

3 board meeting

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Good morning,

As you know last week there was a general meeting of the three OWW II boards; water, sewer and POA along with Fire Chief Mike Supkis.

The meeting began with the water board's introduction of the fire chief. He was there to talk about things that can be done that would make the job of fire protection and reduction better for property owners and efficient for the fire department. Fire Chief Supkis would like the water department to consider fire hydrants and the ability to turn the blue stand pipes (blow off) into hydrants with proper fittings. He said that there would not be a problem of pipe breakage from the fire department and went on to explain the functioning of each system. The water departments ability to move water is by pressure and water would move through the piping into the hydrant and then from there through a hose into the fire engines pump by means of water pressure from the department. The fire truck has a pumping system once water gets into the truck to force water through their hose system.

Several questions were asked about truck weight, piping, pressure and back flow. Some members there were concerned about back flow from the truck back into the water system. The Chief explained how this was not possible because of the water pressure generated by the water department system. Final discussion of the topic led to the feeling of a direction that would be both helpful to homeowners, the water department, and the fire department.

A portion of the meeting was concerned with the responsibility of a \$2500 bill for repairs caused by breakage of a sewer pipe and leaking of contents during snow removal. Bob had been called out to view the pipe breakage and it was determined not to be caused by Bo, our snow plow operator and he affirmed that he did not cause the breakage which was located at the corner of Tree Duck and Merganser. It was thought to be a front loader of some type and Mile High did not purchase theirs until the end of the year.

The determination was that it was done by an unauthorized volunteer of which there are several in the neighborhoods. The Sanitary District will absorb the cost of repair.

The last part of the meeting concerned all three boards. It was sparked by sewer board members and agreed to by all boards at the August property owners meeting. This meeting has been considered a good idea since 1983. Our focus was a need for a plan or vision for OWW II that looks down the road (future) of our needs not something that just takes care of the present. Thoughts were as to how we can coordinate or work together, how to pay for things and what might our needs be?

An example is the by-laws or charters for how to function (rules) that were written in 1969. These are old, out of date, and not meeting the needs of our community at present. Also, written into them are rules that prevent us from making positive changes because of procedures that were good for low density ownership at that time. Our POA was formed as a recreational enjoyment area with few full time residents. We had dirt and gravel roads and a philosophy of "make-doism" with volunteer help. It was good then and those people did great service but we have outgrown that philosophy for meeting the needs of so many.

As the discussion progressed it was with surprise to several the amount of issues or challenges that our POA board faces at this time concerning problems that many were unaware of, an example being the bridge. It was noted that the Sewer Department years ago had a vision as they saw a need for an updated system which they brought about as the county had stopped issuing septic permits. The Water Department has also recognized water needs and planned for them with reservoir expansion. The POA has addressed roads, mailboxes, management among other things.

So, we felt it was in our communities interest to be pro-active and visionary to anticipate our communities needs and to be most efficient in how we address them. We decided we will meet again on **APRIL 20, 2023, Thursday at 11:00 am at the Sewer Department on Swan.**

We need all board members to think about the many items we need to address now and in the future and a plan for how to accomplish these things. Several will be listed on this month's agenda.

Gary Baton
Secretary, OWW II