

## **Fact Sheet on Proposed Village Center Sewer System**

We understand there is much confusion and numerous questions surrounding the Town's recent study of a sewer system for the Village Center. As with any significant capital project this is understandable. In order to provide clarity as to what has and has not happened with regard to the sewer system study we are providing this brief summary of facts. This contemplated project is on-going with many issues still to be studied and many decisions still to be made. Please keep an eye on our posted agendas as the sewer system issue will be discussed at many future Select Board meetings. Once all the pertinent information is obtained, the proposal thoroughly evaluated and a firm course of action is prepared we anticipate a public meeting to discuss the proposal with the residents of Colrain. Additionally, Town Meeting approval will be required for approval of significant parts of the proposal. Please feel free to contact our Town Coordinator, Kevin Fox, at the Town Office (624-6306) anytime for up-to-date information, to ask questions or to express your opinions. Remember, this is an on-going process in which no decisions have been yet made.

Sincerely,  
The Select Board

### ***We present the following facts regarding the process to date:***

- August 24, 2012 – The Town contracts with Weston and Sampson Engineer's to conduct the "Town Center Sanitary Engineering Sewer Preliminary Engineering Report" pending funding approval.
- August 28, 2012 – The Town appropriates the matching funds required for the USDA "Search" grant.
- September 2012 – The Town applies for a USDA "Search" grant to fund a "Town Center Sanitary Engineering Sewer Preliminary Engineering Report".
- June 2013 -The Town receives approval of the USDA "Search" grant. The grant provides \$30,000 to be matched by \$5,000 of local funding.
- December 2, 2013 – Weston and Sampson Engineers meet with Select Board to present preliminary data regarding the "Town Center Sanitary Engineering Sewer Preliminary Engineering Report".
- December 2013 – Weston and Sampson releases a Draft "Town Center Sanitary Engineering Sewer Preliminary Engineering Report".
- April 2014 – Weston and Sampson release the Final "Town Center Sanitary Engineering Sewer Preliminary Engineering Report". This report details the current septic system conditions the Village Center, the engineer's opinion on the need for a sewer system, five (5) alternatives to achieve a sewer system. The recommended option is identified as alternative 2B (**Gravity, Force Main, and Variable Slope Gravity System**) in the report which can be found on the Town's Web-Site. The engineer's opinion of probable

construction cost for this alternative is approximately \$3.1 million, which includes 20% contingency.

- August 2014 – The Town received a grant as a part of the State’s latest Environmental Bond Bill of \$2.5 million for the construction of a municipal sewer system.
- Currently the Town is preparing an application for additional funding through the USDA Water and Waste Disposal Grants and Loans Program. Additionally, the Town has begun discussions with Barnhardt Industries about crafting a long term agreement for the operation of its waste water treatment plant in regard to the Town of Colrain.