

City of Carlton
Public Information Hearing Meeting
Thursday, February 15, 2018 @ 6:00pm
Carlton County Transportation Building

The meeting was called to order at 6:00pm by Chairperson Bureau.

Members Present: Kitty O' Hara Bureau, Randy Willie, Derek Wolf, LeAnn Theisen; Carol Conway, Recording Secretary

Members Absent: Ken Witte

Presenters: Tim Korby, Donohue and Associates; Ashley Hammerbeck, Donohue & Associates

Others Present: Tim Korby and Ashley Hammerbeck, Donohue & Associates; Diane Felde-Finke, Twin Lakes Township Board Chair; Sue Chapin, Twin Lakes Township Clerk; City Residents: Jodie Johnson, Al Stillwell, Julianne Emerson, Timothy Soden-Groves, Diane Soden-Groves, Peter Angelos, Lisa Angelos, Arvid Brekke, Gwen Carman, Township Residents: Ron Johnson, Randy Schmitz, Dean Erickson, Addie Clyde, Rex Clyde, Debbie Johnson, Jeff Dotschl, Don J. Judy J.

County Commissioners: Marv Bodie, Susan Zmyslony

Chairperson Kitty Bureau opened the meeting at 6:00 and gave a brief overview of the purpose of the meeting, which is to build a new water treatment plant, then turned it over to Tim Korby, Engineer at Donohue & Associates.

Mr. Korby explained the reason for a Public Hearing is to give the public information on funding options for the project, the need for the project and all alternatives that were considered, but the most important part of the hearing is to give the public a chance to voice their opinions and ask questions.

One of the most critical issues is funding, five (5) different sources of funding were looked at: Small Cities Assistance, Corp of Engineers, Public Facilities Authority (PFA), USDA Rural Development (RD), and a Direct Appropriation from the Minnesota Bonding Bill. The City does not qualify for Small Cities Assistance and the Corps of Engineers does not have available funds. The City water treatment plant project is 12th on Project Priority List (PPL) which puts it in the fundable range for PFA and/or RD funds. State Senator Tony Lourey along with Representative Mike Sundin have drafted a bill titled "*Water Infrastructure Expansion and Improvements: City of Carlton and Twin Lake Township*" asking for a direct appropriation of \$3,800,000 for the construction of a new water treatment plant. There are many different entities working together to get funding for this project they are: City of Carlton, Twin Lakes Township, Carlton County and Fond du Lac Reservation. In addition to the entities working together Mr. Korby asked the residents to call, email and/or mail a letter to Senator Tony Lourey and Representative Mike Sundin and stress the need for grant funding needed for the project.

City of Carlton Public Works Superintendent Derek Wolf informed the public that the current water treatment plant is beyond its life expectancy and does not perform efficiently. A new water treatment plant would be an iron and manganese removal plant. Manganese shows up as the black specks in water and can also cause water discoloration.

Ashley Hammerbeck talked about the components of the City water project, they are as follows:

Water Treatment Plant: Best location is in South Terrace on land owned by ISD 93 and will be purchased by the City of Carlton. This location will enable the South Terrace area to become a looping system which will improve fire flows and water quality. Also, Well #4 is in the South Terrace area which will keep the cost of a raw water line to minimum. An alternate location for the water treatment plant was next to the existing water tower. This location was eliminated due to the cost to run a raw water line from Well #4, through the center of town to the water treatment plant. The existing location was not considered due to the high volume of train traffic. If there were ever a derailment in that area,

contamination of the water supply would be a real possibility because of the near proximity to the railroad tracks. It has also been suggested that vibrations from the high volume of train traffic could be the cause of the building deteriorating prematurely.

Well #5: an additional supply well would be drilled near existing well #4. This area has the best aquifer and best quality water in the area.

Infrastructure Upgrades: water modeling was completed and the results showed some infrastructure upgrades would be required to provide an adequate water supply to Twin Lakes Township when the Highway 210 water line is connected to the system. Some of the required upgrades would be as follows: increased size of the water main along West Webbeking, under the Otter Creek Pedestrian Bridge and along Third (3rd) Street. A bid alternative is also being designed for a meter pit and additional water piping. This is for infrastructure needed for Twin Lakes Township hookup.

Project costs as followed were presented to the public: New Water Treatment Plant \$4,000,000.00, New Well #5 \$150,000.00, City Watermain Improvements \$600,000, Bid Alternative – Township Extension \$1,200,000.00, Interim Financing (Engineer Services, Survey, Geotech, Land) \$500,000.00.

Building renderings were shown to give an example of what the building would look like.

Public Comments/Questions:

What is the State doing about the water quality issues in the Township? **Individual Treatment Plants and bottled water are being provided to the homeowners who have above State standard arsenic levels so quality water is not the biggest issue for Legislators. When contacting Legislators, residents are encouraged to stress the need for the water line for the following reasons and in the following order: economic development, water quantity and water quality.**

Have other grant sources been considered in addition to a Direct Appropriation? **Yes, the City has looked at Small Cities Assistance, Corp of Engineers, Public Facilities Authority and USDA Rural Development. The Carlton/Twin Lakes Joint Powers Board is also working with Carlton County, Carlton Independent School District 93 and Fond du Lac Band.**

Has there been a plan in place the last 40 years to replace the water treatment plant? **No, there was not a plan in place. There will be a plan in place going forward.**

What will the assessment be for the reconstruction of West Webbeking and the cost to all residents for the water treatment plant? **There will be some sort of assessment for the residents living on West Webbeking for the reconstruction of the street. The cost of the water treatment plant and infrastructure improvements will be allocated to all City water/sewer users. The exact amount of increase will not be known until the grant to loan ratio is determined.**

Will traffic increase on West Webbeking? **Traffic on Webbeking should not increase. The water treatment plant will receive about 1 delivery per month in a van type delivery truck and the access to the water treatment plant will be off of County Road 3.**

Is the proposed water treatment plant being designed in the hope of future users? **No, the current water treatment plant is a 260 gpm plant and the proposed water treatment plant is 300 gpm. The water treatment plant could be upsized in the future if needed.**

There were no more questions from the public so the meeting was closed at 6:44pm.

Respectfully Submitted:

Carol Conway/Recording Secretary