

Public Comments received via “Ask Us, Tell Us”

June 26, 2012

Name: Dee Czarniecki
Address: 1729 Sheridan Dr
Date: 06/25/2012
Subject: Contact Water Utility Board
Message:

PLEASE READ THE FOLLOWING REMARKS INTO THE PUBLIC RECORD OF THE JUNE 26, 2012 WATER UTILITY BOARD MEETING.

I am a resident of the city of Madison and own a private well. My well is fully functional, its water quality tested annually, and holds a current permit.

I'm disappointed with the recent change in ordinance that requires me to connect to residential water service. I was not notified of the proposal nor given the opportunity to give input prior to approval, even though I'm directly affected. The passing of the ordinance was unjust, and I request the opportunity for a public debate on the issue.

Regarding agenda item 6 for today's board meeting, I appreciate the proposed amendment to help with the financial burden of connecting to residential water service. The proposed amendment is a goodfaith gesture to encourage and support affected home owners. However, I support the proposed amendment under protest. I do not agree with the change in ordinance and want the opportunity to be involved in the process.

Name: Craig Jackson
Address: 1729 Sheridan Dr
Date: 06/26/2012
Subject: Contact Water Utility Board
Message:

PLEASE READ THE FOLLOWING REMARKS INTO THE PUBLIC RECORD OF THE JUNE 26, 2012 WATER UTILITY BOARD MEETING.

I am a resident of the city of Madison and own a private well. My well is fully functional, its water quality tested annually, and I hold a current permit.

I'm anxious and upset by the recent change in ordinance that requires me to connect to residential water service. I was not notified of the proposal nor given the opportunity to give input prior to approval, even though I'm directly affected. The passing of the ordinance without an opportunity for input was unjust.

Regarding agenda item 6 for today's board meeting, I appreciate the proposed amendment to help with the financial burden of connecting to residential water service. The proposed amendment is a goodfaith gesture to encourage and support affected home owners. However, I support the proposed amendment under protest. I do not agree with the change in ordinance and want the opportunity to be involved in the process.

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Name: Donna Brummer
Address: 5310 Siggelkow Road
Date: 06/26/2012
Subject: Contact Water Utility Board
Message:

Ms. Crawley and Alder Johnson

PLEASE READ THE FOLLOWING REMARKS INTO THE PUBLIC RECORD OF THE JUNE 16, 2012 WATER UTILITY BOARD MEETING"

I recently learned that the city water utility secured passage of an ordinance that will require us to cease to use our private well for drinking water, and to connect to the city service. Myself and other private well owners met this evening, to study the issue and the ordinance. The ordinance as currently written is unfair and unjust, in part because it requires citizens to respond under short timelines, or lose their rights. The ordinance also lacks due process. The ordinance was passed in just over a month, and despite the fact that the water utility produced a list of homes that would be affected by the ordinance, they did not contact us or any other well owners to permit us to participate in the democratic process. I believe a better ordinance would have been arrived at if the water utility had solicited public input.

I am currently under order of the water utility to connect to the public water system at great expense. I am writing to request that the new ordinance be revoked because it is unfair and unjust.

Thank you for representing our district and for working with me in this matter.

Respectfully,

Donna and Craig Brummer
5310 Siggekow Road

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Name: Michael Johns
Address: 5409 Femrite Drive, 2135 Linden Ave
Date: 06/26/2012
Subject: Contact Water Utility Board
Message:

To be read at the meeting June 26.

I am writing about agenda item 6. I own the property at 5409 Femrite Drive with a "residential" private well. There has been a well on this property for 150 years. The water has been tested at the state lab regularly since we purchased it over 20 years ago and has always been deemed safe.

While I support agenda 6, I do so in protest. I do so because I find the manner in which this major change to an ordinance was handled, which this amendment addresses, to be unfair and unjust. While what may seem to be a small number of people affected in the city, the fact that we received NO knowledge of this prior to it going before the city council is not indicative of what I have experienced in my over 40 years of living in Madison. I would have expected a postcard notice of a hearing and time for public input.

For that reason, I ask that this entire ordinance to which this amendment is targeted be overturned and immediately suspended until further discussion and knowledge of all issues involved be held in a public arena.

I thank you for your time.
Michael Johns

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June 26, 2012

Name: Carol Welch

Address:

3629 Marsh Road
Madison, WI 53718-6951

Phone: 608-838-3733

Email: ctwelch1@frontier.com

Date: 06/26/2012

Subject: Contact Water Utility Board

Message:

PLEASE READ THE FOLLOWING REMARKS INTO THE PUBLIC RECORD OF THE JUNE 26, 2012 WATER UTILITY BOARD MEETING:

We feel that this ordinance is unfair for the following reasons:

1. None of the private well owners were advised of this change as this was being presented to the City Council. We never got a chance to provide testimony. We feel the ordinance was erroneously passed without our representation and full facts provided to the City Council.
2. We believe the Council was lead to believe that our wells are a threat to the city wells. Our wells are no where as deep as the city wells and cannot possibly contaminate the city wells. Our wells are tested every 5 years and must pass in order to keep their permits.
3. We have been given the option after we have connected to the city water for drinking purposes, to keep our wells for irrigation purposes. If the wells posed a problem to the city wells, why would we be able to keep a well for irrigation purposes that doesn't make any sense.
4. We would like to have this ordinance held for further investigation with a public hearing scheduled to further discuss this issue before we are forced to hook up.
5. We have private wells because city water wasn't available when we built or purchased our homes. We have had to comply with the city in having our wells tested every 5 years to assure their safety. Each of us has incurred considerable expense in the drilling of our wells and in their maintenance. Those of us who now have city water available, find that our homes are no longer in residential areas and we would never recover the costs involved to hook up to city water when we wouldn't be able to sell our homes as homes, only property. Our property is surrounded by property owned by the City of Madison. It is in a flood zone and it would be highly unlikely for us to sell our home as a home. We feel our only option is to have the City purchase our property as they did all the property around us.
6. We feel that instead of the city spending the money to implement this ordinance, that the money would be better spent in helping the well owners with expenses that would need to be incurred to hook up to city water.

Please reconsider this Ordinance or at least delay it's start to allow all of us to present our cases.

Thank you.