

Rochester Hills City Council
C/O James D. Rosen, President

June 18, 2007

Dear Council Members,

We are writing to you as a Board representing the co-owners of Mill Stream Village Association located just south of Tienken Rd. and on both sides of Letica Dr. We represent 46 units of constituents.

We recently learned of Council's consideration of terminating the long-standing practice of the sale of maintenance water meters to residents. The concept of divorcing sewer charges for outside water usage is logical and makes sense in that this water never reaches the sewers.


We request that you not discontinue this practice. With the cost of water it has been our experience that residents apply water sparingly even with the benefit of a maintenance meter. Given the projected price increases of water we hear of and the denial of a maintenance meter, residents would just stop watering all together. Imagine if you would, the appearance of our area in late August after of a sweltering drought so common to this area.

We, as a Board, took over from the builder, MJC Millstream Village, LLC in November 2006, when MJC passed responsibility of administration to us. In doing so, it also passed a financial deficit of approximately \$18,000.00 to us. We are currently in negotiation with MJC to address this issue.

This operating deficit has been devastating to us as an Association and Board. We believe it to be unjustified and unfair. We continue to work with MJC to resolve this problem. The significance of this deficit to us, and you, is that it occurred because MJC installed the irrigation system for outside watering without installing the maintenance meters. Now we must water the new sod and landscape plantings with very costly water which include both water and sewer charges. When questioned on this, MJC advised the Board that it was not obliged to disclose the meter arrangement to new buyers. We as a Board continue to deal with this situation. Our goal is to retrofit our irrigation system with maintenance meters this summer. To accomplish this, we desperately need the benefit of the existing maintenance meter program and request that the current policy be continued.

Several months ago residents came before Council with issues regarding their taxes, assessments and severely declining market values in our already stressed economy of southeast Michigan. You listened compassionately, expressed newfound concern for their problem but to our knowledge, Council did nothing to ease their plight. And so it is, that the residents again come before our Council with a problem for which you have total ability to address and provide relief in these difficult economic times. We respectfully ask for your support in this matter.

Sincerely,

Mill Stream Village Association

Henry J. Mittlestaedt, III
Its President

Cc: Bryan K. Barnett, Mayor
Erik Ambrozaitis, Dist. 4

Roger H. Rouse, Dir. Pub. Serv
M. A. Chirco, MJC Builders

Linda Raschke, Dist. 2
Ken Nelson, Key Prop. Mich.

JAW/HJM