



TOWN OF LEWISTON
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ENVIRONMENTAL COMMISSION
September 10, 2019 6:30 PM

PRESENT: Chairmen J. Wolfgang; J Allen; D. Balassone; Z. Collister; B. Davey; V. Polka; M. Feldman; Councilman Geiben; Councilman Morreal

GUEST: Amy Witryol; Mia Summerson (Niagara Gazette)

MINUTES:

Chairman Wolfgang took attendance.

Commission reviewed answers to 14 questions the Commission had asked GHD regarding the Lewiston Town Waterfront Park project. J. Allen asked whether this property would be suited for a family home, and whether it was stated earlier in the reported answers. The answer was only regarding what test was given, which was restricted residential, but did not state the property was unsafe to build a house. Councilman Geiben stated he has full confidence in the engineering firm and their decision, and that the Park is safe.

Guest Amy Witryol showed maps of the site boring hole sites on the property. She also made note that the QEP (Mr. Snyder) was not involved with the project. V. Polka asked if the report had to go through the QEP review if the NYSDEC doesn't require it. A. Witryol advised that no, it technically does not need to go through this process. J. Wolfgang asked who made the maps, to which A. Witryol answered she did. It was noted that she was not an engineer and had added the boring sample readings to GHD's map of boring locations. Question 7 had the footnote to PCB's removed. Arsenic is highest contaminate found, but the heavy metals are the bigger concern. A. Witryol did speak of alternative engineering firms for second opinions. A. Witryol also made mention that we do not have a remedial investigation. A. Witryol suggested reaching out to the NYSDOH for review of this project. Morreal called the DOH and will reach out again.

Councilman Geiben verified that the grants will not be filed until next year, but that the Town Board is seeking a negative declaration for the SEQR.

Information for the good of the group: J. Allen mentioned that a park should bring joy, and this park is not doing that right now. He would endorse a third party to review the entire project to satisfy both those in favor and those in doubts. V. Polka asked if house on Upper Mt Rd had permission to remove slag waste from driveway.

Next meeting scheduled for October 9th, 7:00PM.

B. Davey made a motion to adjourn, M. Feldman seconded the motion and the motion carried.