



City of Sidney, MT  
Water and Sewer Committee Meeting 10/15/24  
October 15, 2024 5:15 PM  
115 2nd Street SE | Sidney, MT 59270

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The City Council meetings are open to the public attending in person, with masks encouraged when social distancing cannot be accomplished. If the public does not wish to participate in person, they are also invited to participate via a Zoom meeting. You can participate via phone:

Meeting ID: 713 080 5898      Passcode: 4332809      Call: 1-346-248-7799

**Alderman Present:** Koffler, Christensen and Godfrey

**Other's Present:** Mayor Norby, PWD Hintz, Clerk/Treasurer Chamberlin

**1. New Business**

**a. Martha's Place: Request to Connect to City Sewer**

PWD Hintz stated Martha's House has requested to connect to City sewer and Interstate Engineering provided a proposed map for this project. Mr. Hintz stated that the current proposal also has them extending it to the back of their lot. He stated they are not requesting to annex and the City does have an allowance for non-resident property connections. He stated that Public Works would prefer the location be down 6th street where there is a current manhole and can be carried on for other users. He stated this way would be more conducive for future development, but more hurdles including an easement from Cindy Reichenbach, who has inquired about connecting to City sewer as other property in the area have.

PWD Hintz stated the proposal is fine but they do prefer to have it moved to 6th Street for future connections. He stated future connections could be added with the proposed way but not as easily and their proposal does not have everything in City streets. He stated Martha's Place will be paying for all of the project and the proposed way by Interstate Engineering is the cheapest way, but either project plan they could still be required to pay for the project in full.

Alderman Koffler asked if any easements are needed with the proposed way and PWD Hintz stated only with Martha's Place, or the City can decide to have the main remain their main and we do not do any cleaning. Mr. Mayor stated they do not have a cost estimate but because it will be drilled the expenses can be kept down. He stated the with the proposed way all discussion points are between the City and Martha's, other way not only has more sewer line but also involves other properties in process to stall out the project. PWD Hintz stated he does not have an issue with proposed way, it is just more conducive his proposed way for the City. Mr. Mayer stated with

the nature of the long skinny lot there is no way to put a septic on their lot so City services is the only way to proceed for a hospice facility.

PWD Hintz stated there are annexation requirements in 3.1.6 that states a waiver of protest will have to be signed and agreement to follow, all of which is outlined in A-D.

Alderwoman Godfrey asked if they know a price difference in the plans and PWD Hintz stated not yet. Mr. Mayer stated the staff way probably double the cost. to which PWD Hintz stated he agreed but at that point he would suggest the City participate in the construction cost. The committee agreed that not all of that should be put on Martha's place.

Alderman Koffler asked if we could survey other landowners to see if they are interested in participating, PWD Hintz stated that would definitely stall the project. He further stated Martha's house would do their portion, with any other new connections extending the service to end of their property. Mr. Mayer stated a concern to watch for is one property fronting the cost and others benefiting from that.

PWD Hintz stated he would like to respect their request of not annexing into the City. Mr. Mayer stated they are wanting a rural setting opportunity for hospice (horses for example) that could not happen in City limits.

Motion was made to recommend option 2 from the proposals from Interstate Engineering with out annexing into the City.

In discussion Mr. Mayer asked if PWD Hintz could outline all requirements that go along with this connection in a letter and PWD Hintz stated he is required to by City Code and Clerk/Treasurer Chamberlin stated they will have the letter at next meeting with recommendation.

Motion made by Christensen, Seconded by Koffler.

Voting Yea: Koffler, Godfrey, Christensen

#### **b. Saia Shipping Co. Trucking: Request to Annex and/or Connect to City Water Services**

PWD Hintz stated Saia has requested to annex and connect to City water, they already have City sewer. PWD Hintz stated they want a domestic water service only as they are on a house well currently that is shared with the Bell property and the Sunrise Women's Clinic lots. He stated it would be a half inch pipe across Holly, and they would be responsible for all MDT permits to bore.

PWD Hintz stated annexing the property would be more hurtles for the city than just allowing g a non-resident connection like the Fair Grounds, Ag Station and proposed Martha's Place. Clerk/Treasurer Chamberlin stated this property would be a spot annex and zone, and Alderwoman Godfrey asked why they requested to annex. PWD Hints stated they thought they had to in order to get water d.

Alderwoman Christensen stated she is fine not annexing the lot and let them connect to water. PWD Hintz stated they would also be required to sign a waiver of protest for annexation and all the same rules discussed with Martha's House.

Motion was made to approve connecting to City water, paying for all fees, without annexing.

Motion made by Koffler, Seconded by Godfrey.

Voting Yea: Koffler, Godfrey, Christensen

Adjourned: 5:50PM