



GATE CITY SANITATION AUTHORITY MINUTES
JANUARY 8, 2014
156 E. JACKSON ST.
6:00 PM

PUBLIC HEARING:

Clarification and establishing of sewer rates.

I. Chairman/Council Member, Roger Cassell, called Public Hearing to order at 6:02 P.M.

II. ROLL CALL Town Clerk, Kathy Riley

Present: Chairman/Council Member, Roger Cassell
Vice-Chair, Daris Hartsock
Board Member, Dewey Breeding
Board Member, Rodney Baker
Town Attorney, Michele Brooks
Town Manager, Greg Jones

Absent: Board Member, Jim Craft

Others present: No one.

III. NEW BUSINESS

• **Clarification and establishing of sewer rates**

Town Manager, G. Jones, discussed the sewer rates as historically being based on a percentage of water rates. He discussed setting the rate to be a constant rate (dollar amount) of \$26.68. Explained this rate will stay in effect until the Sanitation Board decides to change it. Sanitation Authority Board further discussed rates and billing process. Town Attorney, M. Brooks, stated the need for the Authority to adopt the \$26.68 and \$8.12 as the rate versus any kind of percentage.

IV PUBLIC COMMENT – No one.

Close Public Comment at 6:04 P.M.

V. Public Hearing closes at 6:10 P.M.

Chairman/Council Member, Roger Cassell

Town Clerk, Kathy Riley

GATE CITY SANITATION AUTHORITY MEETING

I. CALL TO ORDER

Roger Cassell, Chairman/Council Member called the meeting to order at 6:10 P.M.

II. ROLL CALL – Town Clerk Kathy Riley

PRESENT: Chairman/Council Member, Roger Cassell
Vice-Chair, Daris Hartsock
Board Member, Dewey Breeding
Board Member, Rodney Baker
Town Attorney, Michele Brooks
Town Manager, Greg Jones
ABSENT: Board Member, Jim Craft

Others present: No one.

III. PROCLAMATIONS, CONGRATULATORY RESOLUTIONS, AWARDS, APPOINTMENTS, RESIGNATIONS AND CONFIRMATIONS, ADMINISTRATIONS OF OATHS ON INTRODUCTION OF GUESTS.

IV. CONSENT ADGENDA

- **Approval of Bills.**

Chairman/Council Member, Roger Cassell, informed the board of the availability of the PSA bill for their review and informed them of the bill still being high.

Board Member, Daris Hartsock, left the meeting at 6:12 p.m. and returned at 6:13 p.m.

Motion made to approve payment of bills for December, 2013.

Motion by: Board Member, D. Breeding 2nd by: Board Member, R. Baker

VOTE: Yeas, 4
Nays, 0
Absent, 1-J. Craft
Abstain, 0

V. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

- **Approval of Minutes**

Motion made to approve minutes of the Sanitation Authority Meeting minutes from December 11, 2013.

Motion by: Board Meeting, R. Baker 2nd by: Board Member, D. Breeding

VOTE: Yeas, 4
Nays, 0
Absent, 1-J. Craft
Abstain, 0
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VI. **COMMUNICATIONS** - None

VII. **PUBLIC COMMENT** - No public comments.

VIII. **UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

- **Status of the sewer interceptor line** – Chairman/Council Member, R. Cassell, informed the Board Members of Greg Jones, Stoney Falin and himself of their inspection of the interceptor lines at the creek where you turn from the convenience center, back to the bridge where it crosses from the Food Lion and coming out of town. He explained the section Andy Miles had said was bad is actually out of the ground with no visible openings. Their findings and probably a big part of the problem are two manholes with one below grade needing to be raised. Both are beside the creek and when the water rises is going over the manhole. Contact has been made with HD Supply who repairs manholes. He discussed another manhole, closer to the Old King Ford property, to open it after a hard rain to compare the flow. The other pipe by the vocational school is not even near the creek, but buried. Discussion between board members regarding the two flow meters tracking, the town’s meter was disturbed and its inability to pull communications from it, waste water coming in from two different pipes with only one meter tracking one pipe, the difference in flow reading numbers between the Town’s and PSA’s, the location of the two meters, different or same manufacturers, performance of calibration of the flow meters, receipt of reading where the two flow meters are located versus at the plant, report of readings from PSA and the suggestion of someone from town being with the engineers during their equipment reviews.

