

Utility Commission
July 3, 2017

The regular scheduled meeting of the Delmar Utility Commission was called to order by Vice Mayor Pase. In attendance were Commission Members Dickerson and Dewald, Council Member Smith, Commissioner Unsell, Town Manager Bynum-King and Administrative Clerk Amanda Taylor. Absent: Clerk of Council Fisher. Guests: Jayesh Patel and Dipal Patel

Approval of Minutes

Commission Member Dickerson made a motion to approve the minutes from June 5, 2017. Commissioner Unsell seconded the motion which passed with 5 ayes and 0 absent.

New Business

Proposed Irrigation Well to be installed at 9111 Drawbridge Drive and 9062 Newbridge Drive, Delmar MD 21875- Jayesh Patel and Dipal Patel

Mr. Jayesh Patel requested to have two wells installed; one on his property of 9111 Drawbridge and one on Mr. Dipal Patel's property at 9062 Newbridge Drive for irrigation purposes. They requested that each well will also serve two of their adjoining properties. Vice Mayor Pase requested a couple of minutes to discuss the matter.

Vice Mayor Pase asked Town Manager Bynum-King if we had any information of any other municipalities having irrigation wells on properties within their municipality. Town Manager Bynum King said no, but if needed, she can contact the other municipalities through the network and ask. Vice Mayor Pase stated it wasn't necessary.

Vice Mayor Pase stated that there is a concern that when Mr. Dipal Patel sells the property the Town doesn't want to be in the middle of taking the brunt of the situation with the new and adjoining property owners. Mr. Patel informed the Commission that he is not moving. The Patels stated that they would have legal papers drawn up stating that they would be the responsible party for maintaining the well. One of the wells would be drilled on 9111 Drawbridge Drive and the other would be drilled at 9062 Newbridge Drive.

Mr. Patel stated that currently the lawn irrigation is only allowing 6-7 gallons a minute through the meter from our water service line and the lawn needs up to 20 gallons a minute which can be done from the proposed well.

Commission Member Dickerson asked about how deep the well will have to be; is he hoping for a 50 foot well to get high flow? Commission Member Dickerson stated they will have to go deeper than 10 feet and asked if there was a particular aquifer it was going to. Mr. Patel stated that there was no specific aquifer.

Commission Member Dickerson then stated when they are done with the well, they must seal it and properly abandon it so no contamination can occur to our water supply. Mr. Patel stated again there is no reason for him to move, however he agreed to properly abandon the well if it

came to that. Also, the development or its HOA does not have any objection to the well at the property; Mr. Jayesh Patel is President of the Homeowner Association.

Upon hearing the request for the two irrigation wells on the property's owned by the Patel's Vice Mayor Pase moved for a motion for an irrigation well to be installed at 9111 Drawbridge Drive, mar MD 21875 that will also serve two adjoining properties. Commissioner Unsell made the motion to approve the request and Council Member Smith seconded the motion which passed with 5 ayes and 0 absent.

Vice Mayor Pase moved for a motion for an irrigation well to be installed at 9062 Newbridge Drive Delmar, MD that will also serve two adjoining properties. Commission Member Dickerson made a motion to approve the request and Commission Member Dewald seconded the motion which passed with 5 ayes and 0 absent.

Town Manager's Report

Town Manager Bynum-King stated the Referendum passed with 20 votes all in favor of the Delaware Drinking Water State Revolving Loan to fund Phase II of the Grove Street Water Main Upgrade project. Twenty votes was a low voter turnout. She stated that the Town has tried different ways to get people to get involved such as posting on our Facebook page, Town website and Public Notices in the paper. Vice Mayor Pase suggested flyers and Commission Member Dewald stated it is already in the Town newsletters.

Town Manager Bynum-King stated there will be trash pickup for Delaware on July 4, 2017. Also, the revised costs for the back-up well has been sent to the State of Delaware for review. Commission Member Dickerson asked about how deep we will go for that well and Town Manager Bynum-King stated that the well would be about 120 feet deep.

Commission's Report

Commission Member Dickerson asked Town Manager Bynum-King if the water would be monitored after the well is placed at 9111 Drawbridge Drive and 9062 Newbridge Drive. Town Manager Bynum-King stated after the wells are installed, we can monitor the consistency of quarterly usage without them water lawns. Based on a report provided by the Municipal Clerk, during the summer months their usage is around 89,000 gallons sometimes it can increase to 98,000 gallons for their irrigating purposes, which is significantly higher than the other quarters. We will send out a letter pertaining their approval from this meeting and ensure the well is just for irrigation; hopefully we will see more green lawns.

Adjournment

Upon hearing no public comments, Commission Member Dewald made motion to adjourn. Commissioner Unsell seconded the motion which passed with 5 ayes and 0 absent.

Amanda Taylor
Administrative Clerk