

The Steamboat Rock City Council met in special session on September 5, 2023 at 6:30 PM in the City Council Chambers. Present were Mayor Stearns and the following council members: Adam Blackburn, Dave Mull, Jon Schurman, Kevin Pieters and Cory Schurman. Also present Linda Whitt-Jensen, Bill Trampe, Suzie DeVries, Melissa Johanson, Kim Whiley, Bob Hutchcroft, Deb Crosser, John Schuller, Wes Wiese, and Julie Winter.

Mayor Stearns called the meeting to order at 6:31 PM. C. Schurman moved, seconded by Blackburn to approve the agenda. Motion carried unanimously.

Mayor Stearns gave a brief summary of the history of the discussions of this project and where the City Sewer Fund stood at this time.

Julie Winter from Region 6 presented details of the proposed USDA grants availability and status. Also discussed the possible time line of the project.

Wes Wiese, Hardin County Conservation (HCC), updated information on their projects and the importance of a commitment to allow HCC to gain City sewer system access by either crossing under the Iowa River or down River Road. C. Schurman moved to allow HCC hook up to the Steamboat Rock municipal waste water system in one of those two ways. Pieters seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

Much discussion about how the USDA grants, loans from the USDA, loans from the Hardin County Supervisors, surcharges, and City cash investment into the project all fit together depending on the cost of the project. Additional discussion of how to get and pay for the Engineering PER report using a USDA PPL or Search grant, and the timeline for each of those. Further discussion about garnering local funds for the PER to move the timing forward about 6 months.

Blackburn moved to pursue this west side sewer project with total cost not exceed to \$850,000 with the City obligation not to exceed \$215,000 and to pursue local funding to pay for the Engineering PER. Mull seconded. Motion carried unanimously by raise of hand vote.

C. Schurman moved to adjourn, seconded by Pieters, motion carried unanimously. Meeting adjourned at 8:05 PM.

Timothy A. Stearns, Mayor

Linda Whitt-Jensen, City Clerk