

September 29, 2011

Informational meeting – for a Bio-solid facility on the Steinacker property.

The meeting began at 6:04 p.m.

Over 200 residents were in attendance.

Randy Leiker stated this is not a Town issue. The Town has no process in this for approval or denial. The Town only issues the building permit on agricultural property. The Fire Chief has no problem with the storage from a fire point. Chad Olson from McMahan, the engineer who designed the project and stormwater spoke. Randy from the Neenah-Menasha Sewage District and Jerry from the DNR were also present.

Chad stated that bio-solids are now applied in the Town of Utica and have been since 1991 from the treatment plant. They do not want to renew their contract. They are moving in a new direction. Neenah-Menasha needs to find a new site. They do have a 20 year history with the Town of Utica. Steinacker farms would site the building and oversee it. It is 210' x 240' in size and they would be entering into a 20 year contract with an option for another 20 years. This includes application. It is a water tight structure. Bio-solids are nutrient rich domestic sewage. They are highly regulated as to when you can use it and how you can use it. Much of the liquid is removed. It is a Class B bio-solid. The solids are tested every other month and results sent to the DNR. Only so much metal can be applied during the year and during a lifetime. It will be applied on Steinacker land. Steinacker has been handling Grand Chute-Menasha West bio-solids since 1991. Neighbors are notified when it is being spread. No one in the audience has even been notified when it was spread.

Jerry from the DNR –

Question -What regulations are there for testing? It is governed by the fact that Neenah- Menasha has a permit from the DNR

The bio-solids will only be going on the Steinacker farm – by their contract (owned, managed or leased) for application on their fields. If it goes on any other property, they would be considered a commercial use and they would be shut down by the Town. DNR says a contract hauler (Steinacker) – takes it from one facility and applies it to any sites that are approved by the DNR. There are additional requirements. John Kiel, Attorney for Neenah-Menasha Sewage District stated it is for the property owned, leased or rented. It is for what they currently have agreed to and nothing else.

Notification comes from the DNR. They are responsible. This application is controlled to the maximum. A farmer can put as much fertilizer as he wants and no one regulates it. Neenah-Menasha is building the building. Steinacker will be under contract with them.

Dave Tebo, if they meet the Town ordinances, we cannot stop them.

Comments were not positive.

Randy Leiker stated we will contact our Town Attorney to see if he has any other direction we can take. We will then set up another meeting and post it on the web site to see what options there may or may not be.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:53 p.m.

Deborah Wagner,
Town Clerk