From: Kirsten Grant
To: Jordan Hess; Ellie Nuno
Cc: Grp. City Council and City Web Site; Jeremy Keene; Shannon Therriault
Subject: Re: Have you seen "Help Ellie access and excavate sewer at her home"?
Date: Sunday, February 13, 2022 9:56:59 PM

Hi Jordan,
I am very grateful for your response. And on a Sunday afternoon! I know you are busy juggling many difficult and challenging tasks as a council member, and I truly thank you.

Ellie and I are willing to share any additional details you may need in order to get to the bottom of this situation. There simply must be some sort of public utility easement requiring access to adjoining property in order to replace, and/or maintain a public utility such as a sewer line.

Ellie purchased her home approx. 30 years ago, around 1991. An interesting historical point is that the property was a store called Spencer's market from 1905 until 1922, and according to Ellie, and I believe her Title-- was the sovereign property of the 3 lots.

As I understand it, two of the lots were purchased in 1984 by the man who is now Ellie's neighbor. At some point in time between 1984 and 1991, this man had his lawyer re-write the easement, and claim HIS two lots as the sovereign property. This is where the lawyers come in; however I suspect the Title company should have done better due diligence on Ellie's behalf when she purchased in 1991 from the owner at that time.

I hope some of this helps us to discover whether there is, or is not, a public utility easement. The neighbor simply refuses to allow access at this time. If there is no easement for utilities, perhaps the City can assist in some other way.

Thank you again for your email today. It seems there may be hope for my dearest cousin.
Kirsten Grant
253-261-4890

> On Feb 13, 2022, at 4:25 PM, Jordan Hess <HessJ@ci.missoula.mt.us> wrote:
>
> Hi Kristen,
>
> I hit send on my previous reply to you without actually copying Jeremy and Shannon. They are on this email now!
>
> Thanks,
> Jordan
>
>
> Jordan Hess | he/him | Alderman
> Missoula City Council, Ward 2
> 406-552-6225 | hessj@ci.missoula.mt.us
>
>
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>
> -----Original Message-----
> From: Jordan Hess
> Sent: Sunday, February 13, 2022 5:24 PM
> To: Kirsten Grant <kkerm1@aol.com>; Grp. City Council and City Web Site <Council@ci.missoula.mt.us>

> Subject: RE: Have you seen "Help Ellie access and excavate sewer at her home"?
>
> Hi Kristen,
>
> Thanks for sharing the story about your cousin's sewer situation. This is appalling. I don't know the specifics of the situation, but it's possible that the City of Missoula's Public Works Department or the City/County Health Department may be able to assist. Has your cousin been in contact with either entity?
>
> I'm copying Jeremy Keene, our City Public Works Director, and Shannon Therriault, the Director of Environmental Health for the City/County Health Department. If you or Ellie are willing to share additional details with Jeremy and Shannon, they may be able to help get to the bottom of this. Often there are public utility easements or other mechanisms that require access to private property to maintain sewer lines.
>
> If this truly is a legal matter between your cousin and her neighbor and there is no utility easement, I'd still appreciate learning more details about the situation in case the City can assist.
>
> Thanks for writing; I look forward to hearing more from you.
>
> Best,
> Jordan
>
>
> Jordan Hess | he/him | Alderman
> Missoula City Council, Ward 2
> 406-552-6225 | hessj@ci.missoula.mt.us
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>
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> -----Original Message-----
> From: Kirsten Grant <kkerm1@aol.com>
> Sent: Sunday, February 13, 2022 1:19 PM
> To: Grp. City Council and City Web Site <Council@ci.missoula.mt.us>
> Subject: Have you seen "Help Ellie access and excavate sewer at her home"?
>
> Hello
> My cousin Ellie lives in Missoula and does not have an operating sewer. Her neighbor will not allow access for her to have the ground excavated and the situation resolved. She has contacted an advocate in a law firm to help her convince the neighbor to allow access. She has not been able to flush the toilet or use her faucets for over a year. I have started a gofundme page below for her to help with legal costs.
> Is there someone else I need to contact? Is there anything the council can do to help my cousin gain access to her sewer line connection?
>
> I thought you might be interested in supporting this GoFundMe, https://gofund.me/34451022.
>
>
> Even a small donation could help Kirsten Grant reach their fundraising goal. And if you can't make a donation, it would be great if you could share the fundraiser to help spread the word.
>
> Thanks for taking a look!
>
> Sincerely,
> Kirsten Grant