

**Town of Woodstock
Select Board Special Meeting
August 29, 2023
5:00 pm
Town Hall & Zoom
Minutes**

Draft minutes are subject to approval.

Present: Chair Ray Bourgeois, Susan Ford, Mary Riley, Keri Cole, Greg Fullerton, Eric Duffy, Nikki Nourse, Tom Ayres, David Brown, Charles Sinderbeaux, Tesha Buss, Peter Pickett, Paul Reid, Terry Kerwin, Charles Humpstone

A. Call to order

1. Vice-Chair Ford called the meeting of August 29, 2023, to order at 5:01 pm.

B. Public hearing to discuss the South Woodstock Treatment Plant design

1. Ms. Ford emphasized that this would be an open discussion with a focus on gathering input. She outlined the structure of the meeting, stating that each person would have two minutes to speak, with timekeeping assistance from Ms. Cole for Zoom participants who could use the electronic hand feature. Ms. Ford also stressed that no decisions or votes would be made during this meeting.
2. Mr. Duffy began by proving a brief summary of the project's history and the design plans received from the engineering company. He mentioned that this project had gone through several public meetings and discussions, including approval at a town meeting in March 2020. Mr. Duffy highlighted that the project's funding would come from sewer user fees and clarified the allocation of the \$10,000 allocated from COVID relief funds.
3. Mr. Duffy then presented three design alternatives for the South Woodstock treatment plant, including options for a taller fence and the use of vines. He mentioned concerns about maintenance costs associated with these alternatives. Mr. Duffy invited comments and questions from the attendees after presenting the options.
4. Several attendees shared their thoughts and suggestions on the design options and costs. Some expressed concerns about the aesthetics of the plant, while others suggested forming a South Woodstock Wastewater Treatment Committee to explore design alternatives. The idea of making the plant blend into the surroundings and not detract from property values was also emphasized. The importance of considering the impact on real estate values and the need for public input and transparency in decision-making were discussed.
5. Ms. Ford reiterated the importance of open discussion and invited attendees to future meetings. She announced that the next Select Board meeting would be held later that evening at 6:00 pm and encouraged public participation.

C. Other business – none.

D. Adjournment

Motion: by Ms. Cole to adjourn the meeting at 5:47 pm.

Seconded: by Ms. Riley.

Vote: 5-0-0, passed.

*Respectfully submitted,
Nikki Nourse*