

NEWS RELEASE – TOWN OF ALTO STATEMENT ABOUT MT. VERNON MILLS

January 14, 2020

As we have received notification last week of the imminent closing of Mt. Vernon Mills, formerly known as Riegel, our hearts are moved with compassion and much prayer has been spoken for all the families that will be affected by this action. Of the over six hundred employees, many have worked there most of their lives and some whole families are employed there as well. We know life always brings change and according to **Romans 8:28 KJV** we know that all things work together for good to them that love God, to them who are the called according to his purpose so we trust that He will lead each one into their new purpose and meet every need according to His mighty power as we look to Him.

There has been much speculation as to how this action will affect the Town as well. In the past the mill purchased 51% of our water, but that has been reduced to 48% last year. We recently had air in our waterlines which caused us to examine the depths of our pumps and did work in several of the wells which has resulted in a substantial increase in the production of water from the wells. The increase has been enough to eliminate our need to purchase water from Demorest and Banks County to meet the needs of the system except for emergency situations. God indeed works in mysterious ways as the situation has presented its own solution with a little work and tightening up the expenditures. We will continue to watch as the reduction of the electricity and supplies needed will offset the loss of revenue, but we will be thankful as He always provides.

Mayor Audrey Turner has spoken with GMRC Workforce Development representatives about hosting a job fair to help assist the community in finding jobs for those that will be displaced. They offer free services to assist in your job search including preparing resumes, cover letters, applications, GED testing and continuing education to increase your skills and set new career goals. Their contact number is 770-538-2727 and we will be posting any job fair information on our website, face book page and print and post flyers in the City Hall, when we receive it. Thank you and be BLESSED!