

Supervisor's Statement for October 13, 2021 Town Board Meeting

On tonight's agenda is a presentation from Langan Environmental concerning their examination of the Town's storage of millings at the Town's DPW and Middle Patent yards. You will recall that at our last meeting the Town's retained environmental attorney, Keane & Beane, P.C. and they retained environmental consultant Ryan Manderbach of Langan Environmental provided an overview of their credentials and initial thoughts with respect to questions that had been raised about the Town's storage of millings. Mr. Manderbach stated he needed to perform his own inspection of the Town yards, gather the facts, review the relevant regulations and then he would be in a position to make a presentation to this Board and our residents. I look forward to hearing from Ryan this evening as neither I nor my fellow Board members have received any communications from Keane & Beane, P.C. or Langan Environmental since our last meeting.

However, before I introduce Mr. Manderbach, I want to discuss an environmental issue that is facing individuals and municipalities throughout the United States. It is not a North Castle problem, a Westchester County problem or a New York State problem. It is a nationwide problem concerning the country's past use of what are commonly referred to as an emerging contaminants identified as PFAS. Some of our residents have received notification from the NYSDEC that PFAS has been detected in their drinking water, some above the New York State guidelines and some below the New York State guidelines. The New York State guidelines are among the most restrictive in the nation and much more restrictive than the federal guidelines.

It is my understanding that PFAS is a chemical that was universally used in a variety of different areas and has resulted in exposure through numerous pathways. I am advised that PFAS was used in firefighting foam so its existence at fire stations or areas where firefighting foam would have been used such as the Westchester County Airport is common. DEC is examining the existence of PFAS in landfills that have been closed. PFAS is also, as has been explained to me, prevalent in humans due

to our digestion of food made on a Teflon frying pan or food that was resting on a piece of wax paper that contained PFAS. Not surprisingly, PFAS is also found to be in individual's drinking water as a result of cross contamination from septic systems due to the washing of dish pans that were manufactured with PFOS, the washing of clothing that have rain repellants that used PFOS or just the elimination of human waste in septic systems from eating food that came into contact with PFOS.

I mention all of this because the issue of PFOS in groundwater was raised at our last Town Board meeting, I personally have been advised by DEC of the presence of PFOS in my drinking water and because the Town has received notification that one of the wells in Water District No. 2 has PFOS detected that is just above the New York State detection level. Let me stress that the well in which the PFOS was identified was a non-producing well. I want to repeat, PFOS was detected in Water District No. 2 in a well that is not used for water production. Nonetheless, the Town will be and is required to send notification to the residents. However, that letter first has to be approved by the Westchester County and New York State Department of Health. They are in receipt of the Town's letter and are reviewing it. A copy of that letter will be mailed to the District No. 2 users as well as posted to the Town's website. Again, the levels have not been detected in water that is used for the production of water and delivery to the consumers, but nonetheless the Town is taking and is required to take this step.

On next week's agenda will be a proposal from Langan Environmental to work with our Water Department to develop corrective measures for the PFOS that is being detected in the individual well in Water District No. 2. The Langan proposal will also provide for a public meeting and education forum where Langan will provide an overview of the PFOS issue facing the nation and our Town as well as the issue of PFOS in community water systems and individual residents' drinking water wells and answer questions the residents may have. We anticipate that meeting being held in the next thirty days and will advise once the date has been set.

The focus of tonight's presentation from Langan, however, will be on the millings. It is my understanding that Ryan Manderbach and his colleagues at Langan have visited the DPW and Middle Patent yards on a number of occasions and are going to provide an overview of the Town's storage of millings, the applicable regulations and the environmental concerns and their findings and conclusions with respect to each of these topics. Langan has prepared a Power Point presentation that will be placed on the screen and made available to the public and on the Town's website. At the conclusion of Langan's presentation, I will ask the Board members if they have any questions and I will then turn to the public and allow the public to ask questions of Langan concerning the millings. I remind everyone to be respectful and courteous.