

Fiegl, P.E., Joseph L.

From: Fiegl, P.E., Joseph L.
Sent: Tuesday, February 25, 2014 9:07 AM
To: 'd b'
Cc: 'James Callahan'; Zynda, P.E., Kevin J.
Subject: RE: referred to by James Callahan

Debbie,

It was nice to meet you last week at the Erie County Sewer District (ECSD) No. 5 Board of Managers meeting. To summarize the conversations regarding your desire to explore an extension of sewer services to include properties in the Vista/Greenhurst neighborhood:

- It is requested that a formal petition be submitted to the ECSD No. 5 Board of Managers, with a copy to the Town of Clarence. The petition should specifically note at the top what those endorsing the petition are asking for (i.e. requesting the ECSD No. 5 Board of Managers to consider an extension of sewer service to the below properties) and legibly printed names/addresses should be provided for all that sign. The petition with the applicable signatures should then be forwarded to:
 - ECSD No. 5 Board of Managers
Attn: Kevin Zynda, P.E.
Erie County Division of Sewerage Management
95 Franklin Street – Room 1034
Buffalo, New York 14202
- You had asked several questions during the meeting. Below are some of these questions paraphrased with the County's answer restated in ***bold/italics***. This information should be helpful for the residents to determine if they want to sign the petition:
 - Is the Vista/Greenhurst neighborhood in ECSD No. 5? ***No – these two streets are outside of the boundaries of ECSD No. 5. Therefore, for service to be provided to any of the properties, either a sewer district extension or out of district customer agreements would be required. A district extension would likely be the means if there are multiple properties involved.***
 - How would sewer service be provided? ***A cursory review indicated that sanitary sewers directly north are relatively shallow. Therefore, a low pressure system (individual grinder pumps with a shared force main) may be an option. A sewer to the east of Vista Road may be deep enough to service the neighborhood by gravity. Without knowing the number of potential connections and completing the necessary engineering analysis, the preferred means and methods are not yet known.***
 - What is necessary for an individual homeowner to connect to a public sewer? What are typical costs? ***If new public sewer infrastructure were installed in the area, a homeowner would typically pay a plumber/contractor to install a private lateral, which is a pipe connecting the house to the public infrastructure. Depending on the house plumbing configuration, internal (basement) plumbing work may also be necessary. It is estimated that all of this work would cost in the range of \$2000 to \$5000 per home, with the upper range based on long lateral lengths and/or very complicated internal plumbing reconfigurations. Abandonment of the existing septic tank would also be required (we do not have cost information on this). Note that there are inspection and equity fees as well.***
 - What would be the annual fees for sewer service? ***This is very difficult to estimate without knowing the full scope of the project and the associated costs to install the public infrastructure. The typical single family home in ECSD No. 5 presently pays approximately \$300 - \$500/year depending on property characteristics; however, as the Vista/Greenhurst neighborhood is not within the bounds of ECSD No. 5, the costs for the new public sewer infrastructure would be solely borne by the properties in this area. Therefore, it would be expected that the sewer bills for those in the Vista/Greenhurst neighborhood would be several hundred dollars more per year than the ECSD No. 5 "typical" to account for the additional bond debt necessary to extend sewer service to an area that is presently outside the bounds of ECSD No. 5.***
 - What are the steps after the petition is submitted?

- *The ECSD No. 5 Board of Managers will evaluate the results of the petition by analyzing the number of properties requesting consideration, the geographic distribution of the potential connections, etc.*
 - *Based upon this information, the ECSD No. 5 Board will decide if it wants to direct the Erie County Division of Sewerage Management to put together a detailed engineering analysis on what would be necessary to service those that requested consideration for a sanitary sewer extension, including an analysis on the downstream capacity.*
 - *If an engineering analysis is completed, available options will be evaluated and cost estimates will be developed. The cost estimates would allow for a more accurate approximation of the annual cost impact to the typical single family home in the Vista/Greenhurst neighborhood.*
 - *The draft engineering analysis will then be presented to the ECSD No. 5 Board for its review. Once finalized, the analysis would then be shared with the residents in the Vista/Greenhurst neighborhood.*
 - *The steps after presentation of the results to the residents in the Vista/Greenhurst neighborhood are 'to be determined.' It would be expected that ultimately a formal vote of all that would be impacted by the sewer extension would occur, provided that the Town of Clarence did not object to the extension. Please note that if a sewer is extended past an individual property, that person would be required to connect to it whether they voted 'yes' or 'no' for the project. Therefore, this is a decision that is not taken lightly by either the County or the ECSD No. 5 Board.*
 - *If the project is to proceed, the County and Board would initiate the sewer district extension process pursuant to New York State law.*
- *What if only a few properties are interested? **Individuals may request consideration by the ECSD No. 5 Board for an out of district customer agreement. These requests are evaluated on a case-by-case basis. Note that the property owner would be responsible for all costs necessary to connect to the ECSD No. 5 system, along with the applicable inspection and equity fees.***
 - *After installation of the project, what will ECSD No. 5 be responsible for? **ECSD No. 5 will be responsible for the long-term operation, maintenance, and capital improvements associated with the public infrastructure that is installed. ECSD No. 5 would also be responsible for the costs associated with downstream transmission and treatment of the wastewater. If a public low pressure system is installed, typically the individual grinder pump unit would be the responsibility of ECSD No. 5; however, the cost for electricity to service the grinder pump would be the responsibility of the homeowner. The operation, maintenance, and ultimate replacement of the private lateral installed to connect to the public infrastructure would be the responsibility of the homeowner as well.***

