



March 6, 2008

Silo Glen HOA
C/o Elliot Gorman
170 Meadow Glen Court
Wake Forest, NC 27587

Re: Fire hydrants/protection

Dear Mr. Gorman,

I am writing in response to a letter submitted to this office by Linda Martin on behalf of the Silo Glen HOA. The letter, dated February 20, 2008 is attached for your reference. This letter makes a formal request regarding the operational capacity of the fire hydrants located within the development.

I will briefly give you some history regarding fire protection services in the development and Franklin County actions that benefited this situation. Some of the residents might remember a time when the fire hydrants in the area were decorated with black bags signaling that there was not sufficient service for operation. This was done during what I remember to be Phase I of the development. Subsequent phases were put into place without any fire hydrants being installed within the subdivision at all. During the late spring and early summer of 2006, Franklin County installed a 12" waterline along Sid Mitchell Road that tied into the infrastructure on Holden Road to increase the operating pressures within Traylee, Silo Glen, and Summerset. After this installation was complete, Public Utilities staff members performed hydrant flow test in multiple areas to confirm that the hydrants were able to deliver ample fire protection services as established by the State of North Carolina. Those requirements set those operational parameters at a rate of 500 GPM @ 20 PSI. During that time, residents of the subdivision would have noted that the black bags were removed from the hydrants as they were placed into service. In some cases, our staff found hydrants that were not mechanically operational and they subsequently placed black 'Out of Service' rings on the front barrel. Over a period of time, those hydrants were given necessary repairs and put into full operation.

Below you will see indications of some of the results that my staff observed while performing the spot system checks within the area:

- 1 570 Barnhill Lane/651 GPM @ 30 PSI
2. Meadow Glen-Barnhill Ln./582 GPM @ 24 PSI
3. 200 Meadow Glen Dr/629 GPM @ 28 PSI

As you can see, the hydrants were all above the state minimums mentioned earlier in this correspondence.

Continuing forward, Franklin County proceeded further by installing hydrants during 2007 to those areas/phases where they had been excluded. Those hydrants were tested upon installation for operation only and have not had individual flow test performed to this date. As a practical matter and based on the drought conditions experienced last summer and early fall, we restricted testing of fire hydrants system wide. Fire Hydrants were utilized only as needed to maintain water system quality. I would anticipate that Youngsville Fire Department would initiate hydrant testing later this year if conditions prove more favorable.

Finally, the question was asked about local fire department coverage for the area within the development. This is a complicated question as the development lies within multiple counties and jurisdictional areas. Depending on the location of the structure, you could potentially receive service from the following departments:

1. Youngsville FD – Franklin County
2. Brassfield FD – Granville County
3. Stony Hill FD – Wake County
4. Wake Forest FD – Wake County

In the event of a true emergency, you would see mutual aid response from any of these departments collectively

I hope that this correspondence has sufficiently answered the questions that you have expressed concerning the operations of the Franklin County water system. If you have further questions that need attention, please do not hesitate to contact me directly @ 919-556-6177

Sincerely,



Bryce Mendenhall
Director of Public Utilities
Franklin County