

Village of Trumansburg Second Water Source Plan Update February 22, 2010

The Village of Trumansburg is required to have a second source of water as mandated by NY State law and by order of the Tompkins County Department of Health. A second source of water has to provide at least as much potable water, on a daily basis, as the primary source. The Village currently gets its award winning water from a well off the shore of Cayuga Lake that was put into service in 1967.

From time to time the Tompkins County Dept. of Health has reminded the Village of the need for a second source of water. In 2003 the Village entered into a contract with the Town of Ulysses to make an interconnection into Water District #3 as the second source of water. At that time this interconnection was identified as Water District #5. In 2006 the Town of Ulysses proposed an entirely new plan for Water District #5 that was ultimately not accepted by the Town Board in 2007. While the Village explored the possibilities of this new WD#5 it was learned that there is not sufficient water available to the Village thru the Town to make the interconnection a legitimate second source of water. The availability of enough water coming to the Village thru WD#5 in the near term depended upon the City of I thaca joining the SCLIMC, aka Bolton Point, which in late 2009 the City chose not to do.

The Village has continued to explore the best way to solve the second water source dilemma. In 2007 the Village invested \$500,000 in water system infrastructure repairs, maintenance and upgrades. The Village Board has visited the water facilities of other municipalities in order to get a better understanding of various water treatment options. In 2009 the Village commissioned an engineering firm to examine the best options for a second water source utilizing either a second well or directly pumping water out of Cayuga Lake. The Village Board has already moved forward with the second well option and the test well contract is going out to bid this week. Weather permitting, we will complete the test well in 60 days and, with the right results, we could take the entire second well project to completion before snow flies in the fall of 2010.

The Village Board has never lost sight of the financial impact the second source of water represents, nor the huge demand for good clean water. As such, the Board is already working with the engineering firm we have hired for the second well project to identify and apply for all possible grants, federal tax stimulus dollars and low interest loans that can be applied to this project. The Board has also begun exploring ways for the Village to partner with the Town of Ulysses and the Villages of Interlaken and Lodi as a water supplier. The more participants, the lower the cost for all.

The Village of Trumansburg Board of Trustees will continue to keep the second source of water project moving forward toward the best possible result in the least amount of time.