

Sewer Commissioners meeting April 23, 2009

Present was Council-members Carlson, Frisbee, Potter, White and Supervisor Merrihew.

Supervisor Merrihew called the meeting to order at 7:05PM followed by the pledge to the flag.

Supervisor Merrihew read the notice as published in the Daily Gazette on April 14, 2009 announcing the meeting.

Supervisor Merrihew turned the meeting over to Council-member Carlson since he is the Sewer Commissioner.

Council-member Carlson; This year we have a new plant operator and his assistant. On the agenda tonight we have a few things. We have a payment of claim for Mike Fine and Jackie Vice, back in January they had a smell of sewage which backed up in their house, it turns out it was the pump station.

Gary Courtright The pump station senses pressure, when it gets really cold there are heaters in there that keeps the pressure so it doesn't freeze up. It was reading that it was empty and it was really full. I think we should put bigger heaters in them. It happens every January. The ones in Delanson have bigger heaters in them they get nice and warm.

Resolution #113-09-Council-member White motioned, seconded by Council-member Frisbee to pay claim for Mike Fine and Jackie Vice for Rotor Router in the amount of \$334.13. Motion carried 5 ayes, Council-members White, Frisbee, Potter, Carlson and Supervisor Merrihew.

Supervisor Merrihew; Everyone agrees we will pay the bill but we can't pay the tax.

Dale Warner; According to the Sewer Use Law we have to have an enforcement response plan and this sets up a procedure on how we respond to a complaint or a violation. Basically it gives the right to the Code Enforcement Officer and his deputy and anybody else that may be designated by the town board or sewer board.

Resolution #114-09-Council-member Frisbee motioned, seconded by Council-member Potter to adopt the Enforcement Response Plan for the Town of Duanesburg Sewer Use Law.

**Town of Duanesburg
Sewer Use Law
Enforcement Response Plan**

The Town of Duanesburg Code Enforcement Officer and his Assistant are designated by the Town Board to enforce and investigate instances of non-compliance for each and every Sewer District operated by the Town of Duanesburg.

The Code Enforcement Officer shall investigate all complaints. Routine Inspections or complaints can be a source of investigating violations. The Waste Water Treatment Plant Operator may also investigate complaints and violations and report any problems to the Code Enforcement Officer or his Assistant.

1. Upon discovering a violation of the Sewer Use Law the Code Enforcement Officer shall provide a written notice to the User and or Owner outlining corrective action and a reasonable timetable to correct the violation with any required inspections. Owners or Users maybe held responsible for any damaged POTW equipment, materials, parts and labor to correct a violation of the Sewer Use Law.
2. The misuse of POTW equipment can cause damage to grinder pumps. Grinder Pumps are intended to grind Liquid wastes containing human excrement, Toilet Paper, and Liquid Wastes. Women Sanitary Products and Baby Wipes do not grind up and may cause damage or future problems with Grinder Pumps. These items are strictly prohibited, if found to be cause of Grinder pump failure labor & material costs will be charged to property owners.
3. The Code Enforcement Official shall follow the Administrative Remedies outlined in Section 1002 through Section 1022 of Article 10 Town of Duanesburg Sewer Use Law.
4. The Plant Operator and Code Enforcement official shall keep and maintain records pertaining to repairs and problems of the POTW.
5. The Plant Operator and Code Enforcement Official shall do routine inspections of the POTW and Equipment for repairs, maintenance and violations.

Motion carried 5 ayes, Council-members Frisbee, Potter, White, Carlson and Supervisor Merrihew

Council-member Frisbee asked Dale, if the people with grinder pumps advised there are certain things that can't go into the toilet?

Dale; they were originally. It probably would be a good idea to put out a notice in the newsletter.

Supervisor Merrihew suggested go one step further, send a copy of the letter and a copy of this sheet stating you are just reiterating from previous correspondence. Send it to everybody who has a grinder pump.

Council-member Carlson: Put some contact numbers in there also.

Dale Warner; The phone numbers for the treatment plants are on web page and we've tried to make it public. We now have answer machines at the plants and if you call and leave a message we take care of it that day.

Council-member Carlson: We are going to amend the Sewer Use Law and fee schedule on Commercial/Industrial Enterprises and we are going to make it one (1) EDU or every ten (10) portion thereof.

Dale Warner: This is in line with what we charge the schools, and is for Harvest Homes. Currently they are being charged 1 ½ units portions thereof or the number of employees

and were complaining from the very start that they are over charged, so I came up with the one for every 10, because it is in line with what we charge the school.

Supervisor Merrihew: What do we require of the school and other businesses?

Dale Warner: We require a letter every year. Depends on their number of employees, but they will have to every year give us a number.

Supervisor Merrihew: We need a letter every year from them. Dale should have a master list and if you don't get a check off every year and if you don't get a letter every year from them we will have to follow up and get a letter from them.

Resolution #115-09-Council-member White motioned, seconded by Council-member Frisbee to amend the Sewer Use Law fee schedule #1 Commercial/Industrial Enterprise (d) to 1 EDU for every 10 or apportion thereof. Motion carried 5 ayes, Council-members White, Frisbee, Carlson, Potter and Supervisor Merrihew.

Supervisor Merrihew asked what does the sewer use law say specifically about receiving registered letters from the businesses?

Dale Warner: It doesn't.

Supervisor Merrihew: We cannot require it unless it is in the law. I think it needs to be in writing that it is a requirement, from all of the businesses and the schools, the community center and that means an amendment to sewer use law.

Dale Warner: The businesses every year already do it, because we base their EDU's on it. It is beneficial to them.

Supervisor Merrihew: I think it is the safest and most prudent thing to have it in writing in the sewer use law that, that is a requirement.

Council-member Carlson: Dale, Gary and himself went to 510 So. Shore Road, James Mugits, SD#2 claiming he had a break in his line causing blacktop issues and potential well contamination.

The board looked at pictures that Dale had taken on 4/6/09 and today 4/23/09. There are low spots all over the blacktop there was some kind of orange stain there, which could have been from leaves and vegetation. It was clear water and we assumed it was ground water. The pictures taken today, it is dry it is just orange streaks on the blacktop.

Gary Courtright: That is a main line and is under pressure 24/7, so that water would be coming out of the ground constantly.

Dale Warner: We are going to keep an eye on it. We don't think it is a sewer problem.

Resolution #116-09-Council-member Carlson motioned, seconded by Council-member Potter for the claim of 510 So. Shore Road James Mugits SD#2 that we take no action at this time, the water stain in the driveway doesn't appear to be a sewer district issue. Motion carried 5 ayes, Council-members Carlson, Potter, Frisbee, White and Supervisor Merrihew.

Supervisor Merrihew spoke of the sewer budget. Greg Way called with some valid concerns when the bills came out about the increase in the budget. This is the first year