



Montgomery Dam Study Advisory Committee
Tuesday, January 9, 2024
7:00 PM, Village Hall Board Room
200 N. River Street, Montgomery, IL, 60538

***Please see page 2 of this agenda for instructions for submitting public comments and for viewing the meeting online.**

MEETING AGENDA

- I. Call to Order
- II. Pledge of Allegiance
- III. Roll Call
- IV. Approval of the Minutes of the Montgomery Dam Study Advisory Committee of October 19, 2023
- V. Items for Discussion:
 - a. Presentation of revisions to dam removal/modification options based on feedback
 - b. Questions and comments on revisions/options
 - c. Next Steps/Meeting Date
- VI. Public Comment Period
- VII. Adjournment

INSTRUCTIONS FOR REMOTE VIEWING AND COMMENTING

The Village of Montgomery will hold its Montgomery Dam Study Advisory Committee Meeting on Tuesday, January 9, 2024 at 7pm. For the public's convenience, the meeting will be available via Zoom, and Village Hall will also be open for people to attend in person.

The meeting will be streamed live through Zoom's webinar service at the link below:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/85604781638?pwd=a3NvcnBaS3c5QTZnOHh4MlptK0N6Zz09>

Webinar ID: 856 0478 1638

Passcode: 234890

Those wanting to participate in the Public Comments portion of the meeting have three options:

- People attending the meeting in person may speak during the public comment period.
- If not attending the meeting, please email your comments to sabt@montgomeryil.org.
- Call (331) 212-9021 and leave a voicemail with your comments.

Please email or phone in your comments prior to the start of the meeting at 7pm. Comments received will be read during the Public Comments portion of the meeting.



**Montgomery Dam Study Advisory
Committee Minutes
Thursday, October 19, 2023
7:00 PM, Village Hall Community Room
200 N. River Street, Montgomery, IL, 60538**

- I. Call to Order- Community Development Director Sonya Abt called the meeting to order at 7:00 pm.
- II. Pledge of Allegiance- All present gave the Pledge of Allegiance.
- III. Roll Call

Absent: Gary Swick from Friends of the Fox River, Jeff Palmquist from the Fox Valley Parks District, Village Communications Director Kristina Nemetz, Village Engineer Pete Wallers, Resident at Large Ben Brzoska

Present: Dicky's Bait Shop Owner Mike Cronsell, Community Development Director Sonya Abt, Public Works Director Mark Wolf, Art Malm on behalf of Gary Swick and Friends of the Fox River, Chris Ott on behalf of Pete Wallers, Village Engineer

Also present: Senior Planner and Committee Secretary Tony Farruggia, Wes Cattoor from the Illinois Department of Natural Resources (IDNR), Arthur Kaweesi from IDNR, Linda Cronsell from Dicky's Bait Shop, Trustee Dan Gier, and member of the general public Lucas Albright.

- IV. Approval of the Minutes of the Montgomery Dam Study Advisory Committee of August 24, 2023.

Director Abt asked for a motion to approve the minutes of the August 24th meeting.

Engineer Ott made the motion to approve.

Director Wolf seconded the motion.

Ayes: Abt, Ott, Wolf, Malm, Cronsell.

Nays: None

Abstentions: None

Motion carried.

- V. Discussion of Dam Removal and Alternatives

Mr. Cattoor provided a brief recap of the alternatives discussed at the previous meeting and described the tasks performed since the last meeting.

Mr. Kaweesi showed flow scenarios for main dam removal, Mill Race dam removal, and full removal at the 10-year and 100-year drought level. He explained that notching the dam was comparable to main dam removal. He discussed the boat chute alternative, stating that during drought there would be good fish movement but that kayaking would not be possible. That scenario showed comparable flows to existing conditions. Removal of either or both dams would result in 1-2 feet of water in the Mill Race channel during low flow events.

He went on to show the 100-year floodplain upon full removal of the dam. It showed the floodplain moving further from the houses along the river.

