

Walter M. Gardner, Jr.
Mayor

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Town Administrator

TOWN OF WARRENTON

“Historically Great - Progressively Strong”

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PUBLIC WORKS COMMITTEE

TUESDAY, JULY 30, 2013

The Public Works Committee meeting was called to order by Commissioner Kimberly Harding, Tuesday, July 30, 2013 in Town Hall conference room. Attending this meeting were committee members Commissioners King and Britt, and Commissioners Mooring and Fleming, Public Works Director Bill Perkinson, Town Administrator Robert Davie and Annette Silver, Minute Taker.

The purpose of this meeting is to recommend changes to access fees for the inactive water and sewer accounts in the Town area. Utilities currently serving a particular property or location determine the actual fee that applies. (In-town water rate; \$12.28 In-town sewer rate \$8.50 total \$20.78. Out-of-town water rate \$22.42; Out-of-town sewer rate \$23.25 total \$45.67.)

These fees apply to both commercial and private dwellings. The proposed change is to allow only vacant properties with no structure the opportunity for disconnection from water and sewer services. The costs to disconnect from Town sewer service will be a base fee of \$575 with possible additional fees; and costs to disconnect from water service include a base fee of \$75 with possible additional fees. This disconnect option comes with the understanding that if they want to reconnect later full tap fees must be paid. **All fees must be paid prior to actual disconnection from service.** Of the 210 structures vacant within the town water district, 22 properties would be eligible for the disconnection fee and of those 22 properties 6 are within F & M Mobile Home Park. There are four additional properties still being researched.

As representative of the Maryland Company aka F & M MHP, Commissioner Fleming voiced concerns of the financial cost they would incur if a unit is vacant over a period of time. He believes this would be an undue burden to the Maryland Company. After further discussion waiving the access fee for a period of one month was agreed upon as a fair compromise to all active accounts that become inactive. This waiver would go into effect when an account is closed.

Commissioner Fleming questioned if the Maryland Company could be responsible for capping off their own water/sewer units in lieu of the town fees. Commissioner Mooring and Mr. Perkinson explained in depth that the maintenance, inspection and liability of the lines are the responsibility of the town. The disconnect fees as presented were agreed to. A representative for Maryland Company and Town of Warrenton will be present when work is done at F & M to identify area to be disconnected clearly. F & M Mobile Home Park will be sent a letter for their records detailing decision after Board approval.

This recommendation will be presented to the Board for approval. Letters to be written to customers involved in the access fee will be revised to add new disconnect option for 22 eligible properties.

With no further business, meeting adjourned.