

Yenne Point

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Wastewater System

Information Update #7

19 September 2005

The first public meeting of the Greater Woods Bay Sewer Committee (GWBSC) and the Engineering firm Morrison Maierle, Inc. (MMI) was conducted on Friday, 16 September at 7PM at the Bethany Lutheran Church, in Bigfork. The agenda for the meeting is attached at the end of this update. The meeting was planned for one (1) hour and concluded in that amount of time. Several attendees lingered to ask questions and to consult with members of the GWBSC as well as MMI.

Approximately 60 people attended the public meeting. In preparation for this meeting, advertisements were printed in newspapers, namely the Daily Inter Lake (Sept, 16th) and the Lakeshore County Journal (Sept, 8th). Additionally, there were several public service announcements made on the University of Montana radio station, KUFM. The Bigfork Eagle sent a reporter to the public meeting to provide a report in the Bigfork Eagle on Thursday, Sept 22nd. The Lakeshore County Journal also agreed to publish a similar report.

The full meeting presentation will be posted to www.yennepoint.org during the week of 19 Sept 05, under the “Public Meeting” folder. During the meeting, Scott Murphy and Bill Buxton of MMI brought up several points that should be further clarified. One of the points focused on the various grants that are available to projects such as ours. Grants are available to voluntary community projects and not generally available to projects for which there is a legal mandate. *{The seldom welcomed “You have 1 year to fix this situation” is one version of this type of mandate}* For more information on the granting process, go to the following sites on the yennepoint webpage: *MT Dept of Commerce, MT Dept of Environmental Quality, and the MT Dept of Natural Resources and Conservation.* Another point was the discussion of costs per month for a wastewater system. If you view the slide presentation under the “Public Meetings” folder on the yennepoint webpage you will see various examples of what some wastewater projects are costing the communities they service. It is not within the capabilities of MMI at this time to predict what the Greater Woods Bay Planning Area (GWBPA) will pay on a monthly basis. This will not be possible until at least the Preliminary Engineering Report (PER) is completed. Another point is the “Target Sewer Rate” discussion. Basically, this is the rate below which the State Funding Agencies will not

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consider lending their support to a project. In essence, it is a bottom line figure for monthly costs. It is not known at this point how much above that minimum figure the GWBPA will be. Again, much future information is tied to the completion of the PER. A final point is the five (5) options for wastewater elimination. It is highly likely that one (1) or more of these options will not be appropriate for the GWBPA. While all must be evaluated, it will be a technical as well as a fiscal determination that nets the best option for our area.

Several questions were asked of Pat Smith, GWBSC Chairman following the formal presentation. The GWBSC and MMI are continuing the pursuit of information that will address these, and other concerns, some of which will be surfaced in subsequent public meetings. Here is a short list of some of the questions and concerns that were voiced.

- 1) Why do we need a sewer?
- 2) So What if we don't have one?
- 3) Who's going to make me connect?
- 4) What authority do we need to enforce this initiative?
- 5) What will my property value do on the sewer?
- 6) How will we pay for the whole project?
- 7) What studies have been done to validate the need for sewer?

Following the presentation by MMI, Pat introduced a supporting, but nonetheless important project: The Community Plan and Survey. This will be a project running concurrently with the PER and Pat covered several of the good reasons for it. The main reason is to determine how to properly size our wastewater project to meet the needs of the community. The survey will be distributed most likely in October. Pat asked for anyone having an interest in joining the voluntary team forming the community planning committee to inform him of that interest. He made reference to the Lake County "Development Densities for Community Growth Areas" and pointed out that the GWBPA is a Growth Community. To see what Lake County considers a maximum level of development, go to the Lake County Webpage (www.lakecounty-mt.org); then.. 1) to County Offices; 2) to Planning Department; 3) to Density Map and Regulations; 4) to Density Map Regulations; 5) to Development Densities for Community Growth Areas page 7 of 14.

In addition to the Lake County website density policy information, it is possible to find the Montana State regulations governing the procedural requirements to accomplish the goals of community planning. These requirements can be found in the information contained within the "Land Resources and Use" section of the Montana Annotated Code. To see that, go to yennepoint.org. Once opened, find the Montana Annotated Codes by following these tips.

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- a) Go to the weblink “Montana State Agencies”
- b) Go to the “Judicial Branch” and open “State Law Library”
- c) Go to “Montana Code / Administrative Rules of Montana”
- d) Open “1 Montana Code 2005”
- e) Go to Title 76 “Land Resources and Use”, and see chapters 1-4.

This month many summer residents will migrate to their winter homes in other states, regions, or provinces. For those who will be departing the GWBPA for the winter, it will come as no surprise to you to know that work will continue by your GWBSC in conjunction with MMI to complete the PER. In addition, work will continue on the community plan and the logical nexus in that area. You will be able to stay informed on both of these aspects of the overall wastewater project through updates such as this one, posted on the webpage, and through your neighborhood representative by telephone or email.

Respectfully,

Paul J. Rana
GWB Sewer Committee Vice Chairman, and
Yenne Point and Romain Estates Representative
montanar@aol.com

Greater Woods Bay Area Wastewater Project

Friday
16 Sept 2005
7 P.M.

1. Recent History
2. Map of Greater Woods Bay Planning Area
3. Life Cycle of a Wastewater Project
4. Steps of a Preliminary Engineering Report (PER)
5. Finances of the Project
6. Sanitary Survey Results
7. Treatment Alternatives
8. The Next 6-12 months for the Project
9. Neighborhood Involvement
10. Community Planning

MISSION STATEMENT: The Greater Woods Bay Sewer Committee is developing, in conjunction with a qualified engineering firm, a cost effective and efficient wastewater treatment system. The system will be designed to protect the water quality of the surrounding aquifer, the waters of Flathead Lake, and the health and well-being of the people and property of the Greater Woods Bay area, from the first day of operation to well into the future.

Community Representatives:

Sheaver's Creek District	Bob Hand	837-5253
Woods Bay District	Lyle Whiteman	837-6247
Community Lane	Jerry Brobst	837-5286
Shore Acres-Orchard Lane	Pat Smith	837-6080
Yenne Point Road	Bob Seccombe	837-3514
Ridgewood	Brent Passwater	837-1361
White Cap Lane	Woody Nedom	837-2237
Sylvan Drive	Dan Paine	837-0301
Yenne Point	Paul Rana	837-1102
Romain Estates	Paul Rana	837-1102
GWBSC Secretary	Nancy Idler	837-1123

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