Town of Eureka

PO Box 313 Eureka, MT 59917 406-297-2123

June 4, 2019

TO: Landowners in Wastewater Phase 1B Project Area

FROM: Mayor, LeeAnn Schermerhorn

Project Administrator, Tracy McIntyre

RE: Wastewater Phase 1B Project Update and Reminders

Dear Homeowner,

First, we would like to say thank you to everyone who has attended one of our public open houses, called us, emailed, and who have completed applications to date. It is greatly appreciated.

Second, we want to give a quick update on where we are with the project and remind of some upcoming deadlines.

• The plans and specs for the Wastewater Phase 1B project, which will encompass the majority of the area known as Midvale, were sent to the State Department of Environmental Quality for review and approval. It is expected to have those approvals within the next two weeks with a bid release mid to late June. We hope to be in construction early August. The construction for the project is scheduled for 14 weeks, which does push us into late fall. If the weather allows, we do plan on finalizing the project still by the end of 2019.

Once a contractor for the Wastewater Phase 1B project is procured, and under contract, we will release a full schedule of when and where construction is planned to take place.

• The Town Council is finalizing the updates to the 2019 sewer code. Within the code, they require that all residents in the Town of Eureka be connected to the wastewater system by January 1st, of 2025. Normal hookup fees are \$1,500 as outlined in the sewer code. However, if you are a landowner within the Wastewater Phase 1B project area, you will be given the opportunity to the end of 2019 to sign up for wastewater at \$750. The new service connection form is attached. If you would prefer you can visit the Town Hall directly, or you can send in your check and the attached form (filled in at the appropriate areas) along with a payment for the hook up and that will get you signed up for connection. Once you are signed up, you will have until the January 1st, 2025 date to make the physical connection.

- The Eureka Town Council has also obtained funding to help landowners within the Wastewater Phase 1B (and 1A if you haven't already connected) to make the physical connection to the sewer system during construction. These funds can be used to pay for the \$750 hook up fee, the abandonment of septic tanks, and the service line if done within this year; with some rare cases being allotted into 2020. Previous letters were sent with the application, but you can also find the application for these funds at www.eureka-mt.gov. There are two types of funding available:
 - Montana State Revolving Loan Fund (SRF): The SRF is a loan program that is passed through the Town of Eureka. It will have an annual \$160 fee with no-interest. It is a three-year term with monthly amortization of payments (estimated \$13.33) placed on your wastewater bill. If you fail to pay for your loan, your water will be shut off, and a lien for the balance will be placed on your property. The application for the Loan funds has been extended to July 5th, 2019.
 - Montana Community Development Block Grant (CDBG):
 The Town of Eureka has \$205,000 in grant funds to award to low to moderate income landowners and/or to landowners providing low to moderate income housing as rentals.
 The grant funds are based on a priority of:
 - Low-Income Landowners
 - Moderate-Income Landowners
 - Low-Income Rentals
 - Moderate-Income Rentals

Within the application is a required income survey. If you are the landowner and live on the property, you fill out this form along with the rest of the application to determine if you are qualified. If you are a landowner with a low to moderate income renter, the renter fills out this form though you as the landowner must also sign it.

Please note, this is a grant fund, however; if you should sell the property or move it out of low to moderate income housing status during the next five (5) years after grant funds are received, you may be required to pay back the funds on a pro-rated basis.

The CDBG grant funds are first come/first serve based on the priorities mentioned above. It is highly encouraged to get your applications in by July 5th, 2019 as well; though sooner the better as applications are being received and the first round will be awarded the end of June. Grant funds will remain open until all are exhausted.

Remember that if you choose to use one of the two funding programs the Town is offering you
must use one of our pre-qualified contractors. The contractors are as follows and must be
contacted before applying for funding assistance as information from them must be included.

Koocanusa Excavating- Sean McNamara
 Office Number: 406-297-7609; Cell Number: 406-885-1422

 Downing Underground Inc.- Randy Downing Cell Number: 951-543-5855

Ramesz Excavation- John Ramesz
 Office Number: 406-889-5660; Cell Number: 406-270-9465

D&H Hauling- Dallas Pluid
 Cell Number: 406-261-6486

High-Grade Construction- Brandon McLaughlin
 Cell Number: 406-260-3284

A-1 Sanitation Inc – Wade O'Myer
 Office Number: 406-755-3938

NOTE: If you are planning the connection on your own and will not be using the financing programs that the Town has, you may use any contractor of your choice. Just make sure to recognize that a licensed plumber must complete all physical connections (the actual connection to the house) as per the Town Ordinance and a member of the Town's Public Works must be on site when the connection is made. The Town Public Works number is 406-297-0529 if you would like for them to visit your property and help determine a plan.

Lastly, we are here if you should need any further information or if you would like to discuss line connection, funding applications, the overall project, etc. Please call our Project Administrator Tracy McIntyre at 406-291-1416. She is setting up one-on-one appointments with herself, the Mayor, Engineering, or Public Works to ensure that everyone in the Wastewater Phase 1B project has received accurate information and has the chance to apply for the funding.

TOWN OF EUREKA

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