

SPECIAL COUNCIL MEETING
AUGUST 29, 2011

Meeting called to order by Mayor Konz at 7:00pm

Pledge of Allegiance recited

Council members present: Tammy Konz, Joe Krippner, Eric Loewen, Paula Capes and Nate Osmundson

Others present: Randy Sabart, David Blommel, Tom Jovanovich, Leslie Arnold, James Frilstad, Anita Hoefler, Neil Hilary, Ben Lutgen, Mickey Fischer, Mary Fischer, Robert Buermann, Amber Brendt, Chris Morin, Peg Dahnke, Jody Orbeck, Jerry Meyers, Keith Markwardt, Randy Stanoch, JoAnn Hendricks, John Tritabaugh and Art Dingmann

Newly appointed Council member Paula Capes took the Oath of Office.

Mayor Konz opened the Public Improvement Hearing for the proposed 2012 utility project at 7:05

Randy Sabart from SEH presented information to those present about the proposed 2012 utility project (slideshow handout attached). The project location is: the water tower, water treatment filter tank at the water treatment plant, and utility, drainage, and street improvements on Cherry Street between a point 300 feet north of Hazel Avenue and a point 400 feet south of Linden Avenue, on Oak Street between a point 200 feet north of Spruce Avenue and Linden Avenue, on Elm Street between Highway 55 and Linden Avenue, on Spruce Avenue between the Kimball High School and Magnus Johnson Street, on Hazel Avenue between a point 600 feet west of Elm Street and Main Street (Trunk Highway 15), on the alley between Elm Street and Main Street (Trunk Highway 15) from Linden Avenue to Spruce Avenue, on the alley between Main Street (Trunk Highway 15) and Oak Street from Linden Avenue to Spruce Avenue, and on the alley between Oak Street and Cherry Street from Linden Avenue to a point 300 feet north of Hazel Avenue.

Randy let residents know that there are loan/grant programs available through USDA Rural Development to qualifying residents that may help defray portions of their costs, such as water and sewer line replacement.

A resident asked about work in the alleyways.

The alleyways will most likely not be open-trenched, the pipes will be lined.

A resident asked if there would be a temporary water connection.

Yes

A resident asked if the Council would be setting a cap at the amount that a property may be assessed to help defray costs for those with a corner lot.

It has been discussed but since the project is still preliminary nothing has been finalized yet.

A resident asked about the portion of Elm St. north of Spruce Ave. to Hwy 55 and why no work is being done on that portion of the street.

The Clearwater River Watershed District is looking at locations within the City where storm water issues need to be addressed but the City is unable to address with the proposed 2012 utility project.

A resident asked about sidewalk replacement and addressed concerns regarding problems on Cherry St. with grading.

The City is unable to upgrade with this project (adding a sidewalk where none currently exists) but may remove sidewalks in areas that pose problems with grading; many communities are developing complete streets policies to accommodate those needs.

A resident asked about tree removal.

As many trees will be preserved as possible.

A resident asked about increasing the depth of sewer lines where they are shallow in the City.

That may be possible, but there could be increased costs associated with doing that.

A resident asked about the City planning for future projects.

Mayor Konz stated that the City is working on that.

Motion made by Eric Loewen and seconded by Nate Osmundson to close the Public Improvement Hearing at 8:12pm; motion carried

Motion made by Nate Osmundson and seconded by Eric Loewen to open the regular portion of the meeting at 8:14pm; motion carried

Motion made by Joe Krippner and seconded by Eric Loewen to adopt Resolution No. 08292011A Resolution ordering Improvement and Preparation of Plans; motion carried

Those voting in favor: Tammy Konz, Joe Krippner, Eric Loewen, Paula Capes and Nate Osmundson

Those voting against: none

The Council asked the City Clerk to check with SEH regarding meeting the 8th or 13th of September to discuss project design.

Deputy Clerk Leslie Arnold discussed the City doing door hangers for delinquent utility accounts the Monday before shut-off day with the Councilmembers.

Motion made by Joe Krippner and seconded by Paula Capes to go ahead with using door hangers; motion carried

Leslie also discussed utility billing accounts that have been finalized (sold properties) and how long their account should be kept in the computer system. The Council recommended keeping it for 30-60 days after the account has been paid in full (original records are still kept).

The Council discussed ACH withdrawal and accepting credit cards. They would like this placed on the next agenda.

Motion made by Eric Loewen and seconded by Nate Osmundson to adjourn at 9:16pm; motion carried

Respectfully submitted by Nicole Pilarski