

October 12, 2010

UTILITIES COMMISSION

October 12, 2010

7:00 p.m.

The Stafford County Utilities Commission met for its regular meeting on October 12, 2010, in the A, B, C Conference Room in the Stafford County Administration Center. Commission members present were Steven Apicella, Rick Carroll, Lloyd Chittum, Bob Gibbons, Danny Kim and Bill Tignor. Harry Critzer, Dale Allen, Mike Smith and Cheryl Giles were present for the Utilities Department.

Public Presentations – Paul Waldowski commented about his request to receive a water and sewer bill from the county instead of from the management company for the Stafford Meadows subdivision.

Approval of Minutes – The minutes for the October 12, 2010 meeting were approved as written.

Commission Members' Comments – Members discussed Mr. Waldowski's request. Commission members expressed concern that other residents of Stafford Meadows subdivision have not voiced their interest in the County maintaining the water and sewer lines.

Director's Report – Mr. Critzer reported the following items:

- ♣ Reservoir levels are located on the County's website under the Utilities department section entitled "Stafford Water Watch." Abel Lake is currently down 2.5 feet, Smith Lake is down 5.4 feet and the water demand for October 11th was 11.4 MGD.
- ♣ The next to last easement for the Falls Run Sewer Interceptor Replacement project has been secured. Staff is working with the owner to secure the last easement for the project.
- ♣ The pump and haul for 19 Lorenzo Drive was deferred by the Board indefinitely to allow time to evaluate performance of the drainfield with only two people occupying the home rather than eight. The Virginia Department of Health agreed with the recommendation to require the homeowner to install a 2,000 gallon tank to contain any overflow that might occur from the septic tank indicating continued failure of the drainfield.
- ♣ The Board approved recruitment for the Utilities Financial Manager position.
- ♣ The public hearing on the water conservation rate will be held at the October 19th Board meeting.
- ♣ On Monday, October 18th, a crew from Caldwell Tanks will pressure wash and paint the Cranes Corner Tank at Stafford High School. The tank has a lead-based paint that

has been flaking off. The tank will be pressure washed, the rust spots will be sanded, primed and the lead based paint will be replaced with an acrylic paint. Caldwell Tanks will also install a cable-type climbing safety system on the exterior ladder and install a vandal guard on the tower ladder. The cost will be \$58,795.

♣ Dale Allen handed out copies of the September 24, 2010 safe yield analysis for the Rocky Pen Run Reservoir project. The analysis was prepared by Malcolm Pirnie based upon the most recent survey data and discussions with DEQ. Mr. Gibbons had requested this analysis at the September Commission meeting.

New Business:

Pump and Haul Program – Mr. Allen provided background information about the pump and haul program and highlighted the following items:

- when and why the program was started
- the eligibility criteria for the program
- rate structures discussed for the program in 2006
- drafts of changes to the policy
- draft ordinances for changes to the rate structure
- a resolution to discuss the pump and haul sewer service at the Board level

Discussion ensued regarding reasons for drainfield failures.

Mr. Apicella made a motion that a pump and haul subcommittee be established to review the program, its long term viability and its potential impact on alternative purchases and that the subcommittee would provide a 3-month status report and a 6-month review. The motion was seconded by Mr. Tignor and passed unanimously.

Mr. Chittum appointed Mr. Apicella as the chairman of the pump and haul subcommittee and the following members to the subcommittee: Mr. Gibbons, Mr. Tignor and Mr. Carroll.

Mr. Carroll requested staff e-mail the subcommittee a list of subsidized pump and haul addresses.

Mr. Chittum inquired about the status of the proposed Terminal Reservoir Ordinance. Mr. Critzer responded the ordinance may be presented to the Board during the spring of 2011 along with the proposed Reservoir Protection Overlay Ordinance.

Mr. Carroll inquired about the status of the odor control chemicals used at the Falls Run Pump Station. Mr. Smith responded that no calls have been received since the chemicals have been used. The hydrogen sulfide has dropped since the increase of the chemicals, but due to the higher usage of chemicals, the pH level has increased.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 8:10 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

William C. Tignor,
Recording Secretary