

CITY OF

MAYOR

Tim Stearns

*"A Valley
Of
Friendliness"*



COUNCIL MEMBERS

Adam Blackburn

Jackie Hagberg

Kevin Pieters

Cory Schurman

Jon Schurman

The Steamboat Rock City Council met in special session March 23rd, 2022, 6:30 p.m. in the City Council chambers and available via zoom due to COVID-19 restrictions. Present were Mayor Stearns and the following council members: Adam Blackburn, Kevin Pieters, Jackie Hagberg, Cory Schurman, and Jon Schurman absent: no one. Also present were JJ Veld, Erich Gamm, Wes Wiese, Taylor Nederhoff, Suzie DeVries, Joan Schuller, Trevor Dickerson, and Renee Oltrogge.

Mayor Stearns called the meeting to order. J. Schurman moved, Pieters seconded the motion to approve agenda as presented. Motion carried unanimously. Absent: no one.

Mayor Stearns discussed The Pine Ridge Park Sewer Line Project and Wes Weis introduced Trevor as the engineer and Erich from the boring company. Wes explained they are in a hurry due to a grant and the items that need to be completed and needs to get a route and easement in place and approved by the city to get everyone going with their studies by May 1st, 2022 and the contract signed by April 1st, 2022. Mayor Stearns advised we would like the line on the west side of the river in hopes to hook up a few properties on that side of the river instead of staying on the east side of the river. Wes advised it would probably be another \$100,000.00 to move the line to the west side of the river and they are short on time. Questions were asked about easements at different points of the area to save on footage/length. It was also discussed of either tapping into a pressurized line or going directly into the plant itself. C. Schurman advised we are wishing for this project to work for everyone but we would like to offer services to the residents on the west end. Trevor advised Iowa State Code explains the residents have to hook up when the system is within 200 feet of the property line and would have to hook up once their own system is obsolete. Pieters advised at some point more people might build on S River Rd if they had sewer hook ups and that would help the city build a bigger tax base since the city doesn't make anything off the actual sewer system bills themselves. Erich advised boring thru rock is a cost of \$65.00 per foot and \$12.00 per foot for dirt. Trevor advised they are looking at 4-5 feet below the elevation of the current dam. Veld advised it's about 1,700 feet from the plant to the highway. Trevor advised they should be able to bid it this fall and get it complete it next spring. Weis advised due to the grant they just need a plan, the job doesn't need to be actually started. Shower house with a septic tank, hook into the boathouse, and pull it together and push it from there. Wes and Erich believe this should be two separate projects, the pressurized portion and the gravity feed portion. Mayor Stearns asked the cost difference between the east or west side and Erich and Trevor wasn't sure but would get the answer. Wes advised we will speak with the owner to discuss an easement if it is needed. C. Schurman advised we might want to try for our own grant and put in our own lift station. Mayor Stearns advised we probably can't get a grant in time to get our project done. Taylor advised there are new USDA Rural grants and Wes will discuss this with our grant writer tomorrow. C. Schurman advised we as a city are looking to help the campground grow and bring tourist to town but we also want to help the town grow its potential for a larger tax base. The city can't pay for this unless we get a grant. If the grant doesn't happen, the we would definitely go with the current plan the county has presented. We are looking to complete this project in the most feasible way. Pieters suggested if we had the county pay for all of it and gave them free sewer for 10 years or for the city to borrow the money and having the income from the new sewer customers go towards that loan. Wes advised this will also include the new campground, cabins, the DNR project, and maybe the bike trail will add bathrooms. Veld discussed having the line go all the way to the end of the city boundaries

to the west. Wes advised if the city is unable to complete their project he will have to do his own system instead of tying into the city system. Pieters asked Trevor to give the city a quote for their project with a 4 inch line at least and Trevor agreed to give this at no charge. C. Schurman asked to have the council approve tonight to have the line on the west side of the river and for the city to pay for \$100,000.00 either thru a grant or loan. Pieters asked about ownership of the lines. Taylor advised the customer owns from their main to their house and the main to the lift station is the city and he discussed a 28E Agreement since Veld will know the system since it's more complicated than a normal residential system. Trevor agreed to get a cost estimate to us by the end of this week to run the line on the west side and the archeological study and advised the state has a loan program for these studies.

Public Comments: Suzie advised her system is old. Joan advised Brandon's system is old. Blackburn advised the Prescott property is occupied currently. Joan would like the city to look into rural water for the west side of the river while everything is torn up and the city would just have to give them easements.

Mayor's comments: None.

Pieters moved, C. Schurman seconded the motion to approve to adjourn the meeting. Motion carried unanimously. Absent: no one. Meeting adjourned at 7:56 pm.

Timothy A. Stearns, Mayor

Renee Oltrogge, City Clerk