

MINUTES PUBLIC WORKS BOARD

OCTOBER 14, 2019

The meeting was called to order by Chairperson, Keith Hemmesch at 5:00 p.m. Members present were Dave Peschong, Matt Quade, Jim Freilinger, and Neil Herzberg. 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 August 12, 2019 and September 9, 2019 Public Works Board meetings. Seconded by Freilinger and unanimously carried.

WATER AND SEWER BUDGETS

The budget line items were reviewed along with the proposed rate increases of \$1.00 on the base rate for water and sewer and a \$.08 increase on the bulk water and sewer rate. The main line items increased are:

Water budget

- CIP \$15,000.00 for future projects
- Equipment fund \$5,000.00 for equipment replacement
- 2019 Debt fund \$8,000.00

Sewer budget

- CIP \$10,000.00
- Equipment fund \$5,000.00
- 2019 Debt fund \$27,000.00

Also reviewed were the rate comparisons, WAC & SAC charges, trunk charges, water and sewer loss reports, projected revenues, cash balances and irrigation details. The irrigation revenue is down due to the need to turn some crop land into grass or alfalfa. The water loss report was high in the first quarter of 2019 due to the extreme cold weather and residents having to run their water. The sewer loss was up in second quarter due the wet spring and high infiltration. The City was recording 23 to 24 hours of run time on the Chladek Lift Station. With the rehab of that area it is now down to 6 to 8 hours of run time.

Water - base charge will have a \$1.00 increase with the bulk rate increased \$.08.

Sewer - base charge will have a \$1.00 increase with the bulk rate increased \$.08.

WAC & SAC - no increase.

Trunk charge - no increase.

Motion was made by Peschong to approve the water and sewer rate changes as proposed and recommend such to the City Council. Seconded by Freilinger and unanimously carried.

2019 PROJECT

DeWolf reported that the pipe work should be complete this week with the dirt crew to follow up shortly after. A schedule for the remainder of the project was presented and reviewed. Voss is

requesting an extension to November 15 and to delay Bid Alternate 3 until the spring of 2020. Members discussed the wet season and all the rain days. The number one goal is high quality of work and if the City pushes them to complete everything this year the quality may be over looked.

Motion was made by Peschong to update the construction schedule with the understanding that Voss will try to complete the project this year or as soon as possible next spring and recommend such to the City Council. Seconded by Quade and unanimously carried.

AMPI PROJECT WELL QUOTES

Two quotes were presented for a well at the aeration pond. The well is needed to spray the new screening system off and will require approximately 50 gpm. Quotes are as follows:

Thein Well \$15,048.00

Traut well \$15,325.00

It was noted this was not in the bid process, but was budgeted for.

Motion was made by Freilinger to approve the quote from Thein Well in the amount of \$15,048.00 for a well and recommend such to the City Council. Seconded by Herzberg and unanimously carried.

IRRIGATION MANAGEMENT PLAN

DeWolf presented the first phase of the plan:

- Page 1 - Identifies the system's history back to 1987 by site and inches per acre
- Page 2 - Identifies the system's history back to 1987 by site and MGY per acre
- Page 3 - Shows 2010 thru 2018 in inches per acre with 2012 & 2016 highlighted showing site 17 at no flow (dry year) and 2016 at 24.25" (wet year)
- Page 4 - Shows 2010 thru 2018 in MGY with 2012 & 2016 highlighted showing site 17 at no flow (dry year) and 2016 (wet year) at 79.02 Million gallons. Total flow in 2012 was 229.89 MG and in 2016 was 254.75 MG. Also AMPI flows were down in 2016 to 110 MG vs 2012 at 133 MG
- Page 5 - Shows average historical irrigation per site with pivot 17 taking 20% of the water on an average year and 31% on the wet years
- Page 6 - Shows the wet year irrigation:
 - The system flow of 274 MG
 - With all the sites taking 4" of water
 - Site 17 taking 20" of water, this shows the City needs an additional 171 acres of irrigation grassland
- Page 7 - Dry weather irrigation:
 - This shows the benefit of turning a portion of the City's land into grass or cover crop and being able to supply all the other sites with 9" of water
- Page 10 - Cost analysis:
 - Option 1 - Converting the City land from row crops to cover crop; the City will lose \$15,600.00 in revenue
 - Option 2 - Purchase new land at an estimated \$7,000.00 per acre with a capital cost investment of \$150,000.00 and revenue of \$6,000.00 per year; the City would be looking at a 45-year pay back.

There was a lengthy discussion on the system. It was questioned if alfalfa would be a better revenue source. It was noted at this point the City would meet with the farmer and bring back several options.

Motion was made by Freilinger to authorize staff to contact the farmer and bring a proposal back to the meeting. Seconded by Quade and unanimously carried.

NEXT MEETING

The November meeting will be cancelled.

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