

## Jim Palenick

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**From:** Jim Palenick [jpalenick@dallasnc.net]  
**Sent:** Friday, January 11, 2013 11:41 AM  
**To:** 'Rick Coleman'; 'huggybarber@att.net'; 'hoylewithers@yahoo.com'; 'JOHN BEATY'; 'ronniemorrow@att.net'; 'Martin, Scott'; 'jthomashunn@aol.com'  
**Cc:** 'Maria Stroupe'; 'Doug Huffman'; 'David Kahler'; 'Gary Buckner'; 'slambert@dallasnc.net'; 'A Martin'; 'Bill Trudnak'  
**Subject:** Town Manager's Weekly Report (#14)  
**Attachments:** Interconnect Line Letter proposal.docx; Reconstruction of Sanitary Sewer Interconnect Page 2.docx

Mayor & Board of Aldermen:

Please accept the following as the **Town Manager's Report for the Week-ended Friday, January 11, 2013.**

- As a follow-up to the Board's direction on the sanitary sewer inter-connect line with Gastonia, I authored a letter to Ed Munn (copy attached) laying out the specific details of our proposal for funding the project and moving forward. I think we have been exceptionally fair in our position and I would hope that Gastonia views it the same and agrees. I will keep you immediately apprised of any responses we receive.
- Early this week we received a "Notice of Violation" from the NCDENR for what they termed a "continuing treatment technique violation" having to do with not meeting a total organic carbon (TOC) removal ratio at our water treatment plant. Actually, we had failed to meet this parameter early in 2012 and immediately responded by providing NCDENR with a remediation plan and also purchased an expensive, in-house analysis & monitoring machine to assure we would stay in compliance. And, in fact, we have stayed in compliance. Apparently what happened was that the NCDENR either lost or misplaced our response and believed we were, in effect, still non-compliant. We believe we have cleared up the matter and should not be required to take steps beyond that which we have/are already done or doing.
- This week, following some observations by both citizens and staff that our Tree-trimming contractor was operating at times inconsistent with contractually-obligated safety procedures, we had a conference with him to go over the concerns and then issued him a follow-up letter documenting the issues to be remedied. We believe this should prove sufficient, but we will continue to monitor the overall contract progress and compliance as the work continues.
- We have again begun the process of bidding out (or at least soliciting and evaluating quotes) for the provision of Health care insurance coverage for Town employees and dependents, and will try, if possible, to get the program year to sync up with the Town Fiscal-year. We will continue to look at every way possible to try and get the best possible coverage at the lowest possible cost so as to benefit both the Town and our employees and their families.
- The NCDENR officially acknowledged receipt of our yearly Civil Fine payment of \$10,000 and noted that we now have \$60,000 remaining (6 more successive yearly payments) to fulfill our obligation attached to the settlement agreement reached over the major wastewater treatment plant violations in May/June, 2008. You may recall that original agreement total called for the Town to pay \$100,000 in fines, plus costs.
- Indications received this week from a representative of NCDOT would seem to suggest that they finally appear more likely to relent to our request to install a dedicated left-turn arrow for westbound traffic turning left into Ingles market from Trade Street. In the past they have consistently told us they would not do so because traffic did not warrant it. However, with our latest expression of concerns, they reluctantly acquiesced and acknowledged it could be accomplished. We will stay on them to now come through.
- The Centralina Council of Governments (CCOG) is holding an **Open House for input from local elected officials and the general public, on Project "CONNECT", in the Community Room of the Gastonia Police Department, 200 E. Long Avenue, on Thursday, January 31<sup>st</sup> from 4:00 to 7:00 p.m..** This is an informal, drop-in format for local elected officials and interested community members to express their ideas to the COG Staff on what the important issues are for our region over the coming years regarding employment, jobs, land use, transportation,

infrastructure, etc.. This is part of a large grant-funded planning effort designed to strategically enhance the region and elected officials are strongly encouraged to attend.

