

Water Commission Minutes 10-7-19

Called to Order:

Present: Christy Witters, Bard Hill, David Sander, Don Morin, Josh Arneson, Kendall Chamberlin, Aaron Krymkowski, Mike Parent, Denise Barner, Lisa Curtis

Public Comment: None

Agenda Changes: None

Presentation of Mapping by Aaron: Aaron introduced himself. He explained that he has been working on a digital mapping project for the last several months. He said that all of the water lines, valves, 90% of manholes, 75% of sewer lines, all major construction, and all of the fire hydrants are mapped. Aaron showed examples of extra data that is embedded in the system in addition to the mapped system.

Bridge St Water Line: Lisa and Denise presented their concerns and questions about their service line on the Bender block. Denise said that they would like to be connected on Bridge Street. Lisa said she understands that they are the only commercial buildings they know of that have private lines. She also said that it's a one-inch line for 5 businesses and 12 apartments. She said that they do not want to be on the private line, and that it would prevent them from having a sprinkler system. Lisa said they request a minimum of 4 in line and additionally request to be a seat at the table during the planning phase to discuss the negative impacts to the businesses. Kendall explained that any lines have to be updated to the town specs which is an 8in main. Kendall said that the town also has a policy to avoid major services on expensive highly trafficked roads. He said it would be very expensive to serve from Bridge Street due to the sidewalk and storefronts. Kendall said the best option would be to upgrade the alleyway to town specs instead of Bridge St. Don said that he met with the owners and another engineering company said they could make Bridge Street work by drilling through the basement for approximately \$5000 per service. Denise asked why the three Bender buildings couldn't hook on to Bridge Street, when Toscano did. Kendall explained that those connections predate him. Mike Parent said that because the Water Dept doesn't want to go through Bridge St, maybe there's a way to loop in the alley. Denise asked if the project could be halted. Bard said that part of the policy has to do with finances. Christy said that she feels the loop is a bigger conversation, because it is the town's commercial center. Christy also said that the commission risks losing money on the upgrade. Denise asked if the bond vote fails is the project done. Christy said no, the project still would occur at greater cost to the users. David said the three options are Bridge St connections, Depot St to Route 2 connections, or just from Depot St connections.

Billing Policy: Christy moved to approve the policy. Seconded by David. All were in favor, so moved.

Minutes of 9/16: Christy moved to approve the minutes. Seconded by David. Don asked to edit the minutes of 9/16 to reflect Bard's statement about treating users equally. Bard corrected Don's statement. The commission agreed to table the minutes until the video could be verified with what was stated at the previous meeting.

VOSHA: Josh gave an update that the VOSHA conference was successful, and the fines were reduced greatly.

Hydrant Plugs: There were no plug removal stipulations in the contracts, but discussed to have written paper trails in the future. Kendall said he feels that dealing with the fire hydrants is important, and there is a system risk if it is not addressed system wide.

Next Agenda: Budget, minutes

Adjourn: Christy moved to adjourn. Seconded by David. Adjourned 7:09pm.