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**WATER RESOURCE PROTECTION SUBCOMMITTEE
OF THE DURHAM PLANNING BOARD
FRIDAY, OCTOBER 22, 2010
TOWN COUNCIL CHAMBERS, DURHAM TOWN HALL
7:30 A.M.**

Members Present: Jim Campbell, Jamie Houle, Robin Mower, Dave Cedarholm, Brian Gallagher, Richard Kelley

Members Not Present: Dwight Baldwin

I. Call the meeting to order and acknowledge absentees

Chair Houle called the meeting to order at 7:43 am.

II. Approval of the agenda

Richard Kelley MOVED to approve the agenda, this was SECONDED by Brian Gallagher.

Dave Cedarholm suggested adding a discussing about hiring a hydrogeologist to review the draft document as item IV. The agenda was amended to reflect this request.

The amended agenda was APPROVED unanimously.

III. Approval of minutes: September 24, 2010

Minor corrections were suggested to the September 24, 2010 minutes.

Robin Mower MOVED to approve the minutes as amended. This was SECONDED by Jamie Houle and APPROVED unanimously.

IV. Discussion regarding hiring of a hydrogeologist to review draft document

Dave Cedarholm said he met with Emery & Garrett Groundwater, Inc. and the topic of aquifer protection overlay was discussed. He noted that their firm is working with Concord on the protection of their APO. Mr. Cedarholm said that this discussion led him to review Concord, Madbury and Lee's ordinances regarding aquifer protection – which he felt could be useful in drafting Durham's ordinance. He noted that Madbury and Concord have performance standards in their ordinances and Madbury also has design and development requirements as well as performance standards in their ordinance. Mr. Cedarholm said professional expertise is needed if these items are to be included in the Durham ordinance.

Jamie Houle said he feels professional expertise is needed for guidance and as a sounding board.

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2 Brian Gallagher said he agrees it would be helpful to have a professional review the draft and
3 give input. He noted that this might be helpful to the Planning Board in their review of the draft
4 as well.

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6 The members discussed possible funding sources for hiring a hydrogeologist. The members
7 suggested approaching the Conservation Commission and requesting the Conservation Funds be
8 used to hire a hydrogeologist.

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10 Jamie Houle said it would be helpful to have a scope of services to present to the Conservation
11 Commission, as well as a cost estimate. Dave Cedarholm said he would ask Concord for their
12 scope of work to use as a starting point.

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14 The Water Resource Protection Subcommittee concluded: 1) there is a need to clarify and update
15 the Aquifer Protection District ordinance and 2) review by a hydrogeologist is in the best interest
16 to acquire the expertise needed to review the document and expedite matters.

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18 Dave Cedarholm added that the Lee ordinance contains language outlining the process needed if
19 there is a claim that the aquifer district is incorrectly delineated or not delineated in an area that
20 meets the criteria and that this should be considered for the Durham ordinance. The members
21 noted that a consultant would be valuable in this instance.

22
23 The members discussed the need to take a “tiered approach” with the aquifers and to have
24 different protections based on the tier that the aquifer is identified as.

25
26 The members also discussed the difficulty in identifying and delineating bedrock aquifers and
27 how the drilling of wells in bedrock for small community water sources could be affected by the
28 ordinance or could affect abutters. It was noted that a hydrogeologist would be able to assist
29 with the writing of the ordinance to lessen any adverse or unintended consequences. The
30 members did state they feel it would be useful for the Town to acknowledge the locations of
31 community water systems and include them on the map. Dave Cedarholm said it would be
32 advisable to acknowledge and delineate the wellhead area so future generations understand what
33 the wellhead protection area is for those communities. He noted that one of the objectives of the
34 Aquifer Overlay District is ...”to provide for future growth and development of the town by
35 ensuring the future availability of safe public and private water sources”. Mr. Cedarholm said
36 acknowledging the existing community water systems and giving them some level of protection
37 would be a step towards this objective.

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39 The members asked Dave Cedarholm to develop a scope of work and to consult with Emery &
40 Garrett to estimate a maximum threshold price for the consulting work. Mr. Cedarholm agreed
41 to do this and have it ready for Chair Houle before November 11th to present to the Conservation
42 Commission.

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44 The members briefly discussed alternative funding if the Conservation Commission votes against
45 using the Conservation Funds for this expenditure. Jim Campbell noted that budgets for 2011
46 are being requested and suggested adding this item if needed.

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48 The members briefly discussed the best approach to take when working on surface water
49 protection. Dave Cedarholm suggested asking Emery & Garrett to draft a scope of work for
50 surface water protection. The members agreed that a watershed approach would be the best
51 approach.

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2 **V. Review of draft changes to the Aquifer Protection Overlay of the Durham**
3 **Zoning Ordinance**
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5 Discussion of this topic fell under the previous item.
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7 **VI. Other Business**
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9 No other business was discussed at this meeting.
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11 **VII. Next meeting of the Committee:**
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13 The next meeting of the Durham Water Resource Protection Subcommittee will meet on Friday
14 November 12, 2010 at 7:30 am in Durham Town Hall.
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16 **VIII. Adjournment**
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18 *Richard Kelley MOVED to adjourn the October 22nd, 2010 meeting of the Durham Water*
19 *Resource Protection Subcommittee at 8:50 am. This was SECONDED by Robin Mower and*
20 *APPROVED unanimously.*
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23 Respectfully submitted by,
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26 Sue Lucius, Secretary to the Durham Water Resource Protection Subcommittee of the Durham
27 Planning Board
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