

Dear Mayor, Vice Mayor, and Council Members:

First off I commend your volunteer service. I know that you continue to tackle unique issues in our beloved and magical little town. I thank you for your commitment.

**Re: September Council Meeting Agenda/Direction-Invitation for bids for smart water meters**

Under New Business the above item is listed. I believe there has been no previous agenda discussions or information to Jerome homeowners about smart water meters. For those residents who do not attend meetings but remain informed through the town hall website this absence of data seems questionable.

**Minimum Research indicates problems across US cities and towns after the installation of smart water meters. Who will address these issues in Jerome?**

- High installation costs/Contractor installation guarantee, especially with Jerome topography
- Inaccurate readings with high water usage, some report thousands of gallons, due to initial installation problems, faulty meters, magnetic anomalies, electrical outage fluctuations
- Monsoon lightning strikes of equipment/possibility of fires
- Higher water bills
- Homeowner privacy issues of their water data has allowed for opt out programs developed by town/city utilities prior to any commitment to installation

Finally and most important, is this the time to commit to another major infrastructure development project with the wastewater plant in progress? After the price increase of those homeowners on the sewer system, who feel that they subsidize the tourist community, the thought of future higher water bills is not feasible.

This is a serious commitment and I feel confident that the Jerome Town Council will postpone or completely reject this item until thorough research is provided to homeowners either by council meeting agenda or mail.

Thank you,

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