

KMUD In March: Plans Move Forward For Inspection Of U/G Lines

(Prepared by Mike Morgan, e-mail: vttotx@msn.com)

The Kleinwood MUD (the "Water Board") met once in March in which the primary items of discussion included 1) reviewing the overall program for inspecting all underground sewer lines within Kleinwood, 2) awarding the contract for the interior coating of the District's hydro tanks, and 3) preparing for the start of construction of the Stuebner-Airline underground pipes. Please note that the Water Board holds its monthly meeting on the fourth Thursday of each month at the Kleinwood Clubhouse, beginning at 6 PM. Residents of the Kleinwood MUD are welcome to attend, as these meetings are open to the general public.

--- During the month, the District's Engineer, Jones & Carter, finalized the plans for the televising of all underground lines within the Kleinwood subdivision. A contract will be competitively bid in April to televise the lines to determine the extent of deterioration that has occurred over the past 35-40 years. The first lines were installed in Section 1 in 1972, and in Section 2 in 1976. There is over 33,000 lineal feet of pipe throughout Kleinwood, the majority of which is 8 inch and 10 inch pipe. The trunk line that runs along Squyres Road down to the Waste Treatment Plant is 24 inch from Louetta Road to Kleingreen, and 30 inch from Kleingreen to the Treatment Plant. Major repairs were performed on this trunk line on three separate occasions: in 1994, 1997, and in 1999. The portion of the trunk line on Squyres from the Meyer Park entrance down to the waste treatment plant has never undergone a televised inspection since its construction in 1972. The cost to televise all these lines is expected to be in the \$100,000 to \$125,000 range.

--- Jones & Carter will conduct a pre-construction meeting with the contractor, AR Turnkey Construction Company, who was selected to install the water and sanitary sewer lines along Stuebner-Airline. These lines will be installed along the west side of Stuebner-Airline, from Lyons School Road south to Cypresswood Drive, and then along Cypresswood Drive west to the Meyer Park boundary. The installation of these lines will enable owners of property along these roads to develop their land for commercial purposes, following their official annexation into the District. The expected duration of this construction is approximately 60 days, targeted for June 7.

--- The Board awarded the contract to apply a new corrosion resistant coating to the two hydro pneumatic tanks at the Squyres Road water plant, and the one hydro tank at the Louetta Road plant. The work would also include smaller items of equipment that need to be recoated. The award was made to Blastco for \$57,000, the low bidder out of seven bids received.

--- The new diesel generators for the Louetta Road water plant and Cypresswood lift station are due to be delivered in early April. Installation will take approximately one week, and the target completion is expected by the

end of April. The District's goal last fall was to have this backup power supply in place and fully operational prior to the start of the hurricane season.

--- District statistics through February included a 96.1% collection of the 2010 taxes, the water "billed-to-pumped" ratio at 94.0% (over 90% is very good), and the District had 830 service connections, an increase of four connections from the previous month.

A Piece Of Kleinwood Area History: Town of Spring – Part 1

The early years 1800 – 1875

The old part of Spring is sleepy, revealing little of its bustling past as a commercial and railroading center. Once the air rang with laughter from the saloons and the clamor of trains in the round house, while across the tracks came the buzz of the veneer sawmill and the shouts of children in the schoolyard.

In 1838 Spring was a trading post on Spring Creek run by William Pierpont, a settler from Connecticut. The area was frequented earlier by Orcoquisac Indians and visited by Spanish and French explorers. In the 1820's a number of Austin colonists settled nearby, and the mid-1840's brought German immigrants like the Carl Wunsches from Saxony. In 1846 land around Spring sold for as little as 10 cents to 25 cents per acre. Property was purchased by Americans from Dixie, including French-Louisianans like the Sellers family. In 1878 there were enough people in the area to establish a post office.

The early days were agricultural, and Spring was isolated by mud and mire until the train made it accessible to Houston. The early farmer had to make an overnight wagon trip to take produce to the Houston market. Nearly everyone had a sugar cane patch and brought the crop to the town's sugar mill for syrup making. Farmers brought their cotton to Charles Wunsche or to Antone Mittelstaedt's gin near town.

(Source: "The Heritage Of North Harris County", published in 1977 by the North Harris County Branch of the American Association Of University Women)