

CITY OF GRANDVIEW
CITY COUNCIL (CC)
SPECIAL MEETING MINUTES

March 5, 2020

Meeting time: 9:15 am

Meeting location: Eastern Owyhee County Library,
520 Boise, Ave., Grand View, Idaho

City Council (CC) Members present: Mayor Danny Martinez, John S. Morrison, Tom Payne, Opal Ward, and Jon Pennington

City staff present - Kathy Brown, Dan Whitted, Gina Freeman

Public/guests in attendance: Tammy Payne, Bob Servis, Lisa Martinez, Bruce Tucker, Rosanna Smith, Nola Boone, Sarah Kelsay, Brandon Lowder, Pam Dugger, Matthew Cotton, Andrea Owens, Sandy Skinner.

1.

- a. 9:15 am - Mayor Martinez called the CC meeting to order. Followed by the pledge of allegiance and prayer by Councilman Morrison.
- b. Mayor Martinez called for the attendance by roll call. Roll call conducted. All council members present. Quorum met.
Mayor Martinez called for consideration and discussion of the Action item.

1.b	
Martinez	Y
Payne	Y
Ward	Y
Morrison	Y
Pennington	Y

2. Action Items

- a. City of Grand View's Well #1
Brandon Lowder and Sarah Kelsay with DEQ

Mayor Martinez stated that Brandon Lowder and Sarah Kelsay were asked to attend the meeting so that the city council could get clarification on the CAS (compliance agreement schedule)

Brandon responded that Well # 1 exceeded the nitrate limits which can pose short term health effect especially to infants, at the same time it was reported to DEQ that there were holes in the casing which was allowing very shallow surface water to get into that well. DEQ coordinated with the city to take that well off line, because continuing to use that system would require the entire city to be on essentially a do not drink order. Well #2 was then put into use and the city could run off of that for the time being, however In addition to the health issues that are posed there is a DEQ requirement to have a redundant source of water so that if your main well goes down then there is another well that can be used in its place so that the system doesn't run out of water. Due to the loss of well #1 there wasn't a backup source. Due to this combination of issues DEQ reached out to the Mayor of the City at the time and talked about entering into a compliance agreement schedule that DEQ sets forth with the system to bring the system back into compliance. There are several options, drilling a new well, adding treatment, doing engineering solutions to fix the well. DEQ doesn't dictate those options, we let the city hire an engineer and figure out what the best course is. So that is

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essentially where we are today, when we entered into the compliance agreement schedule, we had a date to complete the facility plan, that was originally due to DEQ December 31, 2019, but at the time the city was doing some studies to evaluate the well problems, an extension was requested which DEQ Approved moving the deadline to July 31, 2020. That is where we are at right now.

Brandon then opened the meeting up for questions, introducing Sarah Kelsay who is the compliance officer in charge of managing the City of Grand View's Well #1 system.

3. Public comment-

Rosanna Smith– What are the chances if the city goes with a new well will it be a good as far as nitrates are concerned? Sarah, answered that there is a nitrate problem in this area and that it would be a question for the engineer, they would do a monitoring well, the engineer would look at the geology in the area and do a tiny test well and see if they can hit gold for you guys. Brandon stated that the engineer would go through the previous studies, the geology of the area, their own studies to pinpoint an area that could produce an adequate well. However, to find a well low on nitrates might not be free of arsenic. It is just a problem that you have in this area.

Tammy Payne- Just for clarification the grant that we have applied for is specifically for planning so if we requested an extension that we were going to do a sleeving simultaneously with a contracted engineer and then we pay for that out of our money with the understanding when that is awarded in July then the engineer can proceed with the facility plan work, and the city of Grand View would pay 50% of the cost of the facility plan and we would just draw down match and pay as we go through.

Brandon answered that DEQ would like a facility plan done upfront before any system work is done, if you would like to go ahead with the sleeving before the facility plan you would have to have an engineer anyway so we would have you and your engineer come sit down and talk to us, and we could talk about it. I can't say we would approve that process, but we could talk about it.

Tammy Payne- the question here is and we understand that historically we've been able to blend the thought was that we needed the back up well so we could just flush toilets and take showers in case of an emergency. So that is why we talked about sleeving the well.

Sarah answered that technically well #2 is a backup well and as Dan has been

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instructed if there is an emergency and you have to kick that well on it is an immediate do not drink, you can still flush toilets and take showers without the sleeving, you don't have to sleeve it to use it. If something catastrophic happens to well #2 you can use #1 it is just an immediate do not drink notification.

