

Town of Jackson Town Board Meeting September 19, 2019

The Town Board of the Town of Jackson met on September 19, 2018 at 7:30 pm at the Jackson Town Hall for a special meeting regarding the water flow issues on Johnson Road.

Members Present:

- Supervisor Jay Skellie
- Councilman Mike Nolan
- Councilman Travis Rea
- Councilwoman Carol Rich
- Councilman Edward Rouse

Others Town Officials:

- Hwy Supt. Sean Carney
- Town Clerk Tammy Skellie-Gilbert
- Chair of Assessors Jean McLenithan
(present as Johnson Road resident)

Also Present:

- Scott Tracy, Washington County Department of Public Works (DPW)
- Don Skellie

Johnson Road residents

- Tom Beirne
- Maureen Clifford
- Ty McLenithan
- Heidi Meek
- Michael & Nancy Palazzo
- Mike & Irene Romack

The Town Board held a special meeting specifically for the residents on or near Johnson Road to discuss the waterflow issues that have plagued Johnson Road for several years.

The Town has tried to mitigate problems by installing catch basins in a few locations in hopes of diverting the water. On the upper level of Johnson Road, the McLenithan (Glenn & Jean) and Romack properties have experienced pooling of water in front of their homes stating that the road surface gets greasy. Mrs. McLenithan has repeatedly commented over the years that melting snow and heavy rains have washed the road onto her steps and into the residence. She also said the brick barrier that runs parallel with the road was once a several inches above the road, but is now level with it. Romack's have faced a similar experience stating that the pooling of water comes from both the north and south ends of the road.

Scott Tracy from the Washington County DPW was present to field questions and comments about potential solutions. He explained that paving the road at a two percent pitch and angling downward towards the west (Route 22) will help. He also said that adding more catch basins will help to minimize flooding and reduce the potential for water to freeze.

Another possible solution might be to encourage Kobeson LLC to pave the driveway that leads to the apartments located along State Route 22. The front of the Kobeson buildings sit a few feet above the

state road while the backside of the apartments tower above the residences on Johnson Road. Reducing the run-off from Kobeson's driveway might help mitigate some of the water and dirt flowing from the northern end of Johnson Road.

Johnson Road resident, Mike Costello faxed a letter to the Town Clerk prior to the meeting to express his concerns stating, *I am opposed to any modification of Johnson Road drainage system in front of my property. My frontage is limited, and each area is designated for a minimum parking length, slope degree, and safe ingress and egress to further reaches of the property...* Mr. Costello's letter continues on stating what he believes is the most beneficial plan for the area. The complete letter is on file.

On the lower section of Johnson Road, Heidi Meek and Ty McLenithan's properties have also experienced periodic pooling of water. A couple of options were discussed, but given the close proximity to the lake, the Town would need to be granted special permission from the Department of Environmental Conservation in order to divert and drain the water from those properties.

Don Skellie commented that the residents need to be clear and realistic about what they want because regardless of a solution, not all residents will be satisfied. Mr. Tracy and Supervisor Skellie both commented that regardless of the solution, extreme rain/storms will still have an impact on the area.

Adjourned at 8.38 pm

Respectfully submitted,

Tammy Skellie-Gilbert, RMC
Town Clerk