

NON-CODE ORDINANCE

Prepared by: Public Works Dept.
Requested by: Public Work Dept.
Introduced: September 8, 2003
Public Hearing: September 22, 2003
Adopted: September 22, 2003
Vote: Unanimous

**CITY OF WASILLA
ORDINANCE SERIAL NO. 03-60**

AN ORDINANCE OF THE WASILLA CITY COUNCIL AMENDING THE FY-04 BUDGET BY APPROPRIATING \$50,000 FOR CONSULTING SERVICES AND GROUNDWATER MONITORING TO RENEW THE WASTEWATER TREATMENT PLANT PERMIT.

Section 1. Classification. This is a non-code ordinance.

Section 2. Purpose. To appropriate unused FY03 capital project funding for consulting services and groundwater monitoring necessary to renew the discharge permit for the wastewater treatment plant that will result in preliminary engineering for the sewer treatment plant expansion project.

Section 3. Appropriation. Funds are appropriated to the following funds:

310-4359-435.45-15 ST Plant Expansion City Funds \$50,000

Section 4. Sources of Funds.

Enterprise Unreserved Retained Earnings \$50,000

Section 5 Effective date. This ordinance shall take effect upon adoption of the Wasilla City Council.

ADOPTED by the Wasilla City Council on September 22, 2003.


DIANNE M. KELLER, Mayor

ATTEST:



KRISTIE L. SMITHERS, CMC
City Clerk

[SEAL]



CITY OF WASILLA

**290 E. HERNING AVE.
WASILLA, AK 99654-7091
PHONE: (907) 373-9090
FAX: (907) 373-9092**

TO: Wasilla City Council
THRU: Mayor Dianne M. Keller
FROM: Archie Giddings, City Engineer
DATE: September 2, 2003
SUBJECT: Ordinance Serial No. 03-60

SUMMARY: This Ordinance appropriates funding that is necessary to renew the wastewater treatment plant discharge permit. Public Works has been working with ADEC over the past year to address the State's concerns with elevated nitrate levels in groundwater monitoring wells adjacent to the City's drainfields. As a condition of renewing the permit for the next 5-years, the City needs to reduce the groundwater impact or demonstrate the groundwater impact is not significant.

Attached is a copy of the letter to ADEC that describes the tasks that will be completed with this appropriation. Public Works has received an estimate from GV Jones & Associates in the Amount of \$25,600 to analyze treatment options and conduct preliminary engineering. The balance of the appropriation will be used to install monitoring wells and conduct groundwater sampling and analyses.

FISCAL IMPACT: If yes, amount requested: \$50,000

RECOMMENDED ACTION: To adopt Ordinance Serial No. 03-60



CITY OF WASILLA

Public Works Department

290 East Herning Avenue, Wasilla, Alaska 99654-7091

Telephone (907) 373-9095 Fax (907) 373-9054

August 13, 2003

Oran Wooley
Alaska Department of Environmental Conservation
43335 Kalifornsky Beach Road, Suite 11
Soldotna, Alaska 99669

RE: City of Wasilla Waste Disposal Permit 9622-DB006; Permit Renewal

Dear Mr. Wooley,

As we discussed, the following is the City's plan to address nitrate monitoring that has historically exceeded the effluent limitation in the referenced permit:

TASK ONE will continue evaluating groundwater impact down gradient of the City's monitoring wells. As shown in the recent groundwater study by Montgomery Watson Harza, the upper aquifer that includes the creek flows east. The down gradient creek area is within an undeveloped wetland that exists between gravel ridges until it reaches Fairview Loop Road. This study area extends three-quarters of a mile east of the sewer treatment plant property boundary (see attached maps).

The City will gain permission from property owners for the installation of sand-point monitoring wells to determine the nitrate impact in this area. The results from this study will determine if study area needs to be expanded. The City is requesting one year to complete the study to Fairview Loop Road.

TASK TWO will evaluate nitrate treatment methods, including ammonia reduction within the lagoons while task one is ongoing. The City is requesting one year to hire a consultant and complete an evaluation of nitrate treatment methods that will reduce the impact to the upper aquifer.

The deadline for tasks one and two is proposed for September 1, 2004. This schedule will allow the City to apply for FY06 municipal matching grants and loans to construct treatment improvements, depending on the outcomes of tasks one and two. The City currently has a \$900,000 federal earmark that will be used for improvements at the wastewater treatment facility.

TASK THREE if needed, will construct treatment improvements that will reduce the nitrate impact to the upper aquifer. This funding could be in place by July 1, 2005, and construction could be completed by September 30, 2006.

The recent MWH groundwater study confirms no impact to the lower (artesian) aquifer, which is available for drinking water. The study shows the shallow and deep portions of the upper aquifer have been impacted, however, this aquifer is less than 30 feet deep and is not considered a suitable groundwater source. Since the upper aquifer is not considered a suitable groundwater source for drinking water, the City believes that adverse impact to the upper aquifer is limited which supports permit renewal.

If you have any questions or need additional information, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Sincerely,

Archie Giddings, P.E.
City Engineer

Enclosures: Maps (2)