

**SPECIAL MEETING OF THE DASSEL CITY COUNCIL
SEPTEMBER 12, 2018, 6:30 P.M.
DASSEL CITY HALL**

The Special Meeting of the Dassel City Council was called to order by Mayor Hungerford at 6:30 p.m. on September 12, 2018 at the Dassel City Hall.

Present: Council members Bemenderfer, Carlson, Hallquist, Weseloh and Mayor Hungerford (5)
Absent: None (0)

Also present: Bolton & Menk representatives, Seth Peterson and Chuck DeWolfe.

Peterson provided a historical timeline/background of the sewage treatment plant and stabilization ponds system. In the late 1990's the city was experiencing a huge amount of inflow and infiltration into the sewer system causing the city to run over their annual pumping limit set by the state. At that time the state put a moratorium on any new building permits for the city, until the city was able to develop a plan to deal with the high I&I levels. Peterson was the engineer who designed the activated sludge plant which the state approved and was built. During this time period the city was also completing main replacements to help deal with the I&I and adopted an ordinance to test for sewer line compliance (televising) prior to sales of businesses and residential homes. In order to use the activated sludge plant, startup would need to take place in August for discharge to occur in September. This plant requires a wastewater operator class B license.

The city is in the process of renewing the NPDES permit and has applied for a discharge increase of up to 68 million gallons per year. There is approximately 210 days of storage at the facility. The permit allows for additional discharge of up to 17 million gallons directly into Washington Creek if necessary, between September 15th and December 15th.

Pumping has been reduced from nearly 200,000 gallons per day in the 90's to an average of 110,000 gallons per day currently.

DeWolf informed the Council that the city ranked very high on the draft fundable list for PFA water improvement project funding and the water permit renewal process with the state is being completed. The proposed project includes: replacing outdated components; upgrading the chemical feed equipment; replacing the filtration media and piping at the water plant for an estimated cost of \$1.3M. The city's water permit is a 5-year permit. The date for submission of project plans to the Department of Health for the water plant improvements is in March, 2019, with bids awarded in June. Then the DOH would certify the project for PFA funding and an award amount would be determined. Completion of the PFA loan would take place in July or August, 2019. The project will take approximately a year to complete. Approval by the council to move forward with the project will need to take place in October.

DeWolf explained the process of expanding the city's sewer irrigation site. He has been working with Brian Dahlman who has 40 acres adjacent to the existing irrigation site. It is estimated this would increase the ability to discharge an extra 8-10M gallons per year. Mr. Dahlman has stated that he is not interested in participating in the cost of additional equipment which could run from \$100k-\$200.

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DeWolf reviewed the proposed upgrade to the south side lift station controls with a projected cost of \$175,000. Both the water plant upgrades and the lift station upgrades would include a wireless notification system, i.e. SCADA system.

DeWolf explained the need for dedicated band width through the FCC for the SCADA systems. Clerk Boese will review the city's current FCC radio frequency license with DeWolf.

Mayor Hungerford addressed the need to update the city's Water, Sewer and Surface Water Ordinances. Clerk Boese will get copies of sample ordinances from the League to start with and then have the City Attorney review before Council approval.

Motion by Bemenderfer, seconded by Carlson to accept Public Works Director, Troy Zwilling's resignation effective October 5, 2018. Motion carried with Hungerford voting no.

Motion by Carlson, seconded by Hallquist to advertise the position using the same ad information from 2 years ago. Motion carried unanimously.

Motion by Bemenderfer, seconded by Carlson to adjourn the meeting at 8:17 p.m. Motion carried unanimously.

ATTEST:

Ronald Hungerford
Mayor

Terri Boese
Clerk/Treasurer