

WATER AND SEWER EXPANSION AUTHORITY
BOARD MEETING MINUTES



Date: December 9, 2009
Time: 2:00 P.M.
Location: City Hall/Don Davis Room

Attendees:

Jeanell Wilson, Chair
Harriet McDonald
Al Sinclair
John Craddock

Chair Wilson called the meeting to order / quorum determined. The Board approved the minutes from the November 12, 2009 board meeting.

General Update

1. Oakwood Villas BJP: Service Area 2&3 Construction Status- Sewer is complete. Project contract extended by city for additional drainage work to be completed at the end of December. Service Area 1 is complete. Final walk through to be scheduled after punch list items are completed.
2. Lincoln Villa Pilot Project- Construction Status: Sewer is 52 percent complete. The water portion is 33 percent complete.
3. Grant Update on STAG- A meeting with Mayor Peyton is scheduled for Friday, December 18 to discuss how the WSEA will be moving forward with funding. An internal workshop with representatives from JEA, COJ, and WSEA will take place in mid-January to discuss the Septic Tank Phase Out. A trip to D.C. is being scheduled in January with Mayor Peyton and Councilman Brown along with Fred Odom to discuss WSEA funding.
4. Property Appraiser-Meeting has been pushed back to January pending data verification before meeting with all parties. Danny Turner is currently working on verifying all information.

Other Items for Discussion

Jeanell Wilson discussed City Council deciding to charge the solid waste fee on tax assessments rather than JEA bill. Mrs. Wilson talked with Councilman Crescimbeni and Mayor Peyton regarding this issue. Mr. Odom added that the issue has already been voted on by council and will be kept on the tax assessment. Mrs. Wilson's concern was that the owner of the property is not the user of the services, thus, the tenant should have to pay the fees.

Jeanell Wilson presented John Craddock with a letter from Mayor Peyton acknowledging him for his service with the WSEA board. Both Mrs. Wilson and Mr. Odom thanked Mr. Craddock for his service.

Harriet McDonald stated that a big problem regarding the pollution of the river is old septic tanks on the river that are not maintained. She asked if there were any resources to inspect septic tanks and shared an idea of requiring every septic tank owner have their

tanks inspected every three years. Mr. Sinclair asked about the average price of a septic tank inspection. Mr. Odom stated that it was an excellent idea and has been brought up to council before, but was unsuccessful. He also added that the average price of an inspection is roughly \$200. Mr. Odom encouraged Mrs. McDonald to approach city council with her idea. Mrs. McDonald added that she has spoken to several people involved with the River Initiative and they are not aware of septic tank failure areas along the river. Mr. Sinclair asked if it is possible to replace faulty septic tanks with new tanks without polluting the river. Mr. Odom stated that it is possible with the Performance Based Septic Systems but it is not cheap due to the cost of installing it. Mrs. McDonald asked if WSEA can finance the costs for a new system. Jenny McCollum stated that WSEA can only finance the cost of abandoning septic tanks and connecting to sewer. She added that homeowners who qualify can go through UTIP (Utility Tap In Program) which assists with low and moderate income homes with septic tank issues.

Request for Public Comment

None.

Items for Next Meeting

The next board meeting will be held on Wednesday, January 13, 2010 at 2 p.m. at City Hall/Don Davis Room.

Meeting adjourned