



September 16, 2020

Mount Gretna Authority
101 Chautauqua Drive
P.O. Box 61
Mt. Gretna, PA 17064

Mount Gretna Authority Board:

Thank you for allowing the Mt. Gretna Campmeeting Association (MGCA) representatives to attend your March board meeting. We took away from that meeting your willingness to review proposals and hold further conversations on consolidation of the Campmeeting water system with the Mount Gretna Authority (MGA).

With that in mind, in the simplest terms, the MGCA's proposal for such consolidation would be for the MGA to:

- Establish a permanent connection between the MGA and the Campmeeting water systems.
- Assume responsibility for operation and maintenance of the MGCA's existing water production system, including meeting all regulatory requirements.
- Conduct all required testing/treatment.
- Provide a safe, reliable supply of water to the Campmeeting to meet our routine and emergency needs.
- Maintain the Campmeeting water distribution infrastructure.
- Ensure that the MGCA has at least one representative on the MGA Board.

We recognize that these are very general terms. However, we felt it important to take the first step of outlining the broad strokes of our goals to start the dialogue.

Thank you, in advance, for your consideration. We look forward to future discussions.

Sincerely,

Kevin R. Burd
MGCA Board of Managers, President
president@mtgretnacampmeeting.org



January 4, 2021

Mt. Gretna Authority
ATTN: William B. Care, Director of Public Works
101 Chautauqua Drive
P.O. Box 61
Mt. Gretna, PA 17064
mtgretnaboro@comcast.net

Dear Bill:

I hope you had a happy and healthy holiday season.

I am writing regarding the Mt. Gretna Campmeeting Association [Campmeeting] becoming a water customer of the Mt. Gretna Authority [MGA]. In preparation for an upcoming MGCA Board of Managers' communication to its Members January 9, 2020, we would like to clarify several points:

- 1.) It is our understanding that the MGA water supply is sufficient to add Campmeeting to the MGA system without receiving supplemental water from the Campmeeting well. If this is accurate:
 - a. Why would Campmeeting need to install/fund construction of an additional permanent interconnect to supply water from the Campmeeting well to the MGA system?
- 2.) If a new interconnect is required and water from the Campmeeting well is supplied to the MGA system:
 - a. Would Campmeeting be credited in some way for the value of that water?
 - b. Would Campmeeting [Members] be charged the same annual rate for water as other MGA customers?
- 3.) As we have discussed informally, the Campmeeting may be interested in a water system management approach that covers both our water supply and distribution needs. With this in mind:
 - a. Would the MGA anticipate charging Campmeeting a "per unit" annual infrastructure fee as with other MGA customers?

- i. If so, would the MGA expect that amount to be the same charged to other customers?
- b. Would the MGA anticipate any initial “up front” costs to Campmeeting for the MGA to assume responsibility for the Campmeeting water distribution system?

The addition of 242 units to the MGA water system would more than double your customer base—and potentially, income. Yet, with only 30% of Campmeeting cottages occupied year-round, the increase in demand on the water supply would not proportionally increase. There would certainly be value for the Campmeeting in having your professional staff provide us with water service, and we believe there would be benefit to the MGA as well in increasing its customer base.

If you have additional questions, do not hesitate to ask. I apologize for the short notice, but I am sending this in the hope that it spurs further discussion at your January meeting. Any information that we can share with our Members on January 9, 2020, is appreciated.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "KBurd". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first letters of the first and last names being capitalized and prominent.

Kevin R. Burd
MGCA Board of Managers, President
president@mtgretnacampmeeting.org

Mount Gretna Authority

February 10, 2021
(Via Email and Mail)

Kevin R. Burd
MGCA Board of Managers, President
P.O. Box 428
Mount Gretna, Pennsylvania 17064

RE: Mount Gretna Authority (MGA)
Mount Gretna Campmeeting (MGCA)

Dear Kevin:

Thank you for your letter of January 4, 2021 which was received the afternoon of our regularly scheduled meeting on the 4th. The Authority Board referred the letter to its standing committee in this matter which reported back to the Board at its regular meeting on February 1, 2021. This letter is in response to your letter of the 4th pursuant to your numbered paragraphs:

1. Under normal circumstances, the MGA water supply is sufficient to add MGCA approximate 242 EDUs to its' system without receiving supplemental water from the MGCA's well. The Campmeeting would need to install/fund construction of an additional permanent interconnect to supply water from the MGCA well to the MGA system for the following, but not necessarily all, reasons:

- a. There would not be sufficient water without the MGCA well for the following reasons:
 - 1) If there is an emergency such as a fire anywhere within the Campmeeting or the Borough to allow for a faster recharging of the reservoir;
 - 2) One or more existing MGA wells as out of service;
 - 3) The necessity to expedite the replenishment of the reservoir as needed other than a fire;
 - 4) During the summer with maximum use and a drought;
- b. Without the well, there is no assurance there would be sufficient water supply under these circumstances.

