



GATE CITY SANITATION AUTHORITY MINUTES
OCTOBER 12, 2011
156 E. JACKSON ST.
6:00 PM

I. CALL TO ORDER

Jim Craft, Chairman called the meeting to order at 6:00 P.M.

II. ROLL CALL –Town Clerk Kathy Riley

PRESENT: Chairman, Jim Craft
Vice-Chair, Dewey Breeding
Council Member, Roger Cassell
Board Member, Daris Hartsock
Board Member, Rodney Baker
Town Attorney, Michele B. Brooks
ABSENT: Acting Town Manager, Mark Jenkins

Others present: **None**

III. CONSENT ADGENDA

- Approval of Bills.
Motion made to approve payment of bills for September, 2011.
Motion by: Vice Chair, D. Breeding 2nd by: Board Member, D. Hartsock

Chairman, J. Craft – Roger, do you have anything.

Council Member, R. Cassell- Pretty sure the \$21,000 is the July bill and it is 30 days late. They (PSA) sent two about the same time for about \$50,000.

Town Attorney, M. Brooks – States, if you would like, to write a letter to Mr. Danko to ask to pursuant to their contract to do it in a timely fashion.

Vice Chair, D. Breeding – Agrees it is a good idea.

Council Member, R. Cassell – Stated fees that we balked in pay, Chris said they had been taking them off the bill.

VOTE: Yeas, 4
Nays, 0
Absent 0

- Approval of Sanitation Minutes

Motion made to approve Minutes for September 14, 2011.

Motion by: Vice Chair, D. Breeding 2nd by: Council Member, R. Cassell

VOTE: Yeas, 4
 Nays, 0
 Absent 0

IV. PUBLIC COMMENT - None

V. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

- **Notification of, “It is the responsibility of the applicant to determine eligibility of sewer service. Refunds will not be provided” to be placed on the water bills.**
- **Identification of individual of homes who has septic and not sewer hook-up.**

Council Member, R. Cassell – According to correspondence received from Judy there is not enough room to add onto the bill.

Vice Chair, D. Breeding – States trying to go back and determine who is and who is not on the city sewer system. Feels we need to forget about that and go the way we have been going. If someone determines they are not on the system they can come in and talk to us and determine exemption from further payments. Thinks we should drop it and not go out into the field to determine who is and who isn't on it.

Council Member, R. Cassell – That was on the correspondence too, that Stoney doesn't know

Vice Chair, D. Breeding – Stoney doesn't know, doesn't have any means to determine who's on it and can't look at the water meter and tell who's on the sewer system. It would be a major chore to try to determine that. If we advertise to the public letting them make the determination, we're creating a hornet's nest that we can't get out of. Thinks we should drop that and stick with the system we've had before. If someone has a problem, let them come and talk to us about it and we'll work it out. That's my opinion.

Board Member, R. Baker – Thinks the whole idea was to clear up for people and essentially that we weren't going to make back payments. If that is going to be our policy in terms of how we are going to operate. The entire other discussion was to lay it out to people so they would know that we weren't going to back pay if they wanted to check. He suggests tabling for now, with the possibility of sending customers letters with that included. It can be approached at any time. The idea of putting it on the bills was simply because it goes to everybody anyway. The logistics is no room. He's fine with that. Would suggest keeping eye open for opportunity, if we send out an envelope could possibly include that information.

Town Attorney, M. Brooks- Explains new customers are on notice with the form being changed.

Vice Chair, D. Breeding – States there are probably a lot of people in town that don't even know if they are on it or not. They continue to pay the bill without questions. If they find out they are not on the system, they can come and talk to us. We had 3-4 cases that we have exempted. Asks if a motion is necessary.

Town Attorney, M. Brooks – States it was item that was being discussed with no action being taken, so no motion would be necessary.

Board Member, R. Baker – Discusses item mentioned previously concerning reduced rate for those who have public water available, but don't take it and setting a minimum on water bill payment whether they were hooked up or not. Speaking about only those who chose not to connect to water with it being available and going back to the idea that it is there a value is being added to their property. Thinks we talked about setting a minimum for that, but hesitant with the financials and left it with a question of how many we are talking about. We wouldn't have to advance farther, but it would give us that information. Asks how many has town water available, but don't take it. Thought there was going to be some possible look into that has happened yet.

Town Attorney, M. Brooks – States she is reviewing Town's contracts and obligations, along with rates for water and sewer. Suggests tabling that for a while.

Board Member, R. Baker – That makes sense if you are looking at the whole structure. While you are doing that get the information on how many people you are talking about, with how the rates are factored in and what you want to do.

Vice Chair, D. Breeding – Rodney, you keep saying over and over water, water bill we don't have anything to do with the water bill. We're the Sanitation Authority. I assume you mean sanitation, the sewer bill.

Board Member, R. Baker – Right, well

Town Attorney, M. Brooks- Of course they are linked.

Board Member, R. Baker – Water is half the sewer. So we have sewer rates, okay I'm, I understand what you are saying. There is a connection between the two.

VI. NEW BUSINESS - None

VII. OTHER BUSINESS –

Town Attorney, M. Brooks- Informs the Board her and Mr. Danko are still playing phone tag. She is going to do a letter to invite him again to our next meeting. Feels if she could sit down with him for 20-30 minutes to clarify things, to make sure the Boards questions are answered.

VIII. ADJOURN

Motion for Board to adjourn to next regularly scheduled Sanitation Meeting on November, 2011 at 6:00 p.m.

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

VOTE:	Yeas,	4
	Nays,	0
	Absent	0

Chairman, Jim Craft, adjourned the meeting at 6:14 P.M.

Jim Craft – Chairman

Kathy Riley – Town Clerk