City Council Work Session- Tuesday January 23, 2023

MEMBERS PRESENT: Randy Christensen- Mayor

Jay Christensen **–** Councilmember

TJ Pace – Councilmember

Amy Stanley – Councilmember

Jay Mecham – Councilmember

Ron Warren - Councilmember

STAFF PRESENT: Brent Arns – Sewer Operator

 Jeff Elbert – Sewer Operator

 Benn Wynn – Sewer Operator

 Bryson Downey – Water, sewer, gas Operator

OTHERS PRESENT:

Mayor Randy Christensen called the meeting to order at 7:00 pm.

Sewer Maintenance:

Mayor Christensen had questions concerning a recent letter that was sent from the Division of Environmental Quality concerning a complaint that there is a “terrible smell and raw sewage coming out of the sewer treatment plan”. Sewer Operator Brent Arns replied to the letter by the specified date and time. He explained that there was an overflow at the sewer plant because the pumps went down and that the plant was shut down and has since been cleaned up and fixed. Mayor Christensen asked what could be done to prevent this from happening again. Arns suggested that there be 4 permeated pumps to provide backup when a pump goes down. There was further discussion that there needs to be more financing available for upkeep as the plant is getting older and needs some updating.

Councilmember Mecham mentioned that there have been questions about the reliability of the Skedda System, but Arns replied that it is working better than it has in a long time and even though it has occasional problems, it is working better at the present time.

Mayor Christensen suggested having a white board hung at the plant that has the maintenance schedule written on it. Arns replied that they already have one. Arns also stated that the collection side of the plant is working well and has no problems. It is the treatment side that has been having the issues. Mayor Christensen also asked that a list of priorities be made and presented so that the Council can give the appropriate funding when necessary.

Councilmember Warren explained that texting back and forth over sewer questions and problems is not effective and that the councilmember over sewer needs to go down there once a week and find out how things are going and what is needed.

There was discussion about putting fencing around the sewer plant. Mayor Christensen suggested fencing from the southeast corner over to the northwest corner. Jay Mecham said that there needs to be a large gate for access in there as well. Arns suggested fencing from the northwest corner all the way to the train tracks. That way the fuel and auger would be protected behind a fence, but it would allow access to the green waste site. Mayor Christensen told Arns to get bids on fencing (with barbed wire on the top) and report them to the Council by the following evening so that it could be installed soon.

There was discussion about the PEAK alarm system and the fact that it is regularly malfunctioning, and the fire department must be dispatched each time the alarm goes off. Elbert and Arns said that they talked with the fire marshal, and he would not allow them to disconnect the system, so it either needs to be serviced or the fire marshal needs to be contacted to figure out what needs to be done.

200 East and 200 North Construction:

Mayor Christensen said that the construction on 200 North will be postponed for a couple of years due to a grant that may be obtained at a later date based on a Utah State code for heavy trucks. It will be a 100 percent payback and will be worth waiting for. Councilmember Christensen said that the road is still solid and is not settling, it is just rough from being cut into, so he got a bid from Geneva Rock to mill down the road and overlay it.

Concerning 200 East, Councilmember Christensen said that the City can do the repairs for around $80,000 using local resources and supplied by Geneva Rock. It would be for a 24-foot road. There was discussion about putting a speed bump across the road as well as a sidewalk. Christensen reported that the doing the road using the grant and Jones and Demille Engineering, the bid was around $350,000 and the city would have to pay for half the cost.

The decision of the Council was to have the city road employees do the work on 200 East and not go for the grant.

Chad Phillips reported that the gas load approval was received from Geneva Rock. It will be 137 million BTU. He said that it would be a major project that will take approximately a year to complete. He sent information over to Sunrise Engineering that morning and would let the Council know when the model came back. He said that the city needs to start looking for a small piece of property for it.

Water Rates:

Councilmember Warren said that most of the meters are working, and he feels that it is time to start reading the meters and update the rates. He said that there may be meters here and there that are not working, but the water operators can work on those as they come up. Mayor Christensen said that he would talk with Recorder Hills about getting the water rate adjustment on the next meeting agenda.

**Adjournment**

Councilmember Mecham made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 9:00 pm. Councilmember Stanley seconded the motion. The vote to adjourn the meeting at 9:00. pm was unanimous.

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Randy Christensen, Mayor Alicia Hills, Mona City Recorder