

Public Works Memo

To: Mayor Rick Davis

City Council Members

CC: Heather Dawson, City Administrator

From: Tom Hellen, Public Works Director/City Engineer 

Date: August 23, 2010

Re: Elayne Tingey Request

The letter from Elayne Tingey is part of a larger request from all of the property owners in this area. As noted in the letter the requirement to connect to City of Hailey water and sewer systems was a part of the forced annexation of four properties with the Wood River High School annexation in June, 2001; Lot 3 Fox Ranch Sub (891 Foxmoor), TL 7823 (851 Foxmoor), TL 7562 (881 Foxmoor) & TL 7725 (871 Foxmoor). The code in place at that time allowed 10 years for properties to hook up to city services.

In the past the City Council has been clear on not giving waivers for connection fees when these requests have come forward, the most recent example being the request made by ARCH for their community housing.

As this situation requires more than just connecting a sewer service to an existing sewer mainline there could be other ways to assist with the cost. The request has been made by three of the property owners for such assistance. The attached photo shows one of the ideas put forth in a meeting with the property owners on August 17; that the city pay for extending the sewer mainline to the property line (the yellow line) and the remainder (the red line) is covered by the property owners. The cost to the city from the wastewater fund would be \$6,500 – 7,500.

August 18, 2010

Hailey City Council
Via email

Dear Council Members,

The purpose of this letter is to ask for your help. It has just come to my attention that as my mother's personal representative after her death earlier this summer that I have some extraordinary expenses you are requiring that I pay after a forced annexation in 2001.

My family has owned property at 871 Foxmoor Rd., for many years. When the Blaine County School District bought property at the end of Fox Acres Road, four lots were forced to annex into the city. The owners of those four included Maxine Fox, Julie Fox, Mark Pesja and my mother, LaRue Tingey. They were given 10 years to hook up to city water and sewer services. I am in the process of selling the property, and have just discovered that this work needs to be completed prior to June 2011, and the buyers are requiring that I pay for 100% of this work.

I understood that I would be sharing the costs of installation of both water and sewer lines with the other three properties on the cul d'sac. Yesterday, in a meeting with Tom Hellen, Beth Robrahn and the neighbors, I found out that all other property owners were able to "work out a deal" with the City of Hailey years ago, and have been on city water since then. I am not clear why my mother's property was not included in this "deal" at that time, so now, the entire cost of the water system falls to me.

In addition we have been required to hook up to the city sewer system. While there are four properties involved, after this meeting, it appears that Julie Fox will be routing the sewer hookup directly from Foxmoor Dr., and will not be participating in bringing the sewer service down the lane that services the other three lots. The Pesja property is in foreclosure, and it's not clear how that will affect this work, but regardless, we are splitting the cost of the work only 3 ways instead of the original 4.

At this point, my cost to hook up to city water and sewer services is estimated to be \$20,000. My current well and septic systems on my 1.4 acre parcel are working just fine. I know that market value is not your concern, let me share that even though the assessed value is \$461,000, I have only been able to get a contract for \$250,000 after it's been off and on the market for 5 years. This cost to hook up to water and sewer equates to 10% of the value of the property my mother's estate will receive after selling expenses.

In light of this situation, I respectfully request that the City of Hailey waive the hookup fees for both water and sewer for this property. That total of \$4000 for water and \$3200 for sewer equals about a third of the total costs I will incur in bring this situation current and being able to comply with City requirements before I sell this property. Please consider my request, and if it's impossible for the city to accommodate this request, some sort of help would be greatly appreciated. Whether that is help with the costs of excavation, bringing in the line from Foxmoor Drive, or waiving fees for the water only.

Thank you for your consideration.

Elayne Tingey
(208) 539-5506



