

Town of Corning
Special Meeting
April 24, 2019
7:00 PM

Supervisor Feehan called the meeting to order.

Roll call of those present:

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| Supervisor Kim Feehan | Councilwoman Jen Mullen | Mayor Jim Thomas |
| Councilman Stuart Sammis | Councilman Mike Brenning | Dep. Mayor Jerry Morse |
| Councilman Dave Shafer | John Savash | Trustee Mike Morse |
| Jody Allen (Engineer) | Calvin Williams(CCC) | Jeff Smith (Municipal Solutions) |
| Various members of the Pinewood Water District | | |

The Pledge of Allegiance was given.

Supervisor Feehan began by explaining the options for water sourcing for the Pinewood residents. She discussed the possibility of connecting to the City of Corning and the details of that option. She then explained another option could be to connect to the East Corning wells. Finally, the next possibility is to drill a well to make the district independent, and then the option to stay with the Village connection. She then asked the residents for questions.

After hearing many questions, she went into detail on each option to give the residents as much information as she could so they could make a better decision as to how to proceed. Jody Allen spoke about the next step if they chose to become independent. She explained that more than one well would likely be needed due to quantity issues, and the cost involved with that. She also stated the time line for this project would likely run past that of the Village project and the residents would still be on the hook for that cost. The cost passed on to the residents of the Pinewood District is for the entire project, even though they don't benefit from the hydrants and the piping. Mayor Thomas spoke about the \$1,178,000.00 improvement project done roughly four years ago and that this project is the final phase. He sees no need for any further improvements for many, many, years down the road. He also believes that the Pinewood people will benefit from the project and should have to pay their share. The estimated cost to each household is about ten to fifteen dollars more per month. Supervisor Feehan interjected regarding billing issues that has been brought up many times. The Town would like to be charged for water usage, the debt could be figured into that amount, but not listed as such on the water bills. Also, due to the difference in budget timing, the water contract isn't received until after the Town's budget has been approved and sent to the County. This makes it difficult to project the cost for water and to budget for it. Mayor Thomas agreed that the water contract could be agreed upon earlier in the year. A multiyear contract would be of great benefit for all.

Those present agree that staying with the Village water system is their best option at this point.

Many residents would like to see proportionate billing from the Village, as the Pinewood residents wont benefit from the new water mains or the hydrants. They agree that the filtration system is a must and are more than willing to pay their share.

Jeff Smith from Municipal Solutions suggested doing a Cost of Service Study to proportion the cost to those benefiting from the improvement. With this study, a contract can be created that works well for all, also, eliminating the word "debt" from the bill helps the Town and Village stay under the 2% tax cap. Councilman Shafer asked what the cost for the study would be. Mr. Smith stated that much of formula has been created and it will be just a matter of "plunking in some numbers". He estimates around \$2,000.00.

Supervisor Feehan will have the data for the June meeting and will send emails to the residents of Pinewood with the information she has gathered.

Councilwoman Mullen made the motion to adjourn at 8:10 PM. Councilman Shafer seconded. All in favor, motion carried.

These minutes respectfully submitted by:

Susan Edwards
Town Clerk