

Friendsville Utility Board  
Regular Meeting  
June 5, 2025  
Friendsville City Hall  
**Minutes**

**Present:**

|                                |                                  |
|--------------------------------|----------------------------------|
| Mayor Steven Cardwell          | City Attorney Rob Goddard        |
| Commissioner Margaret Maze     | City Engineer Bob Colvin         |
| Commissioner Shane Rogers      | Building Official Barry Ottinger |
| Commissioner Jonathan Newberry | Caitlyn Good                     |
| City Recorder Janet Ledbetter  | Steve Palmer                     |
| City Administrator Kim Rogers  | Jim Kirksey                      |

**Absent:** Vice Mayor Sandra Bell

1. Meeting was called to order at 7:45 p.m.
2. Motion to approve minutes from the previous meeting by Commissioner Rogers, second by Commissioner Maze. Motion passed.
3. Discussion:

Paving the driveway to Countryside Tank: The driveway is very steep, and it washes away during rains, so employees have to ditch and add gravel often. Kim Rogers requested that the water department pave it and install drainage since there are funds in contingency. Mayor Cardwell said he would be concerned that the pavement would also be washed away unless the drainage was done correctly. He said he would like Bob Colvin to look at it to make sure it would be installed correctly and get some prices.

Jim Kirksey, 882 Riverview Drive, discussed his low water pressure. He said that the previous homeowner had an agreement several years ago in which the water meter would be put up at the house and in turn, he would allow the fire department to install a repeater station on his property. He said he had a booster pump at the top of the hill and had replaced it 3 times. There had been issues with the water pressure in the past, but recently it has gotten worse. He wanted to know if the city could do anything to help him. Bob Colvin

said that all the other customers on the road had no problems with pressure, but that his house was much higher, probably a hundred feet or more. Bob proposed putting a pump station at the connection with the blowoff to pump water to the top of the hill. It would need to be set up so that if there was low suction on the pump side it wouldn't turn on, but as long as there was enough pressure, it would be on. Mr. Kirksey said his booster pump had been boosting up to 40-50 pounds when there was enough water pressure behind it. Bob said there was a power source next to the blowoff, and Fort Loudoun could put in a meter to serve the pump. Kim Rogers asked if a 1-inch meter would help since there is a 2-inch line going to the meter, and Bob Colvin told her it would, since it would give less friction loss through the meter. Mr. Kirksey asked what would be cheaper for the city, and Mayor Cardwell said the question was would that be satisfactory to try and see, and if not, they could revisit it. Mr. Kirksey said he just wanted to have enough pressure. He is at the highest point in the system. Bob Colvin explained how they would determine the suction pressure and how they would get it up to his house with the pump. Mayor Cardwell mentioned the meter being located at the house and asked if it should be moved, and Bob said it needed to be moved to the bottom near the road. The pump will be plumbed into Mr. Kirksey's line to move the water up to his house. Mr. Kirksey would be responsible for the line if they move the meter, which Bob said would be necessary because the pump needed to be past the meter. If the meter is past the pump, it would hit a bottleneck at the meter and drop the pressure, so it needs to be past the meter to have uninterrupted flow. Bob also said they would need to determine what size pump they would need to have adequate pressure. Mr. Kirksey asked if it would hurt to leave his booster pump at the house, and how much pressure he could expect at the top floor of his house. Bob said he should expect 40-50 pounds but if he left his pump, it would cause a restriction. He also said he wanted to make sure the booster pump they used could keep up, since there will be more growth in the water system in the future. Mayor Cardwell said that the board would go with whatever Bob determined would work best. Mr. Kirksey said he had been working with a plumber and would like him to be involved with the issue. Kim told Mr. Kirksey to give him her number.

4. Public comments: none

## 5. Staff Reports:

Grants update: HUD: There have been 2800 feet of sewer line installed, and 2400 feet of water line. Nitzschke had to cut part of West Hill because they found concrete over the saddles, valves and the pipe. One of the saddles had been leaking, and they repaired it because city employees were out working on leaks caused by Comcast putting in fiber and hitting the line several times. There have been 301 meters installed for the TDEC/ARPA grant.

Upcoming projects: Kim Rogers talked about the sewer going to Front Street. TDOT has new regulations that if the road is cut, it has to be paved 25 feet in each direction. East Main would have to be paved 75 feet if the project is done as planned, but Kim said she and Andy Vineyard came up with a better solution to go on the other side of the road and put a line in there. They would have to go through Doug Barr's property, which was paved, and she had been trying to reach him. The developer of the property would have to pay for any paving costs. Kim said she could get a permit the following Monday or Tuesday if everything was agreed on.

Kim also mentioned a developer off Gravelly Hills who is building 15 homes and said she would need to talk to Bob about the project.

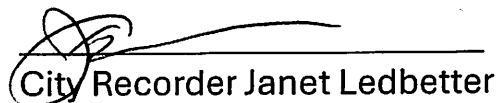
Administrator updates: none

Financial Report: There were no questions about the financial report.

6. Motion to adjourn by Commissioner Rogers, second by Commissioner Newberry. Motion passed. Meeting was adjourned at 8:13 p.m.



Mayor Steven Cardwell



City Recorder Janet Ledbetter