IX. **NEW BUSINESS**

- **Decision regarding the clarification and establishing of sewer rates**

Motion made to set in town residential sewer rate of \$26.68 for the first 2,000 gallons and \$8.12 for every additional 1,000 gallons and that rate to be set for both in town residential and in town commercial to become effective January 20, 2014.

Motion by: Board Member, R. Baker 2nd by: Board Member, D. Hartsock

VOTE: Yeas, 4
Nays, 0
Absent, 1-J. Craft
Abstain, 0

- **Discuss and decision regarding sewer availability for 202 Sherman Street and 270 Elliott Street** – Town Manager, G. Jones, referred to the map in the packet and explained Mr. Jeff Spicer’s contacting him regarding 270 Elliott Street. Mr. Spicer asked to be waived on sewage because he cannot connect to our lines. He informed the Board of his going up there and of two properties not receiving sewer availability with his recommendation to waive the fees. Chairman/Council Member, R. Cassell, disagreed and explained the running of the lines up Sherman Street is a ditch line with Jeff Spicer asking

why it could not be run over the bank. He suggested extending the sewer line to the corner where Poplar comes down by Jeff's house where Mr. Spicer and 202 could come off the bank and connect to it. He stated when he asked Jeff Spicer if he would connect if the town ran a line up to where he could connect, he said he would but would have to see his costs to connect. Chairman/Council Member, R. Cassell, stated his opinion is, as a town, we are obligated to provide sewer service. Board Member, R. Baker, questioned the adequacy of the current septic tanks of the two properties and drain lines.

Chairman/Council Member, R. Cassell, suggested waiving the tap fees for these two property owners since they have been paying for sewer service and not having it. Town Attorney, M. Brooks, responded that would be fine but with no refunds.

Chairman/Council Member, R. Cassell, stated if he doesn't connect he should still pay the availability fee. Town Board Member, R. Baker, asked if the resident at 202 Sherman Street is interested in connecting with Town Manager stating he does not know, they have been paying their bill.

Motion made to extend the main interceptor line up Sherman Street to its intersection to Poplar Street and contact/inform the residents of 270 and 202 that sewer will be available and determine their interest to connect and to accept past sewer payments in lieu of the tap fees.

Motion by: Board Member, R. Baker 2nd by: Board Member, D. Hartsock

VOTE: Yeas,	4
Nays,	0
Absent,	1-R. Cassell
Abstain,	0

- **Sewer policy** – Chairman/Council Member, R. Cassell, questioned no wording of the availability fees in the policy and is there a need to put it in. Town Manager, G. Jones, stated he needs to put the availability fee in. Board Member, R. Baker, stated they should be required to connect to an approved sewer treatment of our available line or they should be required to connect to a stand-alone system or our system. Town Attorney, M. Brooks, stated this will have to be an Ordinance to be enforced, criminally. Board Member, R. Baker, questioned the availability to take action (enforcement availability) if someone drops into a creek. Further discussion by the board regarding fines and suitable septic systems. Chairman/Council Member, R. Cassell, informed the Town Manager, the wording should be “Sanitary Sewer System” versus just “Sanitation System”. Town Manager, G. Jones, asks Board Members to send emails with questions. Chairman/Council Member, R. Cassell, questioned the right to inspect grease traps are in place at restaurants. Town Manager, G. Jones, responded the Health Department requires it too and thinks they require an Ordinance in place for their enforcement. Town Manager, G. Jones, stated the policy needs to be simplified further and make sure it is realistic. Board Member, R. Baker, discussed fines located in multiple places in the policy. Town Attorney, M. Brooks, suggested all fines should be located in one place, fines dependent on the class of misdemeanor with maximum fines for each and discussed the setting of fines to be “per day”. She stated placement of the fines in once place (fine schedule) would make it easier to up-date in one place versus the whole policy. Item to be tabled until next month for additional review under unfinished business before a Public Hearing.

X. **OTHER BUSINESS** - None

XI. **ADJOURN**

Motion made for Board to adjourn to next regularly scheduled Sanitation Meeting on February 12, 2014 at 6:00 p.m.

Motion by: Board Member, R. Baker 2nd by: Board Member, D. Breeding

VOTE: Yeas, 4
Nays, 0
Absent, 1-J. Craft
Abstain, 0

Chairman/Council Member, Roger Cassell, adjourned the meeting at 7:05 P.M.

Roger Cassell – Chairman/Council Member

Town Clerk – Kathy Riley