

# **Town Center Water & Wastewater Options Committee Report**

Progress in identifying technical, cost, and legal options for alternative drinking water and septic systems

Supporting Planning Board's new General Plan, (Article 15)

Committee Members and Associates

Appointed by the Board of Selectmen:

Roger Demler, Brian Moore, Daryl Beardsley, Eric Johnson, Grace Shepard, Frank Hess, Ed Rose, Mike Giaimo, Gino Carlucci

Sherborn Town Meeting, April 25, 2017

# Town Center Wells and Septic Fields

- There are 13 State - regulated wells here that once complied with Town and State Rules
- They would not now be allowed for new construction, or easily approved for increased capacity or change of use



# Existing Safety Concerns

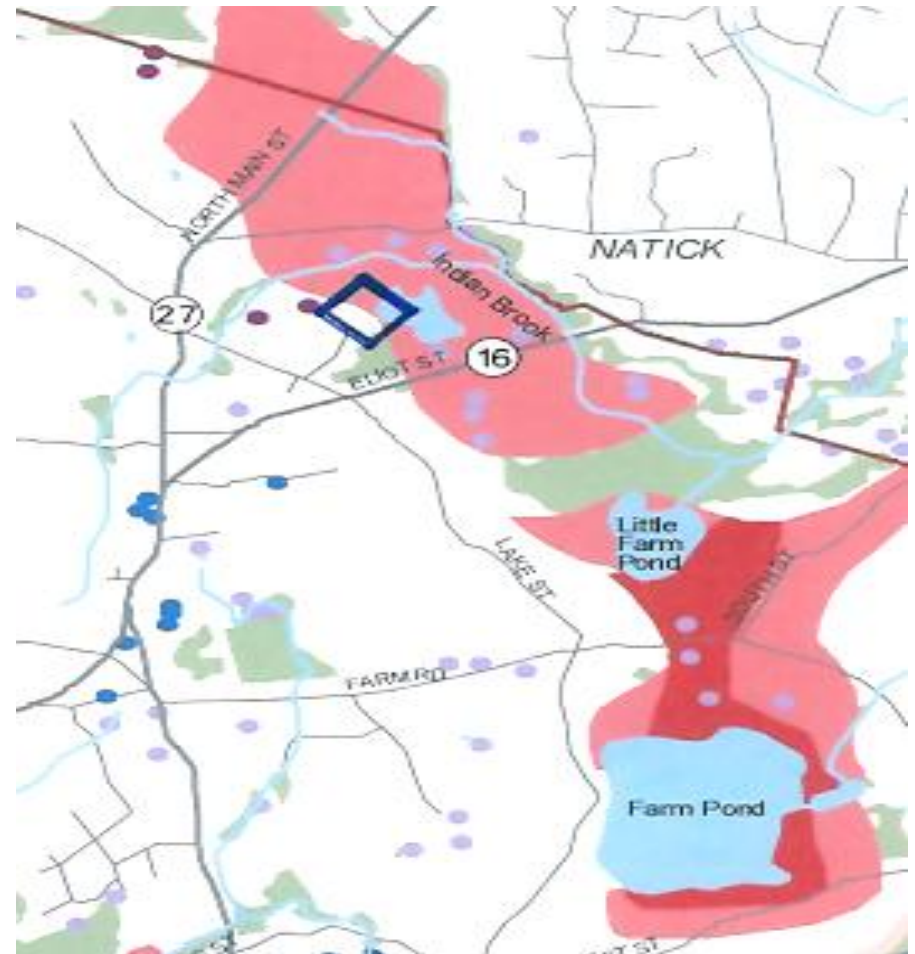
- Potential contamination from septic systems, accidents
- Several wells are not tested except when first drilled
- No public restrooms or water fountains for sports teams, bikers and most businesses
- Recovery from contamination can take a long time and a lot of money. Woodhaven required \$350,000+.
- Few automatic sprinkler systems in buildings as fire main is not active.

# **Viability of the Town Center with Current Water and Wastewater Constraints**

- Risks discourage improvements and investments.
- Town wells are marginal wells.
- Commercial tax base is stagnate or perhaps decreasing.
- Desirable things need more water : grocery store, mix with residential use, restaurant, public bathrooms, water for the purple beech tree.
- The state's newly required fire sprinklers for additions and new buildings is very expensive and limited in effectiveness. Library system: \$500,000