I hope this information is helpful. Thank you for your interest.

-Joe

Joseph L. Fiegl, P.E. | Deputy Commissioner
 Erie County | Div. of Sewerage Management
 95 Franklin St., Room 1034 | Buffalo, NY 14202
 P:(716) 858-7537 | F:(716) 858-6257
Joseph.Fiegl@erie.gov | <http://www.erie.gov>

From: Fiegl, P.E., Joseph L.
Sent: Monday, February 10, 2014 8:43 AM
To: 'd b'
Subject: RE: referred to by James Callahan

Debbie,

Yes – the 2/19/14 meeting is open to the public and will be held in Clarence Town Hall at 2:30pm. You are certainly welcome to attend; there is a portion of the agenda which is always reserved for comments from residents.

At this point, I do not need any additional information from you. Thank you.

-Joe

Joseph L. Fiegl, P.E. | Deputy Commissioner
Erie County | Div. of Sewerage Management
95 Franklin St., Room 1034 | Buffalo, NY 14202
P:(716) 858-7537 | F:(716) 858-6257
Joseph.Fiegl@erie.gov | <http://www.erie.gov>

From: d b [<mailto:mbrent5225@yahoo.com>]
Sent: Friday, February 07, 2014 4:22 PM
To: Fiegl, P.E., Joseph L.
Subject: Re: referred to by James Callahan

Mr Fiegl,

Thank you for the prompt response. Is the meeting on Feb 19th an open meeting, and if so, where is it held? Is there any other information you need from me?

Thank You,
Debbie

On Friday, February 7, 2014 9:18 AM, "Fiegl, P.E., Joseph L." <Joseph.Fiegl@erie.gov> wrote:
Debbie,

I am in receipt of your e-mail and also the message you left yesterday.

We have placed this item on the agenda for the next Erie County Sewer District No. 5 Board of Managers meeting, scheduled for February 19th. At that time, we will discuss your e-mail and the concerns you presented. Once we have received some direction from the Board, I will advise. If you would like to discuss ahead of time, please contact me at the phone number below.

Thank you.

-Joe

Joseph L. Fiegl, P.E. | Deputy Commissioner
Erie County | Div. of Sewerage Management
95 Franklin St., Room 1034 | Buffalo, NY 14202
P:(716) 858-7537 | F:(716) 858-6257
Joseph.Fiegl@erie.gov | <http://www.erie.gov>

From: d b [<mailto:mbrent5225@yahoo.com>]
Sent: Thursday, February 06, 2014 12:33 PM
To: Fiegl, P.E., Joseph L.
Subject: referred to by James Callahan

Dear Mr. Fiegl,

I have spoken with James Callahan, director of Community Development, who was very helpful with answering some questions. He gave me your information stating that you would be able to help with our concerns. I hope that to be true.

I live in sewer district #5 residing on Greenhurst Rd. The families on this street as well as adjoining street Vista have been curious as to how our streets can be added to the sewer system that surrounds our neighborhood. I am aware that original home owners 40 yrs ago voted not to be connected to the system. Through changing of ownership over the years

this is surely not the case any longer. Our systems are old and I am concerned how this impacts our health. Looking at the district map, I noticed our area is totally surrounded by sewers. As a matter of fact, the small number of newer homes with sewers are approx. 50 feet from my home!

We understand there will be a cost involved for the homeowners, but also will also add a customer base for the district. Again, this is not a large development to over load the sewer capacity, but will add to the health and resale value of our homes.

Please direct me as to how we can accomplish this goal. What steps need to be taken to go forward?

Thank You for your concern,

Debbie Brent
5354 Greenhurst Rd
Clarence, NY
716 425 5299