Thank You,

Jim Palenick  
Interim Town Manager



January 10, 2013

**Mayor**

Rick Coleman

**Aldermen**

John Beaty  
Allen Huggins  
Scott Martin  
Darlene Morrow  
Hoyle Withers

**Town Manager**

Jim Palenick

**Town Clerk**

Maria Stroupe

**Town Attorney**

Pennie M. Thrower

**Public Works**

Bill Trudnak

**Electrical**

Doug Huffman

**Police Chief**

Gary Buckner

**Planning**

David Kahler

**Fire Chief**

Steve Lambert

**Recreation**

Anne Martin

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Mr. Ed Munn

City of Gastonia

P. O. Box 1748

Gastonia, NC 28053-1748

Re: Reconstruction of Sanitary Sewer Inter-Connect Line.

Dear Mr. Munn:

As you know, the City of Gastonia (Two Rivers Utilities) and the Town of Dallas have engaged in ongoing discussion regarding the possible treatment, on a wholesale basis, of wastewater flows originating from the Town of Dallas and conveyed to the Long Creek treatment plant. To actually accomplish such, whether in total and subject to a long-term contractual agreement, or simply on an emergency basis, will require the reconstruction of the heretofore-abandoned inter-connect line connecting the two community systems.

As you are further aware, we have had preliminary discussions and shared engineering reviews as to the cost of the inter-connect line; how such cost might be shared; and how we might ultimately move forward. There was some concern about the estimates produced by Town of Dallas engineers, so we revisited and updated same and now feel fully confident that the estimates provided herewith represent an accurate depiction of the full and accurate cost to properly reconstruct the line at an 18" capacity – which we feel would ultimately serve the long-term needs of Dallas should an Agreement for wholesale treatment ever be enacted in the future.

Our estimates show a total estimated cost of \$259,670.50; with \$204,338.30 of such total appropriately (and equitably) assigned to the jurisdiction and responsibility of Dallas; while \$55,332.20 (which includes the metering assembly) of the total would be assigned to the jurisdiction and responsibility of Gastonia (Two Rivers). So, obviously this represents a dramatic departure from the correspondence I authored on August 20, 2012, to Mayor Bridgeman, in which we estimated total costs at \$175,219.50, and asked that Gastonia (Two Rivers) share in 50% of the total.

As such, with the aforementioned in mind, we discussed with the Mayor & Board of Aldermen how we might, if at all, move this project forward and were, in turn, given clear, unanimous direction. That direction consists of the following:



Reconstruction of Sanitary Sewer Inter-Connect Line, Page #2

The Town of Dallas is prepared to move forward with the complete reconstruction of the Sanitary Sewer Inter-connect line linking the Long Creek Wastewater Treatment Plant to the Town of Dallas collection system, in a manner and to a capacity consistent with preliminary engineering studies by Diamond Engineering (total estimated cost: \$259,670.50) if the City of Gastonia (Two Rivers) agrees as follows:

- Dallas will be ultimately responsible to pay for those portions of the project in the jurisdiction of Dallas (detailed as "Dallas Portion Only" attached herewith and estimated to cost \$204,338.30).
- Gastonia (Two Rivers) will be ultimately responsible to pay for those portions of the project in the jurisdiction of Gastonia (detailed as "Gastonia Portion Only" attached herewith; estimated to cost \$55,332.20; and to include the packaged Metering Assembly).
- Dallas and Gastonia shall jointly select, engage, and equally fund a Civil Engineering firm to complete the project design.
- Gastonia shall then use said resultant engineering design to bid, select, contract for and complete the inter-connect line reconstruction in a timely manner thereafter, paying all construction costs as invoiced and in keeping with the contract terms and spec's.
- In turn, Gastonia shall invoice Dallas, and Dallas shall pay to Gastonia, its proportionate share of final construction costs as described herein, in four equal, yearly payments, without interest; the first of which shall be due immediately upon construction completion, and the remaining three to be paid on each successive anniversary thereof.
- The metering shall be and remain under the ownership, control and maintenance of Gastonia (Two Rivers); while the inter-connect line shall be and remain equally and jointly-owned by Dallas and Gastonia.
- All such final terms and conditions shall be memorialized in a Joint-Use Agreement adopted and executed by the parties.

If these terms prove generally satisfactory, we can then discuss the process to prepare the Agreement and move forward. If there remain fundamental areas of disagreement, please indicate so and detail acceptable terms.

I thank you for your attention to this matter and I look forward to the expeditious completion of this important infrastructure project.

