

FRIDAY LETTER
February 9, 2018

1. **Trees at the Springs.** Following up on Board discussion at the January meeting Hooper and I met with Nancy McCallor and Jim Beal at the site to consider options for removal of dangerous trees at Dockton Springs. Dave and Jim had met earlier at the Springs to clarify what trees needed to go and the need to protect the wellpoint field from potential damage.

Jim outlined his plan to bring heavy equipment onto the McCallor property south of the Springs, remove the groundcover and parts of the fence separating the properties and cut the trees under cable tension so they would not fall in the wellpoint field. He estimated the cost to be less than \$5,000 and take about a week. Nancy said she would pay all costs up to \$5,000 and Hopper and I offered to have Dockton Water pay any costs over \$5,000, up to a maximum total cost of \$7,500.

2. **Motor control progress.** Dave and the electrician completed programming the new controls, but found a problem in the interface with the underlying motor controls in the Seimatic Panel. The panel has proprietary software, so Dave consulted with the appropriate technical authorities and they have agreed to come to the site and make programming changes that will allow full compatibility with the newly installed controls.

Dave says this fix will work fine over the short run, but that the age of the Seimatic panel will require its eventual replacement with more modern equipment to allow full telemetric connection with the new planned filtration plant at the Sandy Shores well. This work will likely take place as part of the larger telemetry upgrade project that Dave has described to the Board at earlier meetings.

3. **Extending service to Summerhurst Walk.** The vacant lot with Reserve Water Share #319 for which the Board discussed service options several month ago when Sheila Doane was considering purchasing it is still for sale, but has a potential serious buyer. I need clear guidance from the Board on how you want this property served before our first communication with the buyer – likely to come when they ask for a Certificate of Water Availability to start the septic planning process. It is very important that we use that document to spell out clearly how they would be served and at what cost to them.

As shown on the attached map it is clear that earlier Boards expected the lot to be served by a very short extension of the existing 2” main that comes down the hill from 94th and now serves both shares 257 and 309 from meters in the SW corner of 309. The new meter would be a few feet south in the NW corner of 319. This service scheme is partly driven by a unique feather of the recorded plat, which includes five-foot utility easements

on ALL property lines, including the easements that our existing 2" main occupies, as well as easements that straddle the north property line of 319 and the south line of 309.

The lot with share 319 does not front on an existing main, so under the rules new service should be conditioned on extending the main to the property and then along the property line to the end of the property. Because the 2" main is the nearest to the parcel, they must extend the main the few feet south in the easement to the NW corner (where the meter would be placed) and then east all the way down the north property line to Summerhurst Drive. The new main would be at least 6", and probably should be 8".

These improvements would allow a future extension of water service east on Summerhurst Drive all the way down to serve Summerhurst Walk, provided we also upgraded the existing 2" main to at least 6". Long term, the substandard 4" line in 94th would also have to be upgraded to at least 6".

If the Board supports this new service option for Summerhurst Walk, it would make further extension down Summerhurst Drive less expensive than the current option of bringing the main all the way from the intersection of 97th and Summerhurst Drive.

The other option is to tell the property owner that they don't front on a main and that the main we want them to front on is all the way back up Summerhurst to 97th. They must pay to bring this main down to the end of their property fronting on Summerhurst, where the meter would be placed.

4. **Franchise update.** Following the King County Council adopting an ordinance requiring utilities operating in their rights-of-way to pay a fee in exchange for their franchise rights, several parties and organizations are planning challenges in court. I have attached a letter from Richard Jonson who is representing several Class A water utilities in King County inviting Dockton Water to join them in one such lawsuit.

The letter speaks for itself, and includes an internet link for those who want to learn more details. I have promised Mr. Jonson to present his letter to the Board and to convey your response to him as soon as we have a consensus. I have also sent a copy of the letter to Duncan Greene so that he can advise the Board.

Kelly