

Town of Vienna, Virginia

Mayor - Guy M. Wilson



Councilmen:
Thomas R. Chittenden
Gerald C. Cowden
John J. Ford
Alvin W. Norcross
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Town Manager: L. B. Cresswell

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A VERY IMPORTANT MESSAGE TO THE CITIZENS OF VIENNA:

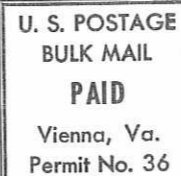
On June 12th the voters of Vienna will be asked to approve the issuance of water and sewer bonds in the amount of \$1,250,000. This request is being made after a thorough study by an expert outside firm of water and sewer engineers. The passage of this bond referendum is of the utmost importance. It's passage will mean that we will have a PLANNED, PROGRESSIVE VIENNA. It's defeat will mean that our existing water and sewer problems will continue and will get worse. By all means let's take advantage of this opportunity to make the proposed improvements while we can do so -- and without an increase in our water and sewer rates.

Inside you will find questions and answers that I have prepared summarizing the details of the improvements that are both needed and proposed. I strongly urge each of you to vote FOR these improvements on June 12th. In the meantime I suggest that you talk with and convince your friends and neighbors that the passage of this bond referendum, which will result in the needed improvements, is an absolute must.

Call one of your Councilmen if you have any questions. They are 100% behind the proposed improvements. We have spent hundreds of hours studying this matter and arriving at a workable solution.

Guy M. Wilson
GUY M. WILSON, Mayor

Town of Vienna, Virginia
P. O. Box 127, Vienna, Va.



1. QUESTION: For what purpose will this bond money be used?

ANSWER: (a) To run a 5-mile 30 inch sewer interceptor line from Vienna's Northside to tie into the Potomac Interceptor Sewer. That sewer is being built by the Federal Government and the District of Columbia Department of Sanitation from the Dulles International Airport to tie into the big D.C. Blue Plains Sewage Treatment Plant below Washington.

(b) To tie Vienna's Southside into the Fairfax County Upper Accotink sewage interceptor. That line will be completed in 1963 and will tie into the large Alexandria sewage treatment plant.

(c) To install new water and sewer mains whereby every existing house in Vienna (where it is physically feasible) can connect to the Vienna water and sewage system.

(d) To install a new 12 inch central distribution water main down Maple Avenue (we presently have an 8 inch main which is to be retained). Also, to connect all dead-end lines or stubs (loop) existing water mains to eliminate rust and sediment accumulations in the lines and increase water pressures throughout the Town.

2. QUESTION: Will the Water and Sewer rates be increased?

ANSWER: No. We are most fortunate if we make these improvements now. We plan to do away with our sewage treatment plants and the savings in not having to operate these units will take care of the bond payments for the next 15 years. At that time our outstanding water and sewer bonds will start to mature and our annual payments on the new bond issue can then be increased whereby the entire bond issue can be paid off within about 5 years from that time out of the present rate of revenues.

3. QUESTION: Why can't these improvements wait a few years?

ANSWER: The contract for the Upper Accotink Interceptor will be awarded within the next few months. The engineering plans call for a much larger line if we join in. If we don't, it will be too small to take care of our needs.

We have been working with the Federal Government and the D. C. Department of Sanitation on tying into the Potomac Interceptor. They must have a definite commitment soon so their plans can be determined. We might wait for years on this if we don't act now, and the longer we wait the more it will cost.

4. QUESTION: When will we have to make more water and sewer improvements?

ANSWER: The proposed water system improvements will be permanent. Our consulting engineers state that the sewage improvements should take care of this problem until the year 2,000, at which time they estimate a population of 38,000 for Vienna (our population was 2,026 in 1950 and is about 15,000 now).

5. QUESTION: Is the State Water Control Board and the State Department of Health cooperating in this?

ANSWER: Very definitely. They are most interested in anti-pollution of the Potomac and the other streams in the area and have relaxed their requirements as long as we definitely proceed to eliminate our sewage treatment plants. They are requiring a higher degree of treatment as the area develops, which will mean more sewage treatment units for Vienna just to take care of the present customers if we do not eliminate the plants.

6. QUESTION: Will these bonds affect the Town's tax rate?

ANSWER: No. Taxes go into the General Fund which is entirely separate from the Water and Sewer operations.

7. QUESTION: Will the 5-mile long Potomac Interceptor also take care of out-of-town customers?

ANSWER: Yes, but at 50% more than the in-town rate. This line will open up an entirely new area for development and will offer Vienna its only opportunity for many, many years to reduce water and sewer service charges. These connections will possibly pay for the entire cost of this new 5-mile line. Who stands to gain from this? We do - the citizens of Vienna.

8. QUESTION: What will we do if we don't tie into these interceptors?

ANSWER: Build more sewage treatment plants. This would be a much more expensive and less desirable approach.

9. QUESTION: Why not tie into one instead of two interceptors?

ANSWER: Vienna is in two watersheds. We must tie into both or else construct expensive force mains and pumps.

10. QUESTION: Will the Federal and State Governments help pay for these improvements?

ANSWER: Yes. Under the Federal Anti-Pollution Stream Act the Federal Government appropriates monies for the State to allocate for this type purpose to municipalities. We expect to receive between \$200,000 and \$250,000 from the Federal Government (through the State of Virginia). The amount of bonds that will actually be issued (maximum \$1,250,000) will depend upon the amount of Federal-State participation that we receive.

11. QUESTION: Do we have the cooperation of our Federal and State Governments?

ANSWER: Very definitely. Our Congressman and others have been working very close with us on this-- both from Federal and State cooperation. They realize that this is the only real solution to our problems and needs.

12. QUESTION: Will the Town quit using the Northside and Southside sewage treatment plants when we are tied into these interceptors?

ANSWER: Yes. We plan on building parks where these plants are now located.

13. QUESTION: Will this mean that we will lose control of our water and sewer rates?

ANSWER: No. Meters will be placed at our connections with these interceptors. It will cost us much less to treat our sewage this way than by treating it in our own small plants. We will still set our own monthly water and sewer rates.

14. QUESTION: Will additional water storage tanks be built out of this bond money?

ANSWER: No. We have money set aside for construction of a new 1-million gallon water tank. (We presently have a total of 450,000 gallons of water storage.) Engineering plans have been prepared for this tank. We are presently obtaining bids and a contract will be let in June for this construction.

15. QUESTION: Can I see a copy of the consulting engineer's report?

ANSWER: Yes. It is available at the Town Hall for you to read.