

November 8, 2012

UTILITIES COMMITTEE

3:30 p.m.

Chairman Jim Wilkie called the meeting to order. Members present: Jim Wilkie, Gary Ruff and David Earney.

Also present: Water and Sewer operator, Calvin Loewenhagen, Mayor Robert Scow and Clerk Linda Torgerson.

**Agenda Item 2:** DNR Water Utility Inspection results. Everyone present was given a copy of the DNR inspection letter.

Jim Wilkie informed the committee that on page 4 of the DNR report, #1 has been resolved regarding the commercial cross-connection inspections.

#2—Submit plans and specifications by February 1, 2013 for the reservoir overflow repair. This work must be completed by May 1, 2013.

Jim Wilkie and Cal Loewenhagen discussed with the committee the repairs that need to be done to the reservoir. KLM, the company that did the reservoir inspection stated that the cost would be approximately \$77,000.00.

Charlie Cameron, DNR, informed Cal and Linda that an engineer should look at the reservoir situation. Cal has spoken with Davy Engineering, La Crosse, and they are familiar with this type of reservoir.

Motion by Ruff seconded by Earney to contact Davy Engineering regarding the water reservoir repairs needed. All members voting yes.

Linda will supply Davy Engineering with the reservoir report from KLM and a copy of the violation letter from the DNR.

Another item on the list was the water valve map that Lisa Fleming from Ayres was supposed to provide the City approximately a year ago.

Motion by Earney seconded by Ruff to instruct Lisa Fleming to have the water valve report done prior to Thursday, November 15<sup>th</sup> Council meeting or another engineer will be hired to complete the project. All members voting yes.

The DNR has moved up the date for the well house repairs from 2016 to 2013. Cameron also suggested engineering be done for this project. The letter from the DNR suggests removal of the pump house and replacing it with a pit less well. Discussion was held.

Motion by Wilkie seconded by Earney to have Davy Engineering provide the City with a preliminary estimate for the pit less well system or another alternative to the pump house violation. All members voting yes.

**Agenda Item 1:** Richard Champeny (Riverview Drive culvert) update.

Richard Champeny, present, addressed the committee regarding his request for an extension to the culvert by his residence on Riverview Drive. He stated that something had to be done to the culvert and the city's right-of-way on Riverview Drive is 66'. Champeny stated that the City will put in 40' of culvert and he will pay for an additional 26'.

Wilkie explained to Champeny that the City, at its last council meeting, requested in writing an easement so that the city could enter his property if clean out of the culvert needed to be done. Champeny would be responsible for providing the city the written easement.

Ruff stated to Champeny that Brad LaDuke, cement contractor for the culvert entrance work, will be unavailable until next spring to do the work. Champeny stated that this timeframe is fine.

Wilkie further stated to Champeny that the excavation costs were to be split between himself and the City and that Champeny should be the one responsible to inspect the culvert after a heavy rain and notify the city crew if there is blockage in the culvert. Champeny stated he looked at the culvert after every rain.

Motion by Wilkie seconded by Earney to approve the culvert work on Riverview Drive near the Richard Champeny residence and it is the responsibility of Richard Champeny to provide the City of Alma a written easement for work needing to be done on the culvert that would require entering his property. All members voting yes.

**Agenda Item 5:** Speed sign posts. Cal informed the committee that he had went with Police Chief Todd Ritscher to Nelson to look at the posts needed for the speed sign posts. All posts put off of Hwy 35 would require a state sign permit and a permit would need to be applied for once locations were determined.

Discussion was held and the following locations for the speed sign posts were recommended by the committee and Mayor Scow:

- Highway 35 across from 801 North Main Street
- Highway 35 at Water Street
- Highway 35 near school
- Second Street near the Lutheran Church area
- Riverview Drive - near the dip area

Wilkie reported that he had received complaints of someone running the stop signs at the one lane area on Riverview Drive and driving at approximately 50 mph. This matter was referred to Police Chief Todd Ritscher.

**Agenda item 4:** Street/sidewalk concerns.

Wilkie informed the committee that the Elm Street deck project should be included in the staircase project as recommended by Lisa Fleming, Ayres engineer.

Wilkie stated to the committee that the Beautification Committee is in debt to the City for \$13,000 for engineering for the deck, however, they had received a Scenic Byway grant for the deck and had to return it due to the strict and costly DOT federal regulations.

Wilkie further stated that it makes sense to combine the deck and stairway at Elm Street and use the available TIF funds for this project.

Linda commented that she concurred with both Jim Wilkie's and Lisa's recommendation of combining the two projects so that there is one contractor responsible for the project. Linda further stated that the preliminary work for archaeological study on Elm Street where the deck is to be built is done and also the soil testing. The City will not have to expend monies for this portion of Elm Street for these items.

Motion by Ruff seconded by Earney to instruct Lisa Fleming, Ayres Engineer, to include the deck into the Elm Street staircase project. All members voting yes.

**Agenda Item 6:** Museum handicap ramp update. Wilkie informed the committee that he has spoken with Kim Wenger, welder, and he was informed that the railing is not going to be painted. The hand rail will not be attached to the building, due to the frail bricks, Wenger informed Wilkie. Wenger will be constructing a railing for the cellar area near the ramp.

Linda inquired if the cellar access is a required exit? If not, this could be framed and filled in to ensure that no one enters or drives off this area. Linda will find out what the state code on this building would be and report back.

**Agenda Item 3:** Any sewer/water concerns.

No other sewer and water concerns were reported.

Motion by Earney seconded by Ruff to adjourn. All members voting yes.