



**GATE CITY SANITATION AUTHORITY MINUTES**  
**MAY 9, 2012**  
**156 E. JACKSON ST.**  
**6:00 PM**

**I. CALL TO ORDER**

Roger Cassell, Chairman/Vice Mayor called the meeting to order at 6:01 P.M.

**II. ROLL CALL –Town Clerk Kathy Riley**

PRESENT: Chairman/Vice Mayor, Roger Cassell  
Vice-Chair, Dewey Breeding  
Board Member, Jim Craft  
Board Member, Daris Hartsock  
Board Member, Rodney Baker  
Town Manager, Jeremy Keller

Others present: Town Attorney, Michele B. Brooks, Judith Vicars

**III. PROCLAMATIONS, CONGRATULATORY RESOLUTIONS, AWARDS, APPOINTMENTS, RESIGNATIONS AND CONFIRMATIONS, ADMINISTRATIONS OF OATHS ON INTRODUCTION OF GUESTS. - None**

**IV. CONSENT ADGENDA**

• **Approval of Bills.**

**Chairman/Vice Mayor, R. Cassell** – Questions Town Clerk about receipt of PSA bills for the month of May and states they are getting better in receiving them in the same month. Informs Authority no fuel charges were on the bill.

**Motion made to approve payment of bills for April, 2012.**

Motion by: Vice Chair, D. Breeding 2<sup>nd</sup> by: Board Member, D. Hartsock

VOTE:	Yeas,	4
	Nays,	0
	Absent	0

• **Approval of Sanitation Minutes**

**Motion made to approve Minutes for April 11, 2012, to reflect changes from Page 2 from requested to rejected and from Jeremy Keller informs Authority Marshall Tipton.....to**

**Jeremy Keller informs Sanitation Authority Marshall Tipton was duly appointed to the PSA Board with yesterday being his first meeting**

Motion by: Vice Chair, D. Breeding 2<sup>nd</sup> by: Board Member, J. Craft

VOTE:	Yeas,	3
	Nays,	0
	Absent	0
	Abstain,	1-R. Baker-Not in attendance of last month meeting.

**V. COMMUNICATIONS - None**

**VI. PUBLIC COMMENT**

**Judith Vicars** - Discusses:

- Owner of two properties and pays water and sewer for both with one home not hooked to the sewer being grandfathered in due to it being below road.
- New rates would increase her bill to \$53 and feels unfair to have to pay for sewer when not even using it.

**Chairman/Vice Mayor, R. Cassell** – Asks this was one of the deals that you would need a pump with Ms. Vicars responding she would need a pump and all new lines.

- States current septic is working fine with her recently placing new lines in.

**Chairman/Vice Mayor, R. Cassell** – Asks if she is requesting sewer to be removed from her bill with Ms. Vicars responding yes and informs her of recent cases.

- Understands if this was a new home, than would need to hook up, but this was grandfathered from 1969 when the sewer was put in on Woodland Street.
- Wasn't on bill, but recently had to start paying sewer and when I asked I was told everyone had to pay.

**Town Attorney, M. Brooks** – Asks for the address of the home with Ms. Vicars providing 160 Woodland Street.

**Chairman/Vice Mayor, R. Cassell** – Discusses location of home and we have had requests from people who had sewer run in front of their home, had no problems, but chose not to hook up. In that case, if it runs in front of your home, it's there, you will be charged. But there have been cases where a pump was needed, but not sure what happened. Asks Town Attorney if we need something from Stoney?

**Town Attorney, M. Brooks** – Interested in what she considered it was grandfathered and asks what her understanding is with Ms. Vicars states when they put the sewer in, we were told we did not have to hook on because we would need a pump.

**Town Attorney, M. Brooks** – Asks if she remembers who told her, someone from the town with Ms. Vicars stating that was in 1969, but it was someone from the town.

**Board Member, R. Baker and Ms. Vicars** – Discuss the location of sewer and water lines.

**Chairman/Vice Mayor, R. Cassell** – Asks whose name the water bill is under with Ms. Vicars stating her name.

**Town Attorney, M. Brooks** – Asks if it is titled that way with Ms. Vicars stating she thinks it is under her husband's name, John Vicars, but he is deceased.

- Explains location of sewer line was on Poplar Street, but septic is in the back yard down the hill

**Chairman/Vice Mayor, R. Cassell** – States on Town Attorney, M. Brooks, recommendation to table to next month for Stoney to take a look to see how the lines run.

