

Hi Sue,

On behalf of the Maranacook Lake Outlet Dam Committee, I have several questions associated with the June 9, 2015 NO vote on Article 26, which included \$28,000 for Maranacook Lake Dam.

I met with Teresa Shaw today and she informed me that on Monday night the Select Board will be discussing the possibility of re-voting several articles that were on the June 9<sup>th</sup> ballot and that Article 26 will be part of that re-vote discussion. That is good news.

The most pressing question to be answered for the Dam Committee is:

**Will Readfield sign a contract in early July for the preliminary engineering study for the Maranacook Lake Dam, as outlined in the RFP that was posted in May and for which proposals were received and opened yesterday?** The Committee will be reviewing the proposals and will send the Select Board our findings and recommendations for consideration at the 6/29 Board meeting. Winthrop Town Council will consider this on 7/6. The time schedule stated in the RFP is to have the Towns sign a contract the second week in July with the contractor selected by the Towns.

\$13,500 was voted for Readfield to spend on the dam in FY 14/15; (I believe \$5,500 was new money to be raised last year and the rest was to be spent from the reserve). The plan was that in FY 14/15, \$5,300+ would be spent on Readfield's share of the Hydrologic Study (which was done and has been paid for), and that around \$8,000 would be spent on Readfield's share of the preliminary Engineering Study. However it became evident this winter that the Preliminary Engineering study would not be done within the FY14/15 fiscal year. Therefore, former Town Manager Stefan, with Select Board and Budget Committee approval, put \$8,000 into the FY15/16 budget as a carry forward, explaining to me that it was not a legal requirement but that the auditor recommended it (forgive me if I have misunderstood this explanation.) So, the \$28,000 that was in Article 26 for FY15/16 included \$20,000 of "new" money to be put in reserve for future dam repairs, and \$8,000 of carry forward for the study, an expenditure approved in the prior year.

1. Could and would the Select Board authorize the money for the study (up to \$8000) without it being voted on again, so that we can move forward with what the Towns and the voters intended?
2. If the Select Board chooses not to do that, but decides to put the total \$28,000 Dam money out to vote again, will it be done in time to stay close to the schedule of contract signing for the study (if the funding is approved on the re-vote)?
3. If the Select Board does put the total \$28,000 out to the voters again, can it be worded in a way to explain that the \$8,000 is carry forward?
4. If both components of Article 26 are put out to vote again, can the cemetery money and the Maranacook Dam money be separated into two articles?
5. If money for the Maranacook Dam, in whatever amount, is put to the voters again, would the Board be agreeable to the Committee publishing an explanation of what the money would be used for? I would share what I write with the Board Chair, and/or Town Manager, at their choosing, before sending it to the Advertiser or asking for it to be posted on the Town website.

I have written out our questions so you know what they are, but I do not expect you can answer them prior to Monday's meeting. I will attend that meeting and look forward to hearing the Board's thoughts. I would like to participate in the dialogue at a time that would be appropriate, to ensure that the questions on my mind don't get lost, given everything the Board has on its plate, and to answer any questions the Board may have for the Dam Committee.

Thanks,

Wendy Dennis  
Maranacook Lake Outlet Dam Committee Chair