

**SPECIAL CITY COUNCIL
JOINT MEETING WITH THE PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION**

1:00 P.M.

Monday, May 30, 2024

Present: Mayor Wade LeBlanc
Dustin Goutermont
Ben Bautch

Excused: Richard DeRosier
Shane Hoff

Sylvia LeBlanc, PUC Board Member
Jim FitzGerald, PUC Board Member
Ron Bautch, PUC Board Member
Lana Fralich, City Administrator
Mike Miller, Utilities Superintendent
Brian Guldán, Engineer, Bolton & Menk
Barbara Bautch

Mayor LeBlanc called the meeting to order at 1:00 p.m.

The purpose of the meeting is to review and discuss the Water Treatment Facility Upgrade and Booster Station jointly with the Public Utilities Commission.

Guldán reviewed the Water Treatment Plant and Distribution System Improvements Plan that had been previously discussed and approved by the City Council, the status of the project, the current process flow of the existing system, the age and condition assessment of the current plant and distribution system, and recommended improvements needed. There was discussion on the plans already certified by the MN Department of Health, the water looping portion being a separate contract, the construction of a new booster station to help lower the pressure in the system, the City securing \$1,750,000 in Federal Congressional Direct Spending funds for the project, that this project is on the approved fundable range with the Minnesota Public Facilities Authority (PFA) for a loan, and the project delivery method. There was further discussion on concerns for contractor availability, increased costs from when this project was originally submitted, and recent changes in state legislation for municipalities to be eligible for the Construction Manager At Risk (CMAR) program. Discussion continued on the CMAR program, how it works, the benefits for the City, how the program is working for other communities, the ability to work with a contractor from the beginning, conducting an RFP to obtain a CMAR person, bidding the contracts, timeframe, costs of the CMAR for the preconstruction phase being about \$5K-\$15K, Bolton & Menk to complete the RFP, hire the CMAR, and facilitating the CMAR process at an expense of approximately \$20K-\$25K.

Miller stressed concerns about the pressure reducing valves, the band-aids being made on the system, and that the timing of improvements to the system need to happen immediately before serious failure happens.

Guldán will put together a proposal for the CMAR program and for administering the Federal funding to present at a future Council meeting for action.

Motion by Goutermont, second Bautch to adjourn at 1:58 p.m. MOTION CARRIED.

Minutes taken by Lana Fralich

Attest:

Wade LeBlanc, Mayor

Lana Fralich, City Administrator