



To: Dylan Mulfinger, City Administrator
From: Public Works Superintendent Victor Kane
Reference: ICE project

Date: 11/30/21

Dylan,

The city approved the first submittal for the service line from the project engineer. This was for a fire line to a new paint facility, separate of the existing building. It was to be gate valved directly off the city main, with a PIV (Post Indicator Valve) installed closer to the facility. The builder then retracted this design and requested to connect to the existing buildings fire line, as a money saving move. The city held discussions on the requested tie in. It was decided the existing line is a private fire line thus it is owned by the facility to the city main. Therefore, in this situation they could tie in as requested. This was based on proper flow, both buildings having same address, on same lot using separate PIVs and metered for domestic use. The builder however did not agree they are responsible for the fire line to the city main.

The builder contended based on code the city owns up to and including the PIV. Oelwein is one of the few towns which owns the smaller service lines up to the curb stop. While the curb stop to the building is part of their responsibility. The code they are quoting is for smaller service lines around 2 inches or smaller. In this scenario, the service line has a corporation stop at the water main and a ¼ turn curb stop in the city right of way. Neither of which the line in question has.

The larger lines in Oelwein are generally for fire flow with a few increased due to production water usage. The production lines are valved directly off the city main with a gate valve and are part of the building infrastructure. In this case the fire line falls, under fire regulations, requiring a PIV and no gate valve off the main. In either case, in Oelwein be it production or a fire the line, is considered part of the building infrastructure to the city main.

Here are some examples of facilities that own the larger fire line:

- Transco -- Fire main & hydrants
- Ashley -- Fire main
- East Penn – Fire main loop, hydrants, fire pumps & production
- Old Donaldson's – Fire main, pumps & hydrant
- New Hotel -- Fire main & PIV
- New Norby's – Fire main & hydrants
- Dollar Fresh – Fire main & hydrant
- Schools – Jr high Fire main loop & and hydrants
- Old DEKALB -- Fire main loop & hydrant
- City Laundry -- production line

As you can see what is being proposed is how it has always been done and is nothing new.

Based on this, the ICE facility fire line has always been part of the building's infrastructure. As will the new fire line to the current project. The city is following a long set procedure used with its businesses. We are not inflicting any excessive hardship upon this project. The builder has requested to hook a new facility to the city water system. The city has agreed to allow a new connection. This connection can occur as a separate line owned by the facility to the city main from the separate structure. The other option is to connect a new private line to the new structure to the existing private line running from the city main to the original facility. Based on all this I believe that line has always and still belongs to the building.

Regards,

Vic Kane

From the Desk of
Public Works Superintendent Victor Kane