

Amherst Pipeline Taskforce Meeting
Thursday, April 9, 7:00PM

ATTENDEES: David Beach, Joe McCool, Tiani Coleman, John D'Angelo – Selectman, Eric Hahn, Paul Indeglia, Shannon Chandley, Reed Panasiti, JM Vore, Colin Lonsdale, Gina Frey, Colleen Mailloux, Community Development Director

J. D'Angelo stated that Kinder-Morgan has agreed to meet with taskforce members to discuss areas to be avoided and potential alternate routes in Amherst, the week of April 27. Colin, Tiani, Gina, Colleen and John are all available that week to attend a meeting with KM. The meeting will be open, the public may attend and observe but will not participate.

J. McCool asked if there had been discussions with Milford and Merrimack about alternate routes? D. Beach stated that Milford's taskforce is intending to make a recommendation on the pipeline by May.

Merrimack Town Council recently wrote a letter in opposition to the pipeline.

J. D'Angelo stated that we need reasons why the pipeline route proposed is not acceptable. Can't say "Not in my backyard". Need to support with facts. The Amherst BOS started with a strong letter stating why the proposed route is not acceptable based upon reasonable, fact-based objections.

T. Coleman suggested that the Town not proposed a specific alternate route. Would there be liability for the town if we suggested a route? (John will refer the question to Town Counsel.) What are the political implications of suggesting alternate routes?

J. D'Angelo stated that, at our meeting with KM, we can collaboratively look at possibilities and ask them to review and respond. We will take minutes of the meeting and will submit them to FERC. There was a discussion on the criteria for preferred routes. What are the FERC requirements for alternate routes?

P. Indeglia – lets talk about the route. C. Mailloux used the following criteria: avoid residential cul-de-sacs, avoid Ponemah Bog, avoid Souhegan River, avoid schools, avoid conservation land/ Scott parcel, avoid residential as much as possible. T. Coleman asked if we can give an easement over conservation commission land. C. Mailloux explained that granting an easement over conservation land would require a vote at town meeting, and as land donated to the conservation commission could be considered a charitable trust, it may require approval by the attorney general and the court.

R. Panasiti, the KM proposed route was based upon the guiding principle to follow the power line. They deviated to avoid the school. J. D'Angelo stated that one possible alternate route is similar to one proposed by the Bury's and would bring the transmission line to the metering station in Bon Terrain. There is no reason to bring the line further north than needed.

46 D. Beach stated that Beaver Brook Association hired an engineering firm. Does the Town have
47 any resources? J. D'Angelo, if we think we need to, the BOS will make money available. C.
48 Mailloux, see what happens after discussion week of April 27. J. McCool stated that we need to
49 know that KM is willing to engage with us at that meeting.

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51 R. Panasiti – word is out that Amherst is ahead of the project. J. D'Angelo – we will ask KM for
52 a timeline, what from you by when? If you miss deadlines, we will know. D. Beach –
53 commitment as far as whether they agree that the current route is unacceptable. The group likes
54 the idea of minute taker.

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56 S. Chandley & R. Panasiti – presented economic analysis. Wish there were more numbers.
57 Talked to actual mortgage companies, insurance companies, title companies – assessed valued
58 would not be affected. Can't say for sure there is no impact on property values, can't say for
59 sure that there is an impact on property values. Inconclusive. Shannon will make a point that
60 some of the studies cited were performed by interested parties (pipeline companies) and stated
61 that in Lee, MA property values went down 20%. She will research further.

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63 A brief discussion followed on eminent domain, current use, easements vs. outright taking, etc.

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65 C. Lonsdale reviewed the safety data he researched. The incident rate of events capable of
66 causing injury or death is extraordinarily low, 1 fatality every 28,000 years (in Amherst). The
67 data does not account for psychological impact and the fear of having a pipeline nearby.
68 Discussion of properties of methane, risk, comparable risk, people making choice to participate
69 in activities that are far riskier (driving in car, flying airplane).

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71 D. Beach will work on "Document 4" information for our next meeting.

72 A. Jensen is working on energy market and natural gas in New England (Document 6)
73 Document 7 is an overview of the process – D. Beach will write up.

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75 Next meeting is Thursday, May 7 at 7pm.

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78 Respectfully Submitted,
79 Colleen Mailloux