as they change your neighbor's ability to use the lake or have access to household water. Do not expect that someone else will solve this problem for you. Regardless if you are an occasional weekend lake user, full time summer resident or year round steward of the community. As the statement says "united we stand..." Now is the time for all of us to be united. Please make the time to join the residents of EL at the July 8th meeting to hear what the issues are surrounding the boat launch and water issues, there are many on both fronts, and to see what has been done, what you can do to help, and to offer suggestions for future actions.

Membership Application/Renewal Form Instructions.

Property Dues/Membership (Lake Property Owners Only):

An annual \$25.00 Property Due is required for each lake property. This due once paid provides that lake property with a single vote. If there are multiple owners of the property, only one person needs to pay the \$25.00 property due. During all voting opportunities, only one vote per property will be counted, regardless of multiple owners. However, by paying the dues, all owners of that property will have full Membership. If there are multiple owners of a property more than one name and associated contact information can be included in our database, this is so that all interested parties can receive ELPOI mailings, but again only one person can vote. If those other owners want to make a financial contribution to support the efforts of the ELPOI they can do so by being an associate or just making a donation. If you own multiple lake properties, then you will receive an additional vote for each lake property that you pay dues for. ALL memberships run July 1 to June 30 of the following year, so at this point all memberships need to be renewed.

Associate Membership (Non-Owners):

An associate membership is \$15.00 and is for people who are either family, friends, a second owner named on the property deed or other interested parties who have a vested interest in preserving Eagle Lake for future generations and want to receive ELPOI communications.

What your dues cover:

Your membership dues and all other contributions to Eagle Lake Property Owners, Inc., are tax deductible under rules governing not-for-profit 501(c)3 status. With your membership dues we try to cover a multitude of services including: beaver control, lake level management, annual lake water testing by both CSLAP (analytical) and additional non-CSLAP (fecal) entities, donations to local emergency services, as well as many other items, full details are in the treasures report given at the annual meeting and posted at eaglelake1.org. The officers of ELPOI serve in a voluntary capacity. If you can make an additional contribution toward these efforts, we would greatly appreciate it. Please indicate your intention to donate on the membership form as an additional donation.

July 1, 2023 - June 30, 2024 Membership Application/Renewal Form

Return this form with your check in the prepaid envelope by July 1, 2023 or bring in person to the Annual Meeting on July 8, 2023.

Membership dues may also be paid at the **Annual Meeting, before the 10:00 a.m. start**
Meeting is at the Chilson Community Center, Putts Pond Road

Property Dues -\$25.00 per property **Y or N**
Name on tax map associated with property I.E. trust, personal name, etc. _____

Lake property ID number (see ELPOI map or number that is on the address label) or lake address dues are for: _____
If paying for additional lake properties owned, duplicate this form and complete it for each property.

Above address is: **Year-Round Seasonal** circle one
Off lake or seasonal address _____

Town, State, Zip _____
Phone _____ Email _____

If you want additional family members/ owners associated with this property to be included in our data base, provide their full contact information on a separate sheet of paper- include a note of their affiliation/ relationship to the property.

Associate Membership -\$15.00 **Y or N**

Your name _____
The property you are affiliated with (name of owner(s)) _____
Your address contact info _____
Town, State, Zip _____
Phone _____ Email _____

Returning Sponsor -\$120.00 **Y or N**

Business Name: _____
(Business sponsorship includes Member/Associate dues)

New business? Y or N

Name _____ Phone _____
Contact Chris Hyde cdhyde1@gmail.com prior to sending in dues

Picnic July 8 @ Noon, please **RSVP:**

Sandwiches, soda, water and place settings provided; *covered dishes, desserts, etc. are encouraged by attendees!*

Adults x \$10.00 \$ _____

Children x \$6.00 \$ _____

Additional Donation(s):

Courtesy donation Amt: \$ _____

Dues amount from left:

Amount carried here \$ _____

Payment Information:

Total Enclosed: \$ _____

Name on Check: _____

(Make checks payable to ELPOI)

ELPOI dues survey: circle your Y or N response. Add a comment to further define your answer, use additional paper if necessary:

1. Would you support raising the dues to \$35 and \$25 associate for 2024? **Y or N Comment** _____
2. Do you think that ELPOI communication during the year is appropriate and reasonable? **Y or N Comment** _____
3. Are there any additional topics you feel ELPOI should pursue or not pursue within our mission statement? **Y or N Comment** _____
4. Do you feel that your membership is beneficial to you and the Lake community in general? **Y or N Comment** _____

July 8, 2023 Annual Meeting Member Proxy

Please check with the person you are designating as your proxy to verify they are a member that has paid their dues. ELPOI Officers can/will carry your proxy vote if asked. Complete and return this form with your dues to have your proxy counted.

I, as a member in good standing of ELPOI, (i.e. I have paid or will pay my annual dues prior to July 8th) do hereby designate (print name) _____, who is also a member in good standing, or who is another owner of record of the same membership parcel of said corporation, to vote and act on my behalf on all matters that come before the meeting to be held on July 8, 2023 at 10:00 a.m.

Signed: _____ Print: _____ Date _____

Witnessed: _____ Print: _____ Relationship: _____ Date _____

Eagle Lake Property Owners, Inc.
c/o Keith Park, Secretary
31 BarkWood Lane
Clifton Park, NY 12065

The Eagle Lake Newsletter is published by Eagle Lake Property Owners, Inc., C/O Chris Hyde, 64 Blue Barns Rd., Rexford, NY 12148. ELPOI is a 501(c)(3) not-for-profit corporation and contributions are tax deductible as allowed by law. This issue was written by Chris Hyde, Rolf Tiedemann. Send information, changes of address, and especially new or changed e-mail addresses to Chris at cdhyde1@gmail.com, or Rolf at camptouchstone@yahoo.com



If You Enjoy Eagle Lake,
PLEASE HELP US
PROTECT IT.
Join ELPOI at
Eagle Lake Property Owners Inc.
www.EagleLake1.org

2023, Spring, Eagle Lake Dues Renewal and Newsletter