

MINUTES PUBLIC WORKS COMMITTEE

JANUARY 9, 2013

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

Motion was made by Peschong to approve the minutes from the December 12, 2012 Public Works Committee meeting. Seconded by Hemmesch and unanimously carried.

Members welcomed new member Donovan Mayer to the Committee.

ELECTION OF OFFICERS

Motion was made by Peschong to elect Schaefer as Chair, Hemmesch as Vice Chair, and Mergen as Secretary. Seconded by Quade and unanimously carried.

MEETING SCHEDULE

Motion was made by Quade to set the Public Works Committee meetings for the second Wednesday of each month at 5:00 p.m. Seconded by Peschong and unanimously carried.

SNOW PLOWING VERSUS SIDEWALK

There was an email from the Mayor that the City address the sidewalk abutting the curb on Minnesota Street. Members discussed the history of it and noted it was at the residents request that the sidewalk be placed abutting the curb to save trees and shrubs. Therefore it should not be the City's responsibility to move it to create a boulevard area. It was also noted that not all the residents would want it moved at this time.

Motion was made by Hemmesch to recommend that if a homeowner wants to move the sidewalk it would be at the owner's expense. Seconded by Peschong and unanimously carried.

IRRIGATION

A letter from Rich Lahr was reviewed requesting a center pivot be reinstalled on the old pivot 4 site. Members discussed the following issues:

1. On the dry years the City would be taking water away from the other irrigators; last year the City ran out of water.
2. On the wet years this site would likely not take any and it is in the wet years that the City needs to plan for because in the wet years the City will have approximately 100,000,000 more gallons of water.
3. The income after expenses would be around \$1,200.00.

4. If the City is going to add another pivot the City would want a pivot that would benefit the City on the wet years when the City really needs it.

Motion was made by Quade to deny the proposal submitted by Rich Lahr for a center pivot. Seconded by Peschong and unanimously carried.

2014 STREET PROJECT

The 2014 project area was reviewed:

1. Mill St. from Maple St. to Hwy 55
2. Minnesota St. from old Hwy. 23 to Liberty St.
3. Mill St. portion is part of the turn back and will be partially funded by MnDOT

This project will be a complete rehab of water, sewer, street, sidewalk etc. DeWolf had a letter outlining the scope of the engineering at a cost of \$12,100.00. After a short discussion,

Motion was made by Peschong to approve \$12,100.00 for Bolton & Menk, Inc. to complete the preliminary engineering report for the 2014 project and recommend such to the City Council. Seconded by Quade and unanimously carried.

BELMONT ST REQUEST

A letter from the GUM Church was presented. They are planning to seal coat their parking lot and are requesting that the City participate in the road section at an estimated cost of \$2,000.00. Members discussed that since the City has a seal coat project planned the City should add this road to the City's list as the City is likely to have a more competitive price. This will be discussed with the church as they may want to use the City's contractor too.

EQUIPMENT LIST

The equipment list was reviewed with the emphasis on the proposed 2013 purchases, which were:

1. New Vehicle For Lee – 2003 F150
Keep the 2003 and trade in the 1991 Ford Ranger
2. Street Sweeper – Spring
3. Snow Blower - Fall

After a short discussion,

Motion was made by Hemmesch to purchase a new 2013 4x4 pickup for the Public Works Department. Seconded by Quade and unanimously carried.

WATER PLANT REHAB

DeWolf presented a letter concerning the ammonia levels and possible treatment option. It had been the Department of Health's option that the City look at a biologically active filter to remove the ammonia. As it turns out this would cost an additional \$ 2-3 million dollars. At that point the City would be better off installing a reverse osmosis system. The option was

discussed and members directed Bolton & Menk to proceed with the design as originally planned.

WASTE WATER RE-SCOPING PROJECT

DeWolf gave a brief update that everything is proceeding as scheduled and that work is taking place on the new main lift and pretreatment pond.

MPCA – FORMER MID TOWN SERVICE STATION;

A letter from Michael Kanner, MPCA was presented. The letter is again requesting the City give authorization for MPCA to install approximately 15 monitoring wells between the Former Mid Town Service Station site and the City well field. All the City's requests of MPCA were denied. Members discussed the latest analytical results and noted that the contamination has increased in DW 8 and 9. In order to safeguard the City's water supply, members felt the City doesn't have much choice, but to approve the access agreements.

Also discussed is the fact that Wells 7 & 8 did not replace the full capacity of Wells 3 & 4 plus Well 8 when run at full capacity has an influence on several private wells. After a short discussion,

Motion was made by Peschong to grant the access agreements and again request that full capacity be replaced by the loss of Wells 3 & 4 and recommend such to the City Council. Seconded by Hemmesch and unanimously carried.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 5:50 p.m.