



City of Stevenson

City Council

Meeting Date: August 20, 2026

Title/Subject: Ordinance No. 2025-1224 - Amending Chapter 13.08 of the City Code

Presented By: Jenny Taylor

Business Item

Action Required

Second reading and adoption of sewer Ordinance No. 2025-1224.

Motion for Business/Consent Agenda Item

I move to adopt Ordinance 2025-1224 as presented based on the edits and changes adopted by Council after extensive public comment.

Background of Issue

The City Council has been actively discussing and revising the sewer ordinance over several years, with significant community involvement and feedback. The process began with the formation of a Sewer Ordinance Committee in September 2023, which consulted with community members and stakeholders to draft a revised ordinance. The committee's work culminated in a draft presented for public comment in May 2025, which included various proposed changes to the existing ordinance.

Throughout the discussions, the Council has held numerous meetings to address concerns about connection requirements, penalties for non-compliance, and financial assistance for property owners required to connect to the sewer system. The Council has also considered the implications of existing septic systems and the need for a fair transition to the new requirements. The first and second reading required for adoption of the ordinance happened on May 21st and June 18th, 2026.

Explanation of Issue

The sewer ordinance issue is about balancing the city's need to maintain and expand its sewer system with the rights and financial burdens of approximately 25 property owners who have functioning septic systems. The original ordinance was perceived as heavy-handed, forcing connection and imposing penalties. The revised ordinance, shaped through extensive public input and council discussion, moves toward a more flexible, incentive-based approach that allows existing approved septic systems to remain in service while still providing a framework for eventual sewer connection.

Council Options:

1. Accept the Staff Recommendation and approve the Letter of Commitment.
2. Revise the Staff Recommendation.
3. Other action as may be desired by the City Council.
4. Refer this issue back to staff for further work.
5. Take no action on this matter.

Recommendation of Staff/Committee

Approve Ordinance No. 2025-1224 as presented.

Follow Up Action/Dates

If the ordinance is approved no follow up action needed from council.