

## QUESTIONS AND CONCERNS WITH ANSWERS:

1. Q: It is our understanding that an engineering study is necessary to determine what repairs need to be completed at the dam and what the approximate cost of the repairs are, correct?

*A: An engineering assessment is needed to explore the subsurface conditions of the embankment and foundation (i.e. test boring program) and perform stability and seepage analyses. The results of that study would be combined with the results of hydrologic and hydraulic study to identify several permeable solutions to rehabilitate the dam to bring it into compliance with current dam safety requirements. This would also include the engineer's opinion of probable costs.*

2. Q: The approximate cost of that study is \$85,000 and that money is currently not available in the form of any reserves in the Town of Glover budget, correct? So, to get the study completed we need to apply for a grant from the state?

*A: The figure of \$85,000 came from the amount that we asked for when applying for the Hazard Mitigation Grant Program funded by FEMA for flood related resilience efforts of 2023. We sent in several pre-applications for projects needing funding in Glover. The dam preapplication was written, with the advice from a reliable contact. They predicted the assessment of the dam was going to cost approximately \$85,000. NVDA called last week to inform me this project did not meet the criteria, and it was not cost effective. We are hoping that the cost will be less than \$85,000.*

*To add to that, I have sent out 12 letters to engineers requesting a proposal to perform an assessment of the dam embankment. I hope to compare three quotes and present those quotes to the selectboard. We will, at that point, move forward to get the job done.*

*We plan to include the dam expenses on the FEMA Portal when submitting the town's 2024 flood damage. Hopefully, we will recoup the money that the town will spend to pay for the assessment. The town's goal is to get the assessment done before winter.*

3. Q: After the study is completed and the cost of repairs determined, the Town of Glover does not have any funds in reserve for maintenance of the Shadow Lake dam. So, money for dam repairs will need to be raised by grants or state funding?

*A: After the study is complete, and a decision is made, we will begin the work. The dam reserve account has \$30,000. The balance of the costs will be met by other means such as grants, fundraising, donations, and FEMA.*

4. Q: Will the lake levels next year be kept where they currently are? And will those lake levels continue to be the same until repairs are completed? Which could be years?

*A: "It was confirmed by the Dam Safety Program, that until the permanent solution can be implemented, the existing reservoir restriction (i.e. 2-foot drawdown) will be required to remain in place." -Ben Green.*

*Of course, we are hoping it will not be years. Thus, the push to send out the letters of proposals. If the assessment gets done this fall, I could then send the second letter asking for an engineer to do the actual work.*

5. Q: What options do we, as property owners at Shadow Lake, have to help expedite this process and funding? Should we be contacting the state representative and senator? Someone else?

*A: We definitely want community help in many ways. Some of the suggestions Ben Green offered while we are waiting for engineers are community outreach and fundraising should start now. A discussion was had with Jethro to design a page with funding opportunities. Also helpful, people would reach out to everyone they know and point them in the direction of the donation page. There will be a need for an informational brochure. Having a public forum so the community can be presented with results and the public is part of the decision making. Then begins the design of the project and permitting with construction to follow.*

*We will be open to sharing your ideas and suggestions on any topic above. We need a slogan – “It takes a community to fix a dam.” Something catchy to use in ads, notices and websites. T-shirt designed to sell advertising the need for support. Brainstorm. Search for grants – I would need to apply for municipality but encourage anyone to join me in my office to do that and look for grants to forward to me.*

*The main thing is to keep the town informed, so we don't do things redundantly. Transparency. Communicate... Communicate... Communicate!*

6. Q: As you can imagine the lake, at this level, will change our access to the lake and ability to continue to enjoy the advantages of Shadow Lake.

*A: I definitely can empathize with everyone's feelings. I have family on that lake. My childhood memories are built around that lake. If you stand on the beach and look to the undeveloped hill on the right in the distance, behind that hill was my parents farm. I would ride my horse down the Swamp Road to the beach and continue on to Perron Hill. It is my goal to keep the lake safe, to keep the town safe, to keep your neighbors safe.*

*The sacrifice that families around the lake will make this year will be worth it knowing our community is safe.*

7. Q: Maybe it would be possible to hold a zoom meeting between the Selectboard and Shadow Lake property owners to answer questions and address concerns?

*A: Yes, we could do that. However, I am planning a community gathering in the near future. I would like to invite Ben Green, Dam Safety Engineer, to the State of Vermont so he can answer any technical questions. I will also be sure the selectboard will be there.*

8. Q: Communication is the key in circumstances like this so rumors don't start and spread and so everyone has clear expectations about what the future may look like.

*A: I agree that is why I have had a page built on the Glover website to keep everyone informed and offer transparency.*