

Please include this letter in the public comments section of the October 16th 2025 Regular council meeting packet.

Date: 10/11/2025

To: City Council members and City Staff

From: Brian McNamara

RE: Mandatory connection to recently installed sewer line along Loop Rd. and Frank Johns Rd.

At the August 21, 2025 regular city council meeting an ordinance (Resolution 2025-1229-Sewer Billing Policy) was passed regarding imposing a monthly fine for homeowners not immediately connecting to the new sewer line on Loop Rd. and Frank Johns Rd. Without returning to the details of council members Cox, Rice and owner's objections, the affected property owners need written explanation of the subsequent fees associated with varying degrees of compliance. I watched the meeting and did not understand what these outcomes would be.

I would like to commend public works director Cody Rosander for contacting the 25 or so affected property owners with an attempt to explain the possible options. In those conversations I asked what would be the result if the owner subsequently sold their property without following the mandatory connection. He did get back to me with an answer. He also said the city would be sending letters to affected owners outlining the various "carrot vs stick" (my quote) billing options depending on if or when the owners comply with mandatory connection. This was to be forthcoming in September.

No such notification has since arrived. One thing is clear. The city will impose a monthly fee for not connecting whether the owner has a working septic system or not as well as property that has not been built on yet. The cost to decommission a working septic system and connect to the sewer plus the huge connection fee and subsequent monthly billing increase has been discussed and commented on by the public. It will be expensive for the property owners! The new ordinance is not popular with affected homeowners and lot owners. According to Cody there are various time limits for various compliance options the city is offering. When do those deadlines commence? Have they already been initiated without written notification? These issues should have been discussed prior to construction of the new line. It is my hope the city will provide such written explanation and notification before initiating fines or fees.

Thank you,

Brian McNamara