

Minutes of the proceedings of the City Council of the City of New Auburn in the County of Sibley and State of Minnesota including all accounts audited by said Council.

Special Meeting
June 26, 2023

Meeting called to order by Mayor Mandy Grack at 7:00 p.m. at the city office.

Members present: Wayne Schultz, John Wangen (7:07pm), Pam Horton, Michael Cotterman and Mandy Grack

Members absent:

Staff present: Roberta Zaske

Business:

1. SEH- Sam Fink gave his report. The Preliminary Engineering Report (PER) and Environmental Report (ER) has been submitted to Rural Development (RD). City received Notice of Eligibility for \$17.9M in federal funding from RD. Funding from RD will more likely occur early in 2024. A request for placement on the 2024 Intended Use Plan List (IUP) for \$11.9M in PFA funding. An application for 2024 Bonding Bill (\$9M in state funding requested). The MPCA has awarded the City a \$25,000 grant to go towards the wastewater pond improvements. This project maybe be in two phases, wastewater in the first phase.
2. Wastewater Treatment Discussion: The landowner of Spray field Option 1 has notified the City that they are willing to sell the land for the purposes of developing New Auburn's wastewater treatment facility. The asking price is about 20% higher than the estimated land acquisition budget. Considering the next best alternative (direct discharge into High Island Creek) is \$1.3M more expensive, purchasing land remains the most cost-effective and practical alternative. RD agrees that this remains the best option and have recommended the City to pursue a "option Purchase" of the land pending a funding obligation package.
3. Duluth Archaeology Center (DAC) has completed the Phase 1a literature (desktop) survey for the proposed project areas. Based on their report, DAC should be contacted to conduct a field survey of area 21SBa at the intersection of 3rd Street and 4th Avenue. DAC did not recommend a field survey of the land for Spray field option 1.

Special Meeting was closed to discuss land prices. Meeting was closed at 7:08 pm

Special Meeting was opened back up at 7:33 pm.

A motion by Michael Cotterman, seconded by Wayne Schultz to talk to Attorney and land owner of the option 1 property for \$xx amount or what land owner requests for payment for the sale of the property, motion passed unanimously.

A motion by Pam Horton, seconded by John Wangen to approve the 21SBa field study on intersection 3rd Street and 4th Avenue, motion carried.

4. Air conditioning for Post Office, three estimates, Y-Not Plumbing and Heating for \$4,500.00; B&R Plumbing & Heating for \$4,148.00 and Stuewe's Home Services for \$3,920.87. Motion by Wayne Schultz, seconded by John Wangen to approve Stuewe's Home Services to replace the air conditioner at the Post Office, motion carried.
5. City Clerk had an open discussion on the hay on the spray field. Grant Schuette told us they would no longer cut the spray field. Council directed the City Clerk to advertise for bids on the hay field.

Motion by John Wangen, second by Pam Horton to adjourn at 7:51 pm. Motion carried.

Roberta Zaske, City Clerk-Treasurer