

Sanitary Sewer Task Force Issues

1. Current ordinance needs changed, because it is difficult to administer. (Goals: certain, fair and equitable, consistent with the COS study, easy to administer by clarifying definitions in the ordinance and making the basis of the charges easily verifiable and that it be cost neutral by generating the same amount of revenue.) Current definitions are subject to interpretation.

Items staff feels have been reviewed and approved by task force members:

2. Winter Quarter Average (WQA), is currently a volume charge for a residential customer. Commercial customers are charged based on actual usage.
3. Recommendation from Baker Tilley that 25% of the bill come from a base charge and 75% come from a volume charge.
4. Boone County Regional Sewer District (BCRSD) is considered a wholesale customer.
5. University billing. They have been defined as a single “customer”, but the interpretation of a “customer” in the ordinance is very open to interpretation. Currently considered a public authority and billed based on Winter Quarter Average.

University is okay with being billed actual usage for master metered accounts and residential accounts be considered mixed use.

Items still needing to be discussed:

6. Definition clarification needed including redefining “residential” and “commercial”.
7. Master meters, how they are used for some trailer parks and apartment complexes. Do master meters receive all base charges, along with volume charges? Establish a policy regarding whether a master meter should be considered residential or commercial.
8. Should whoever gets billed for the water meter also get billed for the sewer?
9. Owner liability- if tenant does not pay utility bill then it is the owner’s responsibility?
10. Continuous base charge for houses, apartments, etc. that are vacant?