Sarah stated the concern with sleeving the well without the facility plan complete the city may spend money on a well that isn't viable. The grant for the facility plan is to pay for the engineer to help the city make an informed decision, however DEQ will not stop the city from sleeving the well if that is what is approved by the city council, DEQ will come in and talk and we would have that conversation with your engineer.

Tammy asked- In looking at the Arsenic treatment plant plans is it built to treat nitrates down the road? Sarah answered it is built to put in nitrate treatment right next to the arsenic treatment. Brandon stated that in treating arsenic iron is introduced because the arsenic binds to the iron, with nitrates reverse osmosis seems to be the most popular, it is a physical membrane, so you just target the filter that doesn't allow the nitrates through.

Pam Dugger- What is the status of the agreement that the city has with an engineer? Mayor Martinez stated that we have talked to Mike Settell and Brothway Engineering, and one additional one.

Pam- Is there a due date for their bids?
Mayor Martinez answered no.

Tammy Payne explained that the council has to make a decision about what they want to do and at this point it is information gathering.

Pam – so the city council hasn't decided to contract with an engineer?

Councilman Morrison stated that the council hasn't contracted with an engineer we have talked to one.

Tammy stated that the city council is going to get an engineer, they are gathering more information to decide with direction they are going.

Pam- What additional information are you gathering in addition to the bid process?

Tammy stated that the city council needed information from DEQ so they knew how to write the request for the engineer proposal, and this meeting is a step in that process.

Pam- Are you a city council member? Tammy responded no, that she is helping with research.

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Pam addressed the city council- Is what she stated correct on the city council's perspective? Mayor Martinez responded with yes, Councilman Pennington stated that it is on his part because he was wanting to hear what DEQ had to say because it was the first time, he had met with them, and the other council members agreed.

Pam Dugger asked what additional steps from gathering information from DEQ does the city council need in order to contract with an engineer? Councilman Pennington stated that the city council is going to contract with an engineer. Councilwoman Ward stated that it depends on what the engineer is willing to do for what amount of money and in what time frame.

Pam stated that with that information clarified, will there be a due date set sometime in the near future?

Councilman Morrison stated that the council would be discussing that at the council meeting next week.

Nola Boone- What happened to Mike Settell's bid? Did you just reject that? Mayor Martinez stated that Mike Settell is still in the mix with the additional engineers. He is in the group of engineers that will be considered.

Nola- and his fee was \$25,000.00, and to bring in an additional engineer would be \$50,000.00 and Mike would only charge 25% of that.

Tammy- responded that is not what he told us at the council meeting, his fee would be \$50,000.00.

Nola asked if the city is paying \$50,000.00 for the facility plan?

Councilman Morrison stated that they do not know yet, waiting on bids.

Sarah Kelsay- Stated that now that everyone knows the process it is a good idea to reach out to multiple engineers to get competitive bids, and make sure they are qualified, and it takes time to get bids back to the city, because they have to do their research and put together a proposal.

Tammy stated that other cities including Greeleaf, Marsing, Homedale, Melba in the past and asked who they are using and that was very helpful.

Sarah – That is really the best way to go.

Dan Whitted- stated that the static level of the well #1 was 13ft. and that there had been 6 feet of pipe added to the well.

Councilman Morrison confirmed with Dan that Hiddleston added 6ft of pipe to the well.

Tammy Payne- stated that she talked to Hiddleston and they told her they had not

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added pipe to the well.

Councilman Morrison stated that he was not a well expert but he had dealt with transducers in the past and that transducers need to be dealt with by someone that knows what they are doing.

Sarah Keslay stated that she was leaving her business cards and for anyone with questions to feel free to give her a call.

4.Executive Session (Idaho Code 74-206 a)

Councilman Payne made a motion to go into executive session, (Idaho Code 74-206 a) councilman Pennington seconded the motion.

10:06 am- Enter executive session
10:15 am- Exit executive session

4.	
Payne	Y
Ward	Y
Morrison	Y
Pennington	Y

Councilman Morrison made a motion to accept the a. item discussed in Executive Session, Councilman Pennington seconded the motion, Mayor Martinez called for a roll call vote. Roll call was conducted. Unanimous approval.

10:18 am - Mayor Martinez called the meeting adjourned.

4.a	
Payne	Y
Ward	Y
Morrison	Y
Pennington	Y

Mayor Martinez

Attested:

Kathy Brown, City Clerk