

Neil Koch Presentation
Town of New Haven, Dunn County
May 19, 2022

A Plan Commission meeting of the Town of New Haven was called to order by Ken Seguine at the New Haven Town Hall on Wednesday, May 19, 2022 at 7:30 pm.

ROLL CALL

Jeff Carlsrud, Andrew French, Amber Carlsrud, Ken Seguine. Also present was Neil Koch and several townspeople.

PLEDGE OF ALLIGEIENCE

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Motion by Seguine, approved by Jeff Carlsrud, seconded by Amber Carlsrud, to approve the meeting minutes of May 2, 2022, as distributed. Motion carried unanimously.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Motion by Seguine, approved by Jeff Carlsrud, seconded by Amber Carlsrud, to approve the meeting agenda of March 19, 2022, as distributed. Motion carried unanimously.

There was no public input.

There was a guest presentation from Neil Koch, former Dunn County Hydrologist on recharge rates and protection of aquifers.

Some of the topics Koch covered are as follows, taken from his presentation notes:

- An aquifer is any rock or sediment that a well can get water from
- There is only one aquifer in any one place in the Chippewa Valley
- In many places the aquifer can be pumped as much as 1,000 gallons per minute
- The sand, gravel, and sandstone aquifer is under water table conditions
- Rain and snowmelt recharges the aquifer
- Groundwater discharges from the aquifer to the nearby rivers and lakes
- The aquifer is very sensitive to contamination
- Anything placed on the ground can move down to the aquifer
- Nitrate from manure, fertilizer, and septic systems pollute the aquifer
- Septic systems closely spaced can pollute nearby wells
- Waste from septic systems should not be landspread on high recharge areas

Koch shares several maps and diagrams. One map was the ground recharge rate for the county, and another map was the same for the New Haven Township, which he had printed for the township and donated at no cost to the township.

He also shared a diagram that showed how effluent waste from closely spaced septic systems in newly built developments or other densely spaced housing can be transported from a septic system to a well relatively easily. He noted that this is a health danger, and he would not personally move into a development with such a system.

May 19, 2022

Page 2 of 2

There was some community discussion about Concentrated Animal Feeding Operations (CAFOs) and the dangers to the groundwater that they present, including discussion about best agricultural practices to ameliorate groundwater contamination.

MOTION TO ADJOURN MEETING

Motion by Seguire to adjourn the meeting, approved by Jeff Carlsrud, seconded by Amber Carlsrud. Motion carried unanimously. Meeting adjourned at 8:45 pm.

Respectfully submitted by,
Andrew French, Plan Commission Secretary