2. If there is an interconnection required from the MGCA well to the MGA system, the Campmeeting:

- a. Would not be credited for the value of the water. MGA would make an in-kind contribution as hereinafter set forth which had an estimated value in 2018 of \$122,000.00;
- b. It cannot be determined at this time if the MGCA will be charged the same annual rate for water as other MGA customers. Our engineer will have to do a rate study to determine the rate to be charged to the MGCA;
- c. The MGA employees can do an in-kind contribution for the excavation and installation of pipe for the interconnection in the MGCA except for the necessity to bore under Pinch Road which would be the responsibility of MGCA.

3. The MGA is not interested in a water system management approach to cover both the water supply and distribution needs. The MGA would manage supply system only. With this in mind:

- a. Since the MGA would not be involved in the distribution needs in the MGCA, there would not be an annual "per unit" infrastructure fee;
- b. There would not be an initial "up front" cost to MGCA since MGA is not assuming responsibility for the MGCA water distribution system;

3. (A) As a result of our discussion at the zoom meeting on February 9, 2021, the MGA amended its committee report. As a result, MGA is willing to enter into further discussions regarding MGA taking over your distribution system upon consideration of the following:

- 1) Do you have any pit cast pipe with lead joints and if so, how much?
- 2) How much cast iron pipe do you have?
- 3) The age of your main lines?
- 4) Do you have any galvanized pipe in the system?
- 5) Are all curb stops which shuts off water to the homes located and are they functioning?
- 6) Are there any lead water services from the mains to the houses?
- 7) We will need to review all maps you have available for the distribution system;
- 8) Testing of the distribution system to be determined by MGA at

- MGCA cost;
- 9) Agree to an infrastructure fee as part of the rate schedule;
 - 10) MGCA guarantee gap coverage between balance of the infrastructure account and the cost of repair and/or fund gap coverage with an initial deposit of an infrastructure fee to MGA to be determined later;
 - 11) Agree the distribution system includes the mains and the laterals from the mains to the curb stops but does not include the laterals from the curb stops to the houses.

MGA would be able to make a decision to take over the distribution system based upon its analysis of the above. We understand you are operating on a deadline, and we will take whatever steps are necessary to expedite this as quickly as possible as a priority item for MGA and MGCA.

The rates charged to the water consumer are based upon year-round costs. The rate charge to the MGCA would be an annual rate. The MGA has to assume year-round occupancy.

The Board would consider supplying the MGCA with water upon the following:

- a. MGCA would establish a permanent connection between the MGA and MGCA well at its expense;
- b. MGCA would install a new line from the existing well to the MGA reservoir feed line which feed line is located near the reservoir along an unpaved portion of Old Mountain Road;
- c. MGA would take over operation, maintenance, and ownership of the MGCA existing well which would be upgraded by MGCA as follows:
 1. New pump for the well the size of which to be determined as the current pump is not adequate;
 2. The chemical feed system would be upgraded to specifications for chemical feed as follows:
 - 1) Chlorine;

- 2) Caustic soda;
- 3) Aquamag.

4. A new six-inch meter and piping on the return feed would be installed at the existing MGA connection point to the MGCA's distribution system (the size to be determined);

5. If needed, change the feeder line a short distance from the MGA pump house building which is well number 1 to the MGA reservoir.

6. MGCA would be a customer of the MGA for invoice purposes, and the MGCA would be responsible for payment of the same and would invoice its residents as it sees fit;

7. MGA can provide in kind labor services for installation of the new line and excavation except under Pinch Road;

8. Consult the MGA Engineer for guidance as to water rates to be established by the MGA;

9. MGA would assist MGCA with any future grants or loans necessary for completion of the project;

10. MGCA would be responsible for all MGA Engineering, Attorney, and administrative fees and costs for the project;

11. All of the above would be subject to any regulatory requirements;

12. All of the above would be subject to a written agreement between MGA and MGCA.

Hopefully the above is helpful in your determination as to the best procedure to follow in updating your system. Whatever determination you make, MGA will assist you in any way possible. If you decide to go with continued use of a tank, MGA would supply you water during that process.

As always, if you have any questions or suggestions, please feel free to contact William B. Care, Mount Gretna Authority Public Works Director.

MOUNT GREYNA AUTHORITY

BY: 
Edward Kosoff, Chairman