- States she would have to replace lines in home and pay hook up fee too with Town Clerk stating the tap fee would be waived due to her paying sewer fees, just expense of lines from home to hooking up to the sewer line. If you choose not to do that just continue paying the 100% of the water fee

**Town Attorney, M. Brooks** – States just wants to verify what you are saying, not that we disbelieve what you are saying.

- Questions rate hike.

**Chairman/Vice Mayor, R. Cassell** – Explains Rural Development loans, the need to show self sufficient in revenue and will review sewer percentage later.

**Town Attorney, M. Brooks** – States no rate increase in many years, with Ms. Vicars stating just recently with Town Clerk, K. Riley stating last increase was 2007.

**Board Member, R. Baker** – Questions location of trailer below home of its sewer line.

**Chairman/Vice Mayor, R. Cassell** – Kathy will have it on next's month agenda and Stoney will look at it to make sure so we're treating everyone the same.

**Board Member, R. Baker** – Discusses the availability concept of if it's available the property benefits by having it available.

- Having to change the plumbing in the house with Chairman/Vice Mayor, R. Cassell questioning why with Ms. Vicars providing explanation of why. Board Member, R. Baker suggests hooking on at trailer below home.

**Chairman/Vice Mayor, R. Cassell** – States Jeremy and Stoney will look at it and we will have it on the agenda next month.

**Board Member, R. Baker** – Questions locality of field lines and what kind of field lines are there and how good of a septic system is actually out there now, along with going further down the hill and getting close to same elevation as trailer below it which is the same lines that our house runs down. Speculates it may be available without a pump, just running down hill to same one those trailers are on.

**Board Member, D. Hartsock** – Discusses other options of exits for sewer from home.

## **VII. UNFINISHED BUSINESS - None**

## **VIII. NEW BUSINESS**

**Chairman/Vice Mayor, R. Cassell** – Council had some discussion about possibly lowering the sewer feeling that 100% is not fair. We don't want to do it until we have the bills covered.

**Town Attorney, M. Brooks** – We need to see six months out where we are before any decision is made, though it is your decision to make.

**Chairman/Vice Mayor, R. Cassell** – Discusses an e-mail from Andy (Miles) that had all the comparisons.

**Board Members** discuss rates of other localities.

**Chairman/Vice Mayor, R. Cassell** – One thing brought up last night (Council Meeting), was separate water and sewer meters and asked if we wanted to look into that. The cost is about \$300-\$400 and depends on the type of meter that would be placed.

**Board Member, D. Hartsock** – States it would have to handle solids and would be a maintenance headache to keep them operating.

**Chairman/Vice Mayor, R. Cassell** – May talk to Andy to see if there is any money available.

**Board Member, R. Baker** – Suggests optional by the home owner with comparison of the field house at the football field.

**Chairman/Vice Mayor, R. Cassell** – Discusses if it is a customer owned meter the question of accuracy and who forces them to test it.

**Board Member, D. Hartsock** – States they are not that accurate, more of an indicator.

**Chairman/Vice Mayor, R. Cassell** – States it is probably more of a headache.

**Town Attorney, M. Brooks** – States this will come up due to the water rate, with people wanting to try to get out of it.

**Chairman/Vice Mayor, R. Cassell** – If it is customer owned equipment you can't force them to test it and suggests we probably don't want to go that route. States not 100% of water goes down the drain. You wash cars, water dog or plants. Like Frances told somebody, we're not doing anything that we're not suffering and pay like everybody else. It's no different than a business like WalMart when they raise their prices you either go naked or go hungry. That's about the only choice you have.

**Board Member, D. Breeding** – You drive a car, you have to buy gas. Gas goes up, you have to pay it.

**IX. OTHER BUSINESS** - None

**X. ADJOURN**

**Motion made for Board to adjourn to next regularly scheduled Sanitation Meeting on June 13, 2012 at 6:00 p.m.**

Motion by: Board Member, R. Baker 2<sup>nd</sup> by: Board Member, D. Hartsock

VOTE:	Yeas,	4
	Nays,	0
	Absent	0

Chairman/Vice Mayor, Roger Cassell, adjourned the meeting at 6:40 P.M.

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Roger Cassell – Chairman/Vice Mayor

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Kathy Riley – Town Clerk