

**MINUTES
PUBLIC WORKS COMMITTEE**

FEBRUARY 8, 2012

The meeting was called to order by Chairperson Mel Schaefer at 5:00 p.m. Members present were Jeff Bertram, Keith Hemmesch, Steve Vaske and Dave Peschong. Advisory members present were Ron Mergen and Chuck DeWolf, Bolton & Menk, Inc.

Motion was made by Peschong to approve the minutes from the January 11, 2012 Public Works Committee meeting with one correction on the Wastewater Facility; Peschong made the motion and Hemmesch seconded it. Seconded by Hemmesch and unanimously carried.

CRACK SEALING

It was reported that the City has been working with the Township and the City of Melrose for a number of years. The material is purchased in large quantities and the rental of equipment costs are shared. A cost estimate was distributed stating the total cost of \$8,435.64 will be split 3 ways equaling \$2,811.88 each, plus router bits if needed. After a short discussion,

Motion was made by Hemmesch to approve the Crack Sealing estimate in the amount of \$2,811.88 plus router bits if needed. Seconded by Peschong and unanimously carried.

RICE LAKE TMDL

DeWolf and Mergen have read the report and feel there is not a need to comment back to MPCA.

HWY. 55 & COUNTY ROAD 181 IMPROVEMENTS

DeWolf and Mergen have met with MnDOT and MnDOT indicated the project does have some merit to it and funds are available in 2012 and 2014. 2013 funds have been allocated and DeWolf will get a concept plan to MnDOT along with an estimate and bring this back to the next meeting.

OPPORTUNITY PARK PLAT

DeWolf presented the plans and specifications for all the utilities including explanations of the storm sewer pond noting it will be on City property and maintained by the City. Other items discussed included:

- Right of way for Opportunity Drive is proposed to be 66 feet. It was noted that the right of way of Diekmann Drive is only 33 feet. Members concluded that for posting of signs, utility installation, and truck maneuvering the road should remain at 66 ft.
- The old airport hanger was also discussed noting that at some point it will need to be demolished and if added to the project the City will benefit.

Motion was made by Hemmesch to approve the plans and specifications with the addition of demolition of the old airport hangar. Seconded by Peschong and unanimously carried.

WASTEWATER FACILITY

A letter was presented identifying needed upgrades to the existing Wastewater Treatment Facility. The letter asks MPCA to change the scope of the grant and allow the following items to be grant eligible:

- New lift station
- Aeration system improvements
- Stabilization pond mixing system
- Irrigation pump station improvements
- Pivot improvements

After a short discussion,

Motion was made by Bertram to send the letter to MPCA. Seconded by Peschong and unanimously carried.

Also discussed was:

1. Master Mark and AMPI SIU contracts. Master Mark is on a one year extension and AMPI is operating on an expired contract.
2. Sludge depths are a concern; how to maintain them and how will the City pay for them when the ponds need to be cleaned out.

DeWolf will do an analysis and present it at the next meeting.

IRRIGATION CONTRACTS

Information was reviewed on the existing contracts noting the City currently charges \$30.00 per acre on the land the farmers own and the City irrigates. The current cost has been around \$80.00 per acre and a private system will average \$90.00 per acre. An email from Brad Wenz, SCSWD notes it would cost \$110,000.00 to install a private pivot, well, and piping. Members suggested drafting a letter to the affected farmers, lay out the City's costs, and ask for their input before a decision is made.

ALLEY VACATION

A parking lot concept drawing was presented were the approach would be relocated to the west and opened up to two way traffic. It was noted this would give a second access; however, Queen Bee's Bar and Grill needs to provide approval from the utility companies to build over their utilities. Corner Drug has not yet purchased the lot. It was questioned who is going to pay to have the approach moved. It was stated that the benefiting properties should pay for the relocation of the access.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 5:55 p.m.