Town of DeKalb Informational Meeting

At an informational meeting of the Town Board, of the Town of DeKalb, St. Lawrence County, New York, held on the 13th day of July 2023, at the Town Hall in DeKalb Junction NY, there were present:

John Frary	Supervisor	Michael Livingston	Council Member
Connie Elen	Council Member	Andrew Fenton	Council Member
Barbara Creazzo	Town Clerk		

Members of the community present: Janice Brabaw, Ginger Thomas, Barbara Stransky, Eathon Graham, Arnold Graham, Louis H LaBarge, Brianne Gardina, and Justin Bristol

Members of the community attending via ZOOM:

Supervisor Frary opened the informational meeting at 7:04PM.

Copies of the study for a portion of the stormwater conveyance system, conducted by EDR, were distributed to each person present for the informational meeting. The study covers storms from one year to one hundred years and the study concluded that the pitch of the entire system is at a good level. However, there are some areas along the system that should be addressed to ease the flow of water.

In discussion, it was determined that culvert number two, that runs under the railroad, is a major contributor to waterflow backup during a heavy rainfall or quick Spring melt. Louis LaBarge informed the group that the railroad was contacted about twenty years ago regarding the condition of the culvert, that it was breaking and restricting the flow of water. Supervisor Frary has also tried to have contact with the railroad regarding the culvert. He will now ask the Town's attorney to contact the railroad.

While there are several areas of concern, another discussed was the culvert that transverses down the hill on Caroline Street. There seems to always be a degree of standing water visible at the grate. This is culvert number sixteen, which is a twenty-four-inch pipe.

While it is important to have an unrestricted flow through the entire system, it is important to understand where the initial flow starts. The initial flow, other than general rainwater, begins just east of the property owned by the De Kalb Housing Authority and flows through the hamlet in a northwesterly direction.

In conclusion, Supervisor Frary will contact EDR to let them know the town will focus on the best way to address the system based on a ten-year plan, meaning preparing for a storm that is expected to occur every ten years.

He will also ask them if creating a pond at or slightly above the beginning of the flow would assist with collecting the initial water and holding it for a slow effluent flow. The railroad will be contacted once again by the town's attorney asking them to address the broken culvert that is restricting the flow of water. He will also contact DOT for the cleaning of the ditch that goes between Mr. La Barge's property and the fire department's property. The Development of the North County will also be contacted to see if they could vacuum the culverts at the openings to assist with cleaning out the system.

Unfortunately, the properties between Josephine Street and Caroline Street cannot have the ditching depth increased, as this would lower the level of the system and would not allow for any waterflow. The only option for them is to bring in fill and raise their property which would then accommodate ditching. Finally, Supervisor Frary will contact the County on the two culverts on County Route 17 for discussion.

Respectfully submitted by

Barbara A. Creazzo Town Clerk