

WATER AND SEWER COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES APRIL 7, 2009

The meeting was called to order by Committee Chairman Dave Gough at 6:00 PM. Present at roll call were: Dave Gough, John Sonsalla, Don Osterday, Bev Anderson and Cindy Corley. Excused absence: Steve Pickett. Also present were: Mayor Dave Breunig, Bob Salmi, Dennis McPhail, Rich Wiederholt, Hillary Dickerson and Phil Risseeuw.

Motion by Sonsalla second by Anderson that the meeting notice and agenda were properly posted. Motion carried. Motion by Corley second by Sonsalla to approve the minutes of the previous meeting. Motion carried.

Under unfinished business, Cindy Corley asked what progress had been made with property owners regarding sump pump and floor drain violations. Bob Salmi and Dennis McPhail reported most property owners have fixed their problems; however there are eight to ten property owners still in violation. Bob stated they will continue to monitor the situation and take appropriate action as needed.

Under new business, Dennis McPhail, Wastewater Treatment Plant Manager reported on plant operations. The main focus of the report was on the significant reduction in clear water infiltration in the plant due to recent work done replacing sewer mains within the floodplain. Dennis reported during this springs flood events, he has not had to use the equalization tank at all, and wastewater flow was significantly lower than previous spring high water events. Additional sewer main replacement work remains to be done, as well as waterproofing work on the wastewater siphon station near the Main Street bridge. Otherwise the wastewater plant is running very well.

Discussion was then held concerning proposed economic stimulus package water and sewer projects. Bob Salmi prepared cost estimate information for six water projects and five sewer projects. This information was distributed to committee members prior to this meeting for their review and consideration. The total estimated cost of all eleven projects including engineering fees is \$1,350,173.00. Bob stated the economic stimulus package funds can be applied for through the DNR at 50% funding and USDA at 75% funding. However, at this time he has no idea how much grant or loan funding the utilities would be eligible for. The projects for consideration would provide generator power for both wells; water main replacement work; new water main installation; sewer main replacement work and new sewer main installation.

Discussion was held concerning these proposed projects. Discussion items included the following:

- Are these projects high priority projects for the water and sewer utilities?
- How much can each utility afford to pay for this additional work?
- Will water and sewer rates need to be increased to cover loan payments if grant funds don't cover the entire cost of the proposed work?
- What's the timeline for application and project completion?
- Preliminary engineering needs to be completed and included with the applications.

- The willingness to take advantage of economic stimulus project funds if available; and if economic stimulus funds will be offered again in the future.

After discussion and consideration, motion by Gough second by Anderson to apply for economic stimulus funds for all of the proposed projects except the installation of generator power for both wells. The estimated cost of the remaining nine projects is \$939,564.00. The cost of the preliminary engineering will be 6.0% of that amount or \$56,375.00. The total cost for these projects will be increased by engineering and administration fees. By Voice Vote: Ayes: Gough, Sonsalla and Anderson. Nay: Osterday and Corley. Motion carried.

There being no further business for this meeting, motion by Sonsalla second by Anderson to adjourn the meeting at 6:50 PM. Motion carried.

CITY OF DARLINGTON

Philip A. Risseuw, Clerk-Treasurer