

Village of San Jose  
Water & Sewer Committee Meeting  
May 26, 2015

Meeting called to order by Chairman Allen at 7:00 pm. Those present: Allen, Smith, Nolan and Tibbs      Absent: Coon and Skelton  
Others in attendance: Mayor Worlow, Water Superintendent Albers and five (5) citizens

Meeting agenda was posted more than forty-eight hours in advance of the meeting on the outside and inside bulletin boards at Village Hall and is attached to and made part of the minutes.

The meeting began by Chairman Allen discussing possible changes to the existing ordinances pertaining to sewer hook-up in regards to how they relate to the existing ordinances on new water hook-ups. Smith recapped particular sections in the existing ordinances for reference, i.e. Section 3, Section 5, Article 3 Section 1. Allen and Smith read Article 3 Section 5 and Article 1 Section 4, respectively, in regards to wording of “at owner’s expense”.

There was a discussion pertaining to opinions of what the village is responsible for. Smith pointed out that OSHA regulations governing depth that our maintenance personnel are allowed to dig. Tibbs expressed his opinions in regards to how the ordinance could be changed noting the policy with culvert installation as a reference. There was discussion about interpreting the sewer ordinance as it pertains to closing up any holes created prior to inspection of the connection by village personnel. Questions were posed by Tibbs in regards to responsibility for mowing of ditches.

Citizen B. Blackstock was allowed to question why the Codification Company was not asked for input with a possible sample ordinance. After questions about the reason for the meeting, Allen explained that the purpose was to look at the existing ordinance and try to update and consider possible inclusions and revisions. B. Blackstock continued to voice his opinion of the Codification Company or surrounding municipalities be solicited for input of possible changes to be explored. There was further discussion about contacting other municipalities also about their ordinances. General confusion about the overall ordinance was voiced and a background of the reasons was mentioned. Question and discussion about maintenance and preventative maintenance was addressed with Kim Albers explaining the process. Concerns of village lines plugging was discussed and possible ways to keep this from happening along with the probability of success. Further explanation from Albers was heard.

It was decided to look further into other municipalities for their ordinance. Albers explained possible concerns regarding this measure and possible additions to the ordinance once rewritten. There was discussion pertaining to the current ordinance and past projects that have been completed in the village. A copy of various village ordinances were reviewed and quoted. G. Abner was allowed to ask numerous questions regarding liability of the village in various situations with responses from Allen and Smith to her questions.

Recommendation: Ask the codification company to provide samples of other village ordinances and to gather nearby municipalities’ ordinances on how they base their rates and what their ordinances reflect regarding these matters.

V. Smith pointed out that a citizen was in attendance that has an issue that may need to be discussed. L. Mortlock was asked by Nolan if she wanted to speak. Mortlock explained the issues she has been having with their sewer pipe installation and subsequent bill that was received for use of village equipment/personnel. Mortlock voiced her concerns over having to pay for sewer for many years even though it has been shown that her sewer line was not hooked into the village’s main sewer. Allen explained that according to ordinance sewer is paid for even if not hooked up. Potential residents that have had digging done for “free” in the distant past were discussed with a timeline established. Smith explained the reasons for sending a bill after the May board meeting. Mortlock asked where the hourly rate for the tractor came from. Smith explained this to Mortlock.

There were attempts to further discuss the issue with the Mortlock’s but Allen explained that the matter would be discussed further at the special board meeting the following evening. T. Blackstock pointed out that the village personnel charges were potentially cheaper than Hernan’s would have been to which Nolan pointed out that wasn’t the point, referring to the actual bill that was sent to the Mortlock’s.

Meeting adjourned at 7:50 pm.