



Krysti Ficker <krysti@cityofgearhart.com>

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## Fwd: Letter to City Council - Vicario/Timmel

1 message

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**Chad Sweet** <chadsweet@cityofgearhart.com>  
To: Krysti Ficker <krysti@cityofgearhart.com>

Mon, Sep 30, 2019 at 9:23 AM

----- Forwarded message -----

From: **Tracy Vicario** <tavicario@gmail.com>  
Date: Sun, Sep 29, 2019 at 11:16 AM  
Subject: Letter to City Council - Vicario/Timmel  
To: Chad Sweet <chadsweet@cityofgearhart.com>  
Cc: Gregory Timmel <gtimmel@gmail.com>

Good morning, Chad,

See attached letter for you to present to City Council next week on Wednesday, October 2nd. Greg and I wanted to be sure that the water leak had been fixed and to share the outcome from the plumber (bill also attached).

Once you have a chance to review, please let me know if any additional information would be helpful.

Thank you very much, Chad. We appreciate your assistance and advocacy. If you don't mind, please confirm receipt of this message and attachments.

Regards,

Tracy Vicario  
Gregory Timmel

--  
"Resilient Together!"

Chad Sweet | City Administrator  
City of Gearhart  
698 Pacific Way | Gearhart, Oregon 97138  
Office: (503) 738-5501 | Fax: (503) 738-9385  
chadsweet@cityofgearhart.com

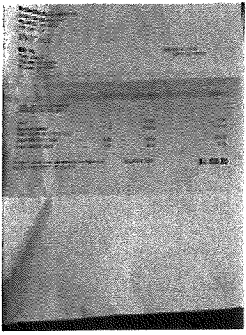
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### 2 attachments

**Plumbing bill Vicario.jpg**  
47K



 **Gearhart City Council Letter.Final.docx**  
15K

Tracy Vicario and Gregory Timmel  
783 Nita Avenue; Gearhart, Oregon 97138

September 29, 2019

Re: Water Billing / Vicario and Timmel; Account #003757-000

Dear Members of the Gearhart City Council,

I am writing this letter to ask for your understanding and assistance. My wife Tracy and I happily and excitedly took possession of our newly purchased Gearhart home at 783 Nita Avenue on July 17, 2019. As part of our pre-purchase due diligence, we performed a standard home inspection that revealed no problems or concerns.

We received our first water bill from the City of Gearhart on September 3<sup>rd</sup> in the amount of \$4,428.53. Tracy contacted the city immediately and was told it was obviously a mistake and that the bill should be in the range of \$39.00. I received a follow-up call later that morning and was told that the original bill was in fact correct and that we must have a leak somewhere on the property and that we should contact a plumber immediately. Tracy did so and Dale from Ryan Osburn Plumbing came to the house soon after that same day. The plumber spent six hours on the property and was initially unable to locate a leak. He then contacted the city and requested that a representative from the Water Department visit the premises and that the meter be replaced. The city water specialist arrived and after a somewhat heated discussion replaced the meter. After replaced and when the water was turned on again, this resulted in additional pressure and the leak became immediately apparent (water shooting up out of the ground in front of the main entrance). The plumber was then able to repair the leak. (See attached bill from Ryan Osburn Plumbing in the amount of \$1,156.50 for 10.5 hours.) Our home now has more water pressure flowing than any other day since we closed on the home.

During these few days we also learned that the water meter had not physically been read during the time of the transfer of the property from the previous owner to us making it impossible to know when the leak had actually started. The Friday following this incident Tracy had a very positive, helpful, in-person conversation with Chad Sweet, the City Administrator who suggested we inform the Council in writing of our predicament.

Due to the meter not having been read at the time of transfer, the meter being faulty, and the additional time it took the plumber to find the leak, we respectfully request that the Council waive the \$4,428.53 bill and reissue a bill for an average month at the 783 Nita Avenue address. As soon as we learned of the leak we took immediate steps that resolved the problem that same day.

We are both very happy and excited about our new home in Gearhart and are looking forward to being active members of the community (and have already signed up to volunteer with the emergency preparedness team). Thank you for considering our request. We would be happy to provide any additional information if it would be helpful.

Sincerely,

Gregory Timmel & Tracy Vicario  
503.310.9378  
[gtimmel@gmail.com](mailto:gtimmel@gmail.com); [tavicario@gmail.com](mailto:tavicario@gmail.com)

RYAN OSBURN PLUMBING, INC.  
 33485 SW Old Firm Drive  
 Warrenton, OR 97146  
 503-738-1124

**INVOICE**

**BILL TO**  
 Tracy Viscusi  
 758 NW 12th Avenue  
 Portland, OR 97209

INVOICE # 13736  
 DATE 09/15/2015

JOB: 783 NITA GEARHART  
 (SERVICE WATER LEAK)

DESCRIPTION	QTY	RATE	AMOUNT
parts			
Minimum Service	1	77.50	77.50
Call/Includes Up To First Hour	1	125.00	125.00
Hours: Mechanics Labor	9.25	96.00	905.50
Hours: Helpers Labor	1.25	38.00	47.50

Fee of 1.5% per month, 18% annual will be charged on all  
 balances 30 days in advance. Min chg \$2.50

**BALANCE DUE**

**\$1,156.50**