

VILLAGE OF GERMANTOWN
UTILITY ADVISORY COMMITTEE
March 24, 2011
Village Hall Conference Room A

CALL TO ORDER: Chmn. Zabel called the meeting to order at 7:05pm.

ROLL CALL: Chmn. Zabel, Members Zimmermann, Hansen, Killen. Members Hull and Bartz are absent. Resident Steve Weslowski is present. Tim Zimmerman is present, representing the Sewer Utility.

MINUTES:

MOTION by Hansen, seconded by Zabel to eliminate "Zimmerman" from the first sentence of the Roll Call of the March 3, 2011 minutes.

Motion carried unanimously.

MOTION by Hansen, seconded by Killen to approve the minutes as amended.

Motion carried unanimously.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

A. Review of the MMSD Private Property I&I Policy

Steve Weslowski prepared a summary of the Village Private Property I&I Policy. The Village policy has not been discussed with Village Board members.

Utility Advisory Committee will review Chapter 13.29(8) Private Sanitary Sewer Lateral Connections.

Chmn. Zabel suggested concern that residents may not volunteer for the program under Utility Advisory Committee Option 2.

Village would need probable cause to either investigate private lateral, or compel the resident to provide own investigation.

Member Killen asked if this problem would solve the I/I problem. Tim Zimmermann responded that the I/I problem will still exist, partly because some residents still will resist investigation and repair.

Village standard letter requesting access may be revised to address insurance of inspectors.

MMSD I/I program will provide full reimbursement of surface restoration if the repair is open cut.

Member Killen: policy recommendations will depend on the Option selected.

MOTION by Killen, seconded by Hansen, that as Utility Advisory Committee is recommending ordinance modifications based on Village I/I Option 1 Policy, if Public Works and Highway Committee makes significant changes to the Village I/I Option 1 Policy, then Utility Advisory Committee requests another review of Village Ordinance.

Motion carried unanimously.

Under current ordinance 13.29(6)(c) resident is responsible to maintain private lateral. 13.29(6)(e) requires that that the resident allow the Village to investigate the private lateral.

Tim Zimmerman described areas of the Village that have I/I as older parts of the Village. Expects that there are 800 to 1,000 residents that may have lateral I/I issues. Germantown is the 3rd "driest" community within MMSD.

Under new ordinance 13.29(8), residents are exempt if they house is 10 years old or less.

Member Killen would eliminate 13.29(8)(.020)(a)(1)(c). Member Hansen suggested that laterals on new construction for 10 years be exempted. Tim Zimmerman suggests that the lateral be investigated to set a benchmark.

Program is expected to be funded for the next 2 years. MMSD will respect municipal levee limits, and keep funding at \$5M for next 2 years.

Discussion whether Village could buy equipment to repair laterals. Laterals are privately owned, and residents are responsible for repair. A contractor from Rhinelander has the preferred lateral repair method.

13.29(8)(.050)(b) describes inspections required only triggered by 13.29(8)(.020).

Member Killen concerned that revised ordinance may be trying to address an issue that is not a major problem.

Tim Zimmerman stated that the biggest reason for the revised ordinance is for a point of sale inspection. The future homeowner would be better protected.

MMSD is considering implementing an I/I charge to communities.

Member Zimmermann suggested in lieu of new ordinance, residents could require lateral inspections as part of typical home inspection.

MOTION by Killen, seconded by Hansen, to recommend that Public Works and Highway Committee maintain existing lateral ordinance, and then review after one year of participation in new MMSD I/I Reduction Program.

Motion carried unanimously.

Committee discussed including Steve's summary of Options, removing the pros and cons.

ADJOURNMENT: There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 8:52pm.

Jim Hansen, Recording Secretary