

**TOWN OF HAMPDEN
MASSACHUSETTS**

Town House
625 Main Street
Hampden, MA 01036

Fax: 413-566-3513
Email:



Stormwater Committee
625 Main Street
Hampden, MA 01036
Tel: (413) 566-2151

Gary Weiner, Chair
Mark Langone
John Matthews
John Plaster
Andrew Netherwood
Dena Grochmal
Karl Sternberg

**Stormwater Committee
Regular Meeting Minutes
August 19, 2021**

Approved on 10/21/21

Board Members Present: Gary Weiner, Mark Langone, John Plaster, John Matthew, Andrew Netherwood, Karl Sternberg.

Guest: Emily Tully

The meeting was called to order at 5:08pm.

Gary started the meeting by giving an overview of the Stormwater Committees purpose and its contributions to the community. The overall goal of the meeting tonight is to review the bylaw. Memos had been given to local businesses regarding this matter as this directly affects them. There are no new minutes to review. Gary announced that he will be stepping down as chairman, but they will hold off on electing a new chairman until the end of the meeting.

Emily Tully led the stormwater presentation and said that the purpose of this meeting is to provide information on Hampden's updated stormwater program which includes the new bylaw. Also, it gives an opportunity for the public to ask questions and for the committee to get feedback. The presentation started by discussing the definition of stormwater and the hazards of stormwater pollution and how the MS4 program is set up to help this problem. There are 260 communities in MA that are regulated under this program.

Hampden's stormwater management plan was finalized in July 2019. This is updated annually to note any changes that were made and the compliances that were done. It is posted on the stormwater committees' website. The stormwater management program consists of 6 minimum control measures. These are public education and outreach, public involvement and participation, Illicit Discharge Detection and Elimination program, construction site stormwater control, stormwater management in new developments and re-development, and good housekeeping.

Hampden is also subjected to other stormwater requirements due to its location to the Long Island Sound and the Scantic River as it is in the CT region watershed. The Scantic River is a category 5 body of water due to high levels of E. Coli. This means there are additional requirements for Hampden to manage their stormwater which includes erosion and sediment control and construction site updates. Emily then broke down what requirements must be met in each category. She also discussed how the MS4 program affected Hampden directly and the requirements that Hampden had to meet as described by this program.

The committee made a lot of changes to the clarification of the existing bylaw including the clarification of inspection and enforcement. Gary then said that the town approved the revised bylaw at the town meeting and the Attorney General approved it on July 5th.

There was then an opportunity for the audience to ask questions. The questions asked revolved around the IDDE program and the clarification of stormwater drainage and the E. Coli that would affect the Scantic as well as the breakdown as to why the Scantic is listed as a category 5. At this time, the DEP has not defined where the E. Coli is coming from.

Gary stated that there is a flowchart for anyone who need to know whether they need a stormwater permit. It is in the building inspector's office.

Emily discussed what was done over the past year as part of the stormwater management plan. Hampden was in permit year 3 and is now in year 4. As part of public outreach, the committee has put together an educational stormwater video, has additional information on the town website, and holds regularly scheduled meetings that the public is welcome to attend. Emily then gave a synopsis of the IDDE program, which is a systematic way of looking at a towns stormwater and trying to figure out where the sources of problems are on. Outfall samples were taken from the designated area in Hampden and based on the results, Tighe and Bond were able to rank the priority outfalls. The next step is to look at the manholes and take dry weather samples. This process will begin next week.

Now that the bylaw is completed, the committee has been able to start completing the requirements that are on the list for Year 4. This consists mostly of completing paperwork. They have also looked at street design rules and regulations and developed recommendations for how to decrease turnarounds and sidewalks and have assessed the bylaws to see if they prohibit the use of green infrastructure. Next year there will be another street sweeping as well as looking at the town's nitrogen impairment. Everything will be posted on the website.

Hampden is doing a great job of proactively meeting all MS4 requirements. The committee then allowed time for more questions.

Gary made a motion that Andrew Netherwood become the next chairman of the committee. John M. 2nd. All in favor 5-0.

The next meeting is scheduled for October 21st at 5pm.

Gary called the meeting to adjourn at 6:15pm. John M. 2nd. All in favor 5-0.