# Potential Well on Price Woodlands Conservation Land

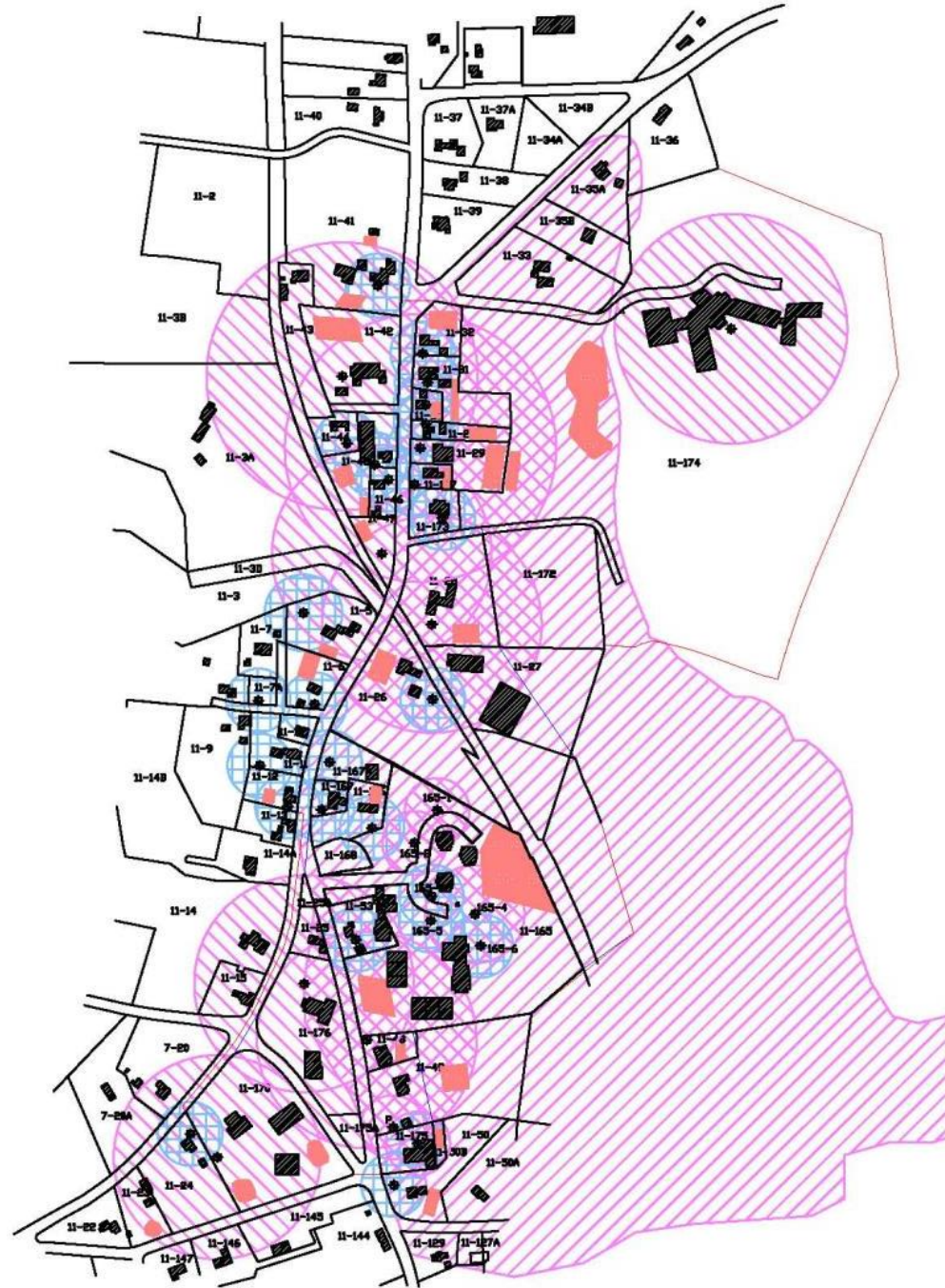
- Pump & Treatment at Town garage
- Water Tower on Pine Hill
- Use existing fire mains for much of the system
- May be capacity for some growth
- Construction about \$4 million





## Shared Septic Ideas

- Use ball fields or town forest for all of town center
- Perhaps a system for just the northern businesses
- Perhaps another field for south village
- Estimate of \$4 million for all of town center
- Need not be done all at once



## **Committee Still Researching:**

- Matrix of district boundaries
- Fair way to assign costs
- Financial impact on town and customers
- Funding sources
- Legal frameworks
- Supporting the Planning Boards new General Plan

# Suggested Next Engineering Steps

- Proof test of well in Price Woodlands
  - Full size well for capacity and quality tests
  - Add monitoring wells for influence on surrounding water table
  - Estimated cost of \$100,000
- Test soils in desirable shared septic sites
  - Test pits, deep borings, perk rates
  - Estimated cost of \$40,000

***Thank you***