

Village of Thurston
Council Meeting Minutes
July 19, 2006
SPECIAL MEETING

Combined meeting with Thurston Council & Mayor, Walnut Township Trustees & Clerk, Walnut Creek Sewer District and Development Director for Fairfield County: David Zak, to discuss possible sewer expansion in the Thurston area.

Meeting was called to order by Walter Gabriel at 7:00 PM. Those in attendance included:

Mayor Mary Barber, Council Members Robert Ortman, Ed Vanek and Steve Reedy for the Village of Thurston; Michelle Shumaker, Secretary.

Trustees Walter Gabriel, Alan Dupler and Ralph Zollinger for Walnut Township, along with Pauline Ety, Clerk.

Jan Janis, President of Walnut Creek Sewer District, along with Board Members Karl Stalter, Jay Scholl, Lowell Hite, Steve Reedy and Ed Vanek.

Fairfield County Development Director, David Zak.

Visitors Mike & Darlene Wagner, owners of Fast Max, Inc.; Members of Watson Farm LTD: Michelle Shumaker, Brenda Kincaid, David Watson and Jill Boyer; JoAnn Hite; Ernie Harter.

The pledge of allegiance was recited.

Opening remarks were made by David Zak. He explained how he has been working with the Village of Baltimore and Walnut Township. He is aware that the Village of Thurston is interested in the idea of expanding, if it's possible, and initiated a question-and-answer session.

David Zak asked about the water line between Thurston and Baltimore. Who owns it? Mary Barber said The Village of Thurston owns it. He wanted to know if there is a maximum allowance in the contract between Baltimore and Thurston. Michelle Shumaker said she thought it was 2,000,000 gallons per month and that the village averages around 1,500,000. Ernie Harter provided Mr. Zak with his copy of the contract. Mr. Zak will review it before the next meeting.

Karl Stalter stated that there is a sewer line that is closed which runs from Thurston to Lithchem on SR 256. It was shut down because of illegal dumping when it was owned by 3-M. He doesn't know who actually owns that line. He

would like to see it opened and available for new customers, such as Watson Farm. Also, there is a good-sized lift-station on Lithchem's end.

Jan Janis said that the attorney for the sewer district is looking into who owns the sewer line to Lithchem and that the sewage disposal plant is expected to be upgraded with grant money, which would allow another 40% in its capacity. Right now, they're not sure of the gallons per day/month that gets processed.

Mr. Zak believes that an analysis of current water and sewage usage and capacity, along with a map of the lines, will be very helpful in determining future growth. He feels that Thurston may not have enough water allowance to grow under the current contract. Jan Janis said that Pleasantville has more water than they can use. Mike Wagner thought a water line could run along side the sewer line to Pleasantville.

Mr. Zak said it should be a long term process for developing, with different phases, to cover all bases. There should be an open forum for all property owners affected. Also, as costs arise, it is possible to split them between interested parties. Maybe even qualify for help from the county.

Fire and EMS would not be a problem in this area since it is so close to Thurston, Baltimore and Millersport.

Next meeting scheduled for Wednesday, August 23, 7:00 PM.

Meeting adjourned.

Prepared by Michelle Shumaker