

Special Called Council Meeting  
June 11, 2009, 6:00 P.M.

Present: Mayor William Isley, Herbert Toles, Hugh Marlin, Wayne Tucker, Katrina Hennings, David Jones, Brian Skinner.

Absent: John Coyne

Mayor William Isley called the meeting to order. He gave the invocation and followed with the Pledge of Allegiance.

Mayor Isley advised the purpose of this meeting is due to the time frame and City Council needs to decide if the city is willing to spend up to \$500,000.00 and join St. Clair County in apply for a federal grant to run water out Bear Mountain Road.

This grant will consist of water tank and water lines to those residents that live out Bear Mountain Road, also known as Village Springs Road who have tried for many years to tie on to the Springville Water system. St. Clair County has committed to \$ 407,000.00 towards this project with the City share consisting of \$ 500,000.00 and federal funds of \$375,000.00, which makes this a \$ 1, 282,000.00 project.

Mayor Isley expressed the following reasons the city should commit towards this project;

1. Concern for those residents who need city water
2. Extend the city limits to the Jefferson County line
3. Possibility for a Technology Park in the future
4. Plans for future development

Mayor Isley opened the floor for public comments for those who wish to speak for or against the project. Toby Hollier, 3045 Village Springs Road, Linda Fletcher, 3047 Village Springs Road and Janice Simmons, 3403 Village Springs Road addressed the City Council concerning problems they have had with well water and having to replace water pumps, drill additional wells and even replace household appliances. Each resident asked the Council to consider the expenditure to help provide water service to their area. Council Hugh Marlin requested a show of hands from other residents present interested in receiving water tap, which will tie to Springville's water system. Council received a good response from the public present.

Art Segal 106 Gin Street spoke in opposition due to the potential growth of Springville, stating the additional growth will drain the infrastructure of roads and water service to Springville and asked the City Council to oppose the expenditure for the water project.

Fire Chief Richard Harvey responded on behalf of the St. Clair Fire & EMA due to fire coverage. Since there is not city water in this area the fire department has to shuttle fire trucks with water from the closest fire hydrant in case of fires, which places a hardship on all the fire departments that respond in addition to the potential safety for the firefighters.

Charles Whitaker, 6994 US Hwy 11 asked if the residents would be required to annex their properties into the city limits in order to receive the water tap and water service. Mayor Isley responded no and further explained how the grant works. Water lines and taps will be free to those who wish to tie on to the water system during the installation of the water lines. After this the owners are required to pay whatever the price is in effect when they request a tap. However the city cannot require these residents that receive water taps to annex under the grant. Mr. Whitaker stated he opposed city funds being spent towards this project since these residents are not inside the city limits, because the economic times and the additional growth will place more demand on Springville's water system.

Public Works Director Earl Peoples recognized Wayne Wells his work in providing the following information. There are 36 homes and 3 under construction, approx 15 or more property owners interested in Springville water. Some have questions concerning annexation and some advised they wanted to be part of Springville. Earl also advised annexation is not required with grant funding. The water taps will be free to those with houses on the property, but not to vacant properties; However the City may provide the tap and property owners reimburse the city for the cost since the taps will be made while the water lines are being installed. Council Hugh Marlin asked what the cost for a water tap is. Earl replied inside city \$1,200.00 outside \$1,300.00 and \$ 1, 400.00 if they have to bore under the road.

Earl addressed some of the concerns about potential development and stated any future subdivision developments will be required to annex prior to receiving water taps or water service. He advised water restrictions are at a level 2 and taps are in place with Trussville and Coosa Valley Water Authority. Bids were opened for water line installation for Coosa Valley, once installed the water works will be able to pump over one million gallons a day if needed just from Coosa Valley. Earl stated he hopes the City will never have to deal with water shortage again.

Mayor Isley asked the Council if they wish to spend \$500,000.00 towards this project. Motion was made by Hugh Marlin to apply for the federal grant with St. Clair County to supply water to this area. Motion was second by Katrina Hennings. Mayor Isley called for discussion from the City Council.

Herbert Toles questioned if the City had the funds to commit at this time. Mayor Isley stated he feels good about where the city is financially; however some revenues are down along with the expenditures. Of course due the to economic time there are no extra funds to invest into CD, but this expense would not be required for probably a year. Mayor Isley advised this expense with increase the cities assets with a water tank and water lines added to Springville's assets. Council discussed different loan rates that could be available if the city is interested.

Brian Skinner stated he feels bad for the people that need the water, but as a business person he is not in favor of supporting the project due to the economic times.

Special Called Council Meeting 6-11-09

David Jones expressed his concerns from citizens who have contacted him and he agrees the city should not spend money on this project, but on projects mentioned at the Public Town Meeting held in April.

Mayor Isley reminded everyone a motion was made and second to enter into the grant submission with the County to participate in the Bear Mountain Water Project and called for verbal votes from the City Council. Wayne Tucker, Brian Skinner, David Jones and Herbert Toles voting nay. Katrina Hennings, Hugh Marlin and Mayor William Isley voting yea. Motion DIED with 4 nays and 3 yeas.

Motion to adjourn was made by Wayne Tucker at approx. 7:15p.m.

ATTEST:

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Brenda Roberts, City Clerk

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Mayor William Isley