

CITY OF SAINT MARYS SPECIAL COUNCIL MEETING

June 24, 2008

CALL TO ORDER

A special Council meeting of the City of Saint Marys was called to order by Mayor Sally Geyer on Tuesday, June 24, 2008 at 7:00 p.m. The meeting was held in the Council Room of City Hall, 11 LaFayette Street. Notice of this meeting was sent to Council on June 19, 2008, posted at City Hall, and published in the Daily Press.

ROLL CALL

Present: Mayor Sally Geyer, Thomas Farley, Sean Gabler, Richard Gabler, Jr., City Solicitor Mark Jacob, and City Inspector Matthew Pfeufer

Absent: Manager David Green, Dennis Nero, Steven Skok, and Richard Dornisch (all excused)

VISITORS

Visitors included: Marguerite Hanes, Jason Hanes, Consultant Catherine Lee, Charles Gorske, and Sylvester Kronenwetter

CITIZEN COMMENTS

Citizens present will speak later regarding the proposed resolution.

LEGISLATIVE ACTION

Resolution No. 08-15
re: Plan Revision
for a New Land
Development - Sewage
Facilities Plan for
Jason & Marguerite Hanes,
1179 Johnsonburg Rd.

Matthew Pfeufer, Inspector, explained Resolution No. 08-15 for Plan Revision for New Land Development is required by Act 537. The Act 537 Plan is a sewage facilities plan which must be adopted by every municipality in Pennsylvania. As part of the approval process for these types of sewage systems, the City needs to revise its Act 537 Plan. Basically, it concerns an installation of a small flow treatment facility (SFTF) for Jason and Marguerite Hanes, 1179 Johnsonburg Road. A SFTF is a smaller version of a Wastewater Treatment Plant and completely sanitizes and disinfects wastewater generated by a residence and discharges into a stream.

Catherine Lee,
Hanes' Consultant

Catherine Lee, Consultant, described the operation of a SFTF as having a standard septic tank that discharges into a two ft. sand filter, and there collected and passed through an UV light for disinfection and then discharged into the stream. Ms. Lee noted the water in the stream will be cleaner than the current condition of the stream. She stated the system would be monitored by DEP.

Ms. Lee also explained there are only two parts in the system that could break or need maintenance; the pump and the UV light bulb. The Hanes will have a spare UV bulb and can replace it themselves. The Hanes are also responsible to have the septic tank pumped and clean the filter tank.

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Thomas Farley asked if there is any overhead protection for the UV light because of the current problems at the Wastewater Treatment Plant. Ms. Lee responded the UV light would be underground and protected from the elements.

Thomas Farley also inquired about the pumping schedule for the septic tank. Ms. Lee stated DEP requires a specified maintenance schedule that requires pumping of the septic tank once every three years.

Mr. Farley asked about the inspections by DEP. Ms. Lee noted DEP does an annual inspection on the system.

Mayor Geyer asked if DEP monitors all of these types of systems once a year. Ms. Lee responded yes.

Sean Gabler asked how many of these system are in place within the City. Matthew Pfeufer thought about 10 to 15. Mr. Gabler also inquired if the \$500.00 deposit was passed by a previous Council by ordinance.

Solicitor Jacob stated he was not sure if there is an ordinance of the City establishing the \$500.00. He felt the amount was established by other agreements that the City has entered into. Mr. Jacob stated he reviewed the agreement, made minor changes, added a paragraph, and added both names to the agreement.

Thomas Farley asked about the lifespan for this type of system. Ms. Lee stated the lifespan is projected to last at least 25 years with no major replacement of any components.

Charles Gorske

Charles Gorske, owner of land at the far end of the property being discussed, asked if there would be any run off or drainage from this system? Ms. Lee stated run off will go into the stream. Mr. Gorske added he uses the stream water for drinking and other purposes.

Sylvester Kronenwetter

Sylvester Kronenwetter inquired who will be paying the \$500.00. Solicitor Jacob stated the property owners will place \$500.00 in escrow with the City to be held by the City in case something goes wrong. If maintenance is more than \$500.00, the property owners would be liable. He added \$500.00 is always kept in the escrow account.

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Mr. Kronenwetter also felt Water Tank Run will be polluted. Thomas Farley pointed out that the UV lights are used at the Wastewater Treatment Plant which in turn discharges into Elk Creek.

Motion Passed

Richard Gabler made a motion to adopt Resolution No. 08-15, seconded by Sean Gabler, and all were in favor.

ADJOURNMENT

Richard Gabler made a motion to adjourn the meeting.

Shirley Dicklas
Recording Secretary

Mayor