

MINUTES PUBLIC WORKS COMMITTEE

APRIL 11, 2012

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

Motion was made by Peschong to approve the minutes from the March 14, 2012 Public Works Committee meeting. Seconded by Vaske and unanimously carried.

WATER CONSERVATION RATES

It was reported that the State Statute has now changed; effective in 2015 the City can now use conservation rates or uniform rates while demonstrating that other water reduction efforts are delivering conservation results.

WASTEWATER FACILITY

DeWolf reviewed the SIU's with the members. The agreements are very similar to the previous ones. Items discussed included:

- #8 Testing - all costs are to be billed to the industry; however, if the City elects to do additional testing the City will pick up the cost
- #9 the numbers of days the sampler can be out of service before the City requires a temporary sampler is 15 days
- #10 the City has the right to enter the sampling station only

The Committee also discussed the right of the industry to sell all or a portion of the allocated BOD. Members felt that it should not be in the agreement because the City is not bonding for debt service and this is only a five year contract. DeWolf also updated the Committee on the design and permitting issue. Everything has been submitted to MPCA and the City is now waiting on them; however, a June bid date is still anticipated.

IRRIGATION CONTRACTS

Members reviewed the comments from the meeting with the farmers. The consensus from the meeting was that the farmers felt they should pay for electrical (\$25.97 per acre) and maintenance and repair (\$8.43 per acre) averaged over a three year period. The benefits to the City and the farmers were discussed and acknowledged the need to work together. After a short discussion,

Motion was made by Peschong to increase the rate \$1.00 per year for the next five years and recommend such to the City Council. Seconded by Bertram and unanimously carried.

HWY. 55 & COUNTY ROAD 181

DeWolf reported that MnDOT has accepted the West bound alteration, but not the East bound. The City is waiting on MnDOT to approve the funding.

WATER PLANT REHAB PROJECT

It was reported that the PFA loan application is due in June. The application will be brought to the May meeting with detailed information.

SUB-CONTRACT OUT SEWER JETTING VERSUS HIRING A THIRD PART-TIME WORKER

It was reported that there is a third part-time worker budgeted. The Committee looked at this and felt a need to reduce the work load of the full time people. In addition the City doesn't have the equipment needed to remove the inorganic material from the sewer lines. Staff would still need to climb down the manholes and bucket the material out. After a short discussion,

Motion was made by Bertram to approve the quote from Visa Sewer at \$.65 per foot for sewer cleaning and recommend such to the City Council. Seconded by Peschong and unanimously carried.

2012 Z TURN MOWER

It was reported that the City had received prices for trading in the existing front mount mower and the price was over \$22,000.00. The City is now looking at keeping the front mount mower and soliciting bids for a new Z turn at an estimated cost of \$14,000.00. This would prolong the longevity of the front mount and give the City an extra mower, which will be very helpful with the volunteers. After a short discussion,

Motion was made by Vaske to purchase the Z Turn Mower and recommend such to the City Council. Seconded by Peschong and unanimously carried.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 5:45 p.m.