Sincerely,



James M. Palenick  
Interim Town Manager

Cc: Mayor & Board of Aldermen  
Bill Trudnak, Director of Public Utilities

**ITEMIZED PROJECT COST ESTIMATE  
TOWN OF DALLAS  
SANITARY SEWER OVERFLOW OUTFALL  
(Dallas Portion Only)**

ITEM	QTY	UNIT	UNIT PRICE	TOTAL PRICE
Mobilization	1	LS	\$ 2500.00	\$ 2500.00
Clearing & Grubbing	1.64	AC	\$ 2000.00	\$ 3280.00
Class 57 Washed Stone	101	TNS	\$ 35.00	\$ 3535.00
Incidental Stone Base	45	TNS	\$ 35.00	\$ 1575.00
Permanent Grassing (Seed, Mulch, & Tack)	88	MSF	\$ 100.00	\$ 8600.00
Temporary Grassing (Seed, Mulch, & Tack)	5	MSF	\$ 100.00	\$ 500.00
Silt Fence, Complete in Place	3206	LF	\$ 3.00	\$ 9618.00
Temporary Construction Entrance	2	LF	\$ 1500.00	\$ 3000.00
18" DIA SDR 35 PVC Sanitary Sewer 0'-6' Deep (Complete in Place)	2644.11	LF	\$ 40.00	\$ 105,764.40
18" DIA Mechanical Joint DIP (Class 51) Sanitary Sewer 0'-6' Deep (Complete in Place)	145.22	LF	\$ 75.00	\$ 10,891.50
12" DIA SDR 35 Sanitary Sewer 0'-6' Deep (Complete in Place)	197.48	LF	\$ 30.00	\$ 5,924.4
18" DIA Sewer Gate Valve (Complete in Place)	1	EA	\$ 4500.00	\$ 4500.00
4' DIA Sealed & Vented Manhole 6'-8' Deep	9	EA	\$ 2500.00	\$ 22,500.00
4' DIA Manhole 6'-8' Deep for Sewer Valve	1	EA	\$ 1500.00	\$ 1500.00
4' DIA Dog House Manhole 6'-8' Deep	1	EA	\$ 3000.00	\$ 3000.00
Sealed Manhole Ring & Covers with Vent Pipe (Installed Complete in Place)	1	EA	\$ 450.00	\$ 450.00
Tie In To Existing Sewer Manhole	1	EA	\$ 1200.00	\$ 1200.00
Contingency	1	LS	\$ 16,000.00	\$ 16,000.00
<b>TOTAL Amount</b>				<b>\$ 204,338.30</b>

**ITEMIZED PROJECT COST ESTIMATE  
TOWN OF DALLAS  
SANITARY SEWER OVERFLOW OUTFALL  
(Gastonia Portion Only)**

ITEM	QTY	UNIT	UNIT PRICE	TOTAL PRICE
Mobilization	1	LS	\$ 2500.00	\$ 2500.00
Clearing & Grubbing	0.50	AC	\$ 2000.00	\$ 1000.00
Class 57 Washed Stone	34	TNS	\$ 35.00	\$ 1190.00
Incidental Stone Base	15	TNS	\$ 35.00	\$ 525.00
Permanent Grassing (Seed, Mulch, & Tack)	6	MSF	\$ 100.00	\$ 600.00
Silt Fence, Complete in Place	330	LF	\$ 3.00	\$ 990.00
Temporary Construction Entrance	2	LF	\$ 1500.00	\$ 3000.00
18" DIA SDR 35 PVC Sanitary Sewer 0'-6' Deep (Complete in Place)	201.93	LF	\$ 40.00	\$ 8077.20
Fiberglass Packaged Metering MH Assembly (Complete in Place)	1	LS	\$ 27,500.00	\$ 27,500.00
18" PVC to Clay Fernco Coupling	4	EA	\$ 600.00	\$ 2400.00
Sealed Manhole Ring & Covers with Vent Pipe (Installed Complete in Place)	3	EA	\$ 450.00	\$ 1350.00
Tie In To Existing Sewer Manhole	1	EA	\$ 1200.00	\$ 1200.00
Contingency	1	LS	\$ 5000.00	\$ 5000.00
<b>TOTAL Amount</b>				<b>\$ 55,332.20</b>