

AMSTERDAM/CHURCHILL COMMUNITY PLANNING GROUP

8-24-09

ATTENDEES: Warren Vaughan, Ashley Jones, Bob Urich, Jack Vander Molen, Tim Van Dam, LeRoy Logterman, Brent Sinnema, Jeff Larson, Cordell Pool, Carol Weidenaar and Amy Waring.

MEETING INTRODUCTIONS:

- 1) The Vice-President Tim Van Dam lead the meeting
- 2) A voting quorum was present.
- 3) Excused absence was granted to Walt Sales.
- 4) No minutes or Treasurer's report because our last meetings were Open House.

BUSINESS:

5) SIDEWALKS/TRAILS

Tim Van Dam and Ashley Jones reported that a \$90,000.00 grant was approved by Commission. We need to match with \$13,000.00. Location of sidewalk is along Churchill Road from Manhattan Christian School to the west of Bethel Church. Need to talk about maintenance. The Gallatin Planning Board gave \$15,000.00 for Gallatin Gateway sewer system and might be a source for funding.

- 6) Jeff Larson and Cordell Pool of Stahly Engineering reported:
 - a) Primary way to do water and sewer is by grants.
 - b) First need to form a water district. Best to have a combined sewer and water district. Existing wells can be within the water district. Need to have a goal then tie in all the pieces together. District has to come up with water rights such as present wells and find water for sale and move it. There are approximately 250 homes presently on Churchill.
 - c) How to form a district:
 - 1) Begin by acquiring a list of registered voters in the sewer district
 - 2) Advocate
 - 3) Hold election with voters to actually create the district
 - 4) Apply for grants.
 - d) Creating a water system would take two primary steps:
 - 1) Create a "Preliminary Engineering Report" (PER) explaining all the issues and creating a roadmap for how to move forward;

2) Obtain a “construction grant” to begin actual construction on the system.
(Grant funding is available for both of these steps).

- d) Benefit of water district
 - 1) Fire protection (can provide more reliable hydrants, boosting fire protection)
 - 2) Improved water quality by providing a single entity to sample water. This could provide long term cost savings
 - 3) A single entity could better address any regulatory changes like those the area is currently experiencing with arsenic levels.
 - 4) A single entity could maintain everything

e) Potential backs include the fact that it likely will not be a cheaper solution than keeping everyone on existing wells.

e) Existing programs to help are thru :

T-Sep/ a \$15,000.00 grant/ have to match/ Gateway received it from planning board.

RGL/a renewal grant/ maximum of \$25,000.00.

- f) Warren will acquire the names within the sewer district.
- g) Go to the Commission to ask the right to hold the election and name your resolution of intention.
- h) Then voting process.

Our next meeting will be September 14, 2009

There being no further discussion a motion was made to adjourn and seconded.