

MINUTES PUBLIC WORKS COMMITTEE

AUGUST 8, 2012

The meeting was called to order by Chairperson Mel Schaefer at 5:00 p.m. Members present were Jeff Bertram, Steve Vaske, Keith Hemmesch, 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 July 11, 2012 Public Works Committee meeting. Seconded by Hemmesch and unanimously carried.

RIVER STREET CATCH BASIN

Mergen reported that the City had a collapsing storm sewer manhole at River Street, just north of James Street. The City had Voss complete the work at the cost of \$2,960.00 as the manhole had to be replaced.

HWY. 55 & MAIN STREET SINK HOLE

MnDOT informed the City of a sink hole in Hwy 55 at Main Street. This hole is on top of the City's water main. MnDOT is giving the City two options:

1. MnDOT will excavate, identify the problem, and repair. If it is the City's issue MnDOT will then bill the City back for the expenses.
2. The City can excavate and repair the problem and if it is determined not to be any cause of the City's then the City can bill MnDOT back.

Committee members briefly discussed this and felt the City should be in control.

Motion was made by Hemmesch to repair the sink hole at Main Street and Hwy. 55 and bill MnDOT, if the City can. Seconded by Peschong and unanimously carried.

STREET CIP

It was reported that on CSAH 66 and on one block off Washburne Ave. the City still has the old water main in the ground, 1920 vintage. Members discussed the issue. The street still has 10 plus years of serviceable life in it and if the City overlays the street as planned the City would be adding an additional 10 years to the life of the road. It was suggested that the City only seal coat the streets at this time and put the downtown streets on the schedule for a 2024 rehab to replace the water mains. This should be done with a letter to the downtown property owners explaining the reasoning.

Wells 3 & 6

Well # 3 - The controls have gone out on this well, it was running at 100 gpm, at MPCA's request. It was noted that if MPCA wants to run the well they will need to pay for the controls repairs, and upgrade.

Well # 6 - Traut Wells began the rehab and got their sweep stuck in the casing. Traut viewed the line and it revealed several o-rings from the pitiless adapter and some severe pitting. A letter from Traut was reviewed noting two options:

1. Install an inner liner in the existing well casing; this would require the City scale back the well capacity.
2. Replace the well by moving it 5 to 10 feet and drill a new well.

Traut recommends going to a stainless steel casing. DeWolf and staff will research the issue more and bring a recommendation back to the next meeting.

WASTEWATER RESCOPING PROJECT

DeWolf presented the bids with Magney as the low bidder with a bid of \$4.7 million. The engineer's estimate was \$4.2 million. The amount includes the main lift station, pretreatment pond rehab, irrigation pump station, and replaces two irrigation pivots. The bid does not include the rip rap or any odor control enhancements. Financing the project includes:

- A grant in the amount of 2.4 million
- PFA loan with an estimated interest rate of 1.5%

A proposed rate schedule was presented showing a five year plan which would be phased in to keep the base rate at \$21.00 and increase the rates from \$2.47 to \$3.20 per 1,000 gallons over the next five years. After a short discussion,

Motion was made by Hemmesch to approve the project; contingent on grant approval and the PFA loan and recommend such to the City Council. Seconded by Peschong and unanimously carried.

MPCA – FORMER MIDTOWN SERVICE STATION

The Committee was updated on the meeting with Senator Fischbach, Dept. of Health and others. Some of the points made and reviewed were:

- The purpose of the meeting was to educate and give some direction to Fischbach regarding the fact that MPCA is doing nothing at this point to clean up the site and has denied the treatment option the City proposed.
- The Dept. of Health informed the City that once a well has been utilized for remediation it will never be permitted to be used as a municipal well.
- Dave Neiman suggested the City contact the USGS. They have been studying a site in Bemidji for the past 30 years and may have some good insight as to how the hydrocarbons are reacting after 30 years.
- It was also discussed that if there are no issues then why is MPCA spending the tax payer's money with continued monitoring. If the contamination is there; let's clean it up.
- By denying the access agreements, it may help to bring this to the attention of people at a higher level.

After some discussion,

Motion was made by Peschong to recommend to the City Council that based on the information, the City ask Senator Fischbach to request MPCA to pursue the cleanup of the Old Mid Town Service Station and that the City not approve the

Access Agreements for the monitoring wells. Seconded by Hemmesch and unanimously carried.

HWY. 55 & COUNTY ROAD 181

DeWolf reviewed the plans for the intersection and announced that MnDOT appears close to final approval. After a short discussion,

Motion was made by Hemmesch to approve the plans and authorize advertisement for bids and recommend such to the City Council. Seconded by Peschong and unanimously carried.

LAKE AVE.

Three options were reviewed on the Lake Ave. and Minnie Street proposed layouts. The only layout that utilizes the Feed Co property is the option that brings Lake Ave. across the railroad. At this time the owner of Feed Co has not brought a price forward; therefore, there is no action necessary.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 5:58 p.m.