Director Wolf asked if the chute alternative showed the main dam in place.

Mr. Cattoor clarified that the main dam was in place and that there were three riffles modeled. He showed the velocity model with a depth of 6-8 feet in the main channel.

Mr. Malm asked about rock and sediment depth.

Mr. Cattoor explained that when they probed they found no significant sediment and little rock in the main channel and near the dam.

Mr. Cronsell stated that depth was important for recreational uses, and that he does see motorized recreation near the dam.

Mr. Cattoor said that about 18 inches would be necessary for a canoe, and 36 inches for a fishing boat.

Engineer Ott asked if IDNR would need to see something happen to the main dam in order to meet state requirements for funding.

Mr. Cattoor said that the dam remaining in place is a liability and that the state wants to remove that liability, or at least modify it to make it safe. They could also give ownership of the dam to the Village, thereby transferring liability. IDNR does not want liability and would want to transfer the dam to the Village even if it was modified.

Engineer Ott clarified that the alternatives being discussed do not have safety modifications that would satisfy the state. He also asked if any of the alternatives would improve main channel flow and reduce stagnant water in both channels.

Mr. Cattoor confirmed that the alternatives with the boat chutes would not fully satisfy the state and said that they could look at ways to try and improve main channel flow from what was being presented.

He went on to describe some hypothetical options, such as a narrow notch that would enable fish passage or taking a few feet off the top of the dam. Hopefully they would be able to design an option that would balance the flow in both channels, but it would be a long, iterative process.

He said they would refine Alternative 5 (leaving the main dam in place and adding a boat chute) to better balance flows but said it would make the chutes less functional during low flow events.

Director Abt asked if notching looked comparable to removal in the models.

Mr. Cattoor confirmed that they did and said they could look at lowering the crest or adding a notch.

Trustee Gier asked if the model showed further downstream.

Mr. Cattoor said they didn't see much change further downstream from the area they have been showing in the models, but that he could see sediment being deposited and built up a bit further downstream.

Mr. Malm asked if 2 ft/sec would be enough to bring organic material downstream.

Mr. Cattoor explained that it would require more like 5-6 ft/sec, but that it was hard to provide a definite answer.

Director Abt asked how much time it would take for the next models to be completed.

Mr. Cattoor said they would want time to refine Alternative 5 and come up with better numbers for Alternative 2. He also said they would look at different locations along the river. He said it would be good to look at agreement language and start putting preliminary cost estimates together.

Trustee Gier asked if, were the dam to be fully removed, IDNR would provide a pedestrian bridge for the Mill Race.

Mr. Cattoor said that IDNR doesn't want to reduce functionality and would likely pay 100% of the cost of full removal and bridge construction.

He further explained that IDNR would pay for 60% of the estimated cost of full removal for the other alternatives, as long as there was some modification to the face of the dam to improve safety.

Engineer Ott asked what that would mean for ownership.

Mr. Cattoor stated that IDNR want the Village to own the dam under all alternatives. If the Village were to refuse to own the dam, the state would be reluctant to fund any work and may remove the dam fully anyway to reduce liability.

Engineer Ott asked if there was a scenario in which the state can reduce liability without full removal and retain ownership.

Mr. Cattoor said the state will push to transfer ownership. He said the state can't force a transfer but would want to have conversations to that point.

Director Abt asked how much time would be needed to be ready for another meeting.

Mr. Cattoor estimated that it would take more than a month to complete the requested modelling and budget estimation.

After some discussion it was agreed upon the next meeting would be on December 4th at 7pm.

VI. Public Comment Period

Director Abt opened the meeting for public comment. No one wished to speak, and Director Abt closed the public comment period.

VII. Adjournment

With no further business, Engineer Ott motioned to adjourn the meeting. Director Wolf seconded the motion. Director Abt adjourned the meeting at 8:27PM.

Respectfully Submitted,

Tony Farruggia

Senior Planner and Committee Secretary