

CITY OF ST. FRANCIS
ST. FRANCIS MN
ANOKA COUNTY
CITY COUNCIL MINUTES
July 16, 2018

1. **CALL TO ORDER/PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

The regular City Council meeting was called to order at 6:00 pm by Mayor Steve Feldman.

2. **ROLL CALL**

Members present: Rich Skordahl, Robert Bauer, Mayor Steve Feldman, Joe Muehlbauer
Members Absent: Jerry Tveit

Also present: Assistant City Attorney Dave Schaps (Barna, Guzy & Steffen), City Engineer Craig Jochum (Hakanson Anderson), City Administrator Joe Kohlmann, Community Development Director Kate Thunstrom, Police Chief Todd Schwieger, Public Works Director Paul Teicher, Liquor Store Manager John Schmidt, Finance Director Darcy Mulvihill and Acct Tech/Deputy Clerk Lori Streich.

3. **APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

MOTION TO APPROVE TONIGHT'S AGENDA BY MUEHLBAUER, SECONDED BY SKORDAHL; ALL IN FAVOR, MOTION PASSES.

4. **CONSENT AGENDA** - *All matters listed within the Consent Agenda are considered routine items to be enacted upon by one motion by the City Council. Items on the Consent Agenda are reviewed in total by the City Council and may be approved through one motion with no further discussion by the Council. Any item may be removed by any Council Member, staff member or person from the public for separate consideration.*

A. City Council Minutes – July 2, 2018

B. Appoint Election Judges for the State Primary and General Election – Resolution 2018-24

C. SF Dance Team Parent Booster Club – Gambling Permit/Raffle @ SFHS 09/10/2018

D. St. Francis Area Chamber of Commerce – Circus Wednesday, July 25 @ SF Elementary School 5:00 pm & 7:30 pm

E. Payment of Claims \$495,239.91 (ACH #232E – 234E; \$315,177.45) Chk #074447 – 074510; \$180,062.46)

MOTION TO ACCEPT THE CONSENT AGENDA BY BAUER, SECONDED BY MUEHLBAUER; ALL IN FAVOR, MOTION PASSES.

5. **MEETING OPEN TO THE PUBLIC**

Nothing

6. **SPECIAL BUSINESS**

Nothing

7. **PUBLIC HEARINGS**

Nothing

8. **OLD BUSINESS**

Nothing

9. NEW BUSINESS

- A. 2018 Street Reconditioning Project – Res 2018-25 Relating to Parking Restrictions on Lipan Street
- B. Street Mill and Overlay Street Project – Plans and Specifications Resolution 2018-26
- C. Additional Skin Patching – Routine Street Maintenance
- D. City Buildings
- E. Fire Station Building Maintenance

A. 2018 Street Recondition Project – Res 2018-25 Relating to Parking Restrictions on Lipan Street

City Engineer Craig Jochum explained the 2018 Street Reconditioning Project and said that 230th, Jivaro and Lipan were constructed first and then put on the state aid system. They were constructed under city standards, not necessarily state aid standards, and do not have that width required to park on both sides so as part of the plan of approval, MNDOT is looking for this Resolution to be approved. It would limit no parking on Lipan on the west side.

Feldman asked if this would affect any of the residents living there.

Jochum answered that there aren't any houses along that side.

Muehlbauer said that his biggest concern is that emergency vehicles are able to get through.

Jochum said that is what the total widths are based on.

MOTION TO ACCEPT THE 2018 STREET RECONDITIONING PROJECT – RESOLUTION 2018-25 RELATING TO PARKING RESTRICTIONS ON LIPAN STREET BY MUEHLBAUER, SECONDED BY SKORDAHL; ALL IN FAVOR, MOTION PASSES.

B. Street Mill and Overlay Street Project – Plans and Specifications Resolution 2018-26

Engineer Jochum described the mill and overlay street project for Guarani Street NW from Pederson Drive NW to Makah Street NW; Jivaro Street NW from Pederson Drive NW to 230th Avenue NW; Lipan Street NW from Pederson Drive NW to 232nd Lane NW. All of the streets will be paved with municipal state aid funds except Guarani. One thing to note is the current state aid balance is just under 1.56 million and you need to spend at least that under 1.5 million by the end of the year or you will be penalized about \$19,000.

Mayor Feldman asked why the price jumped around as shown on page 36 of the packet.

Jochum said that when you are putting together a 5 year CIP, it's pretty hard to get an exact cost. Basically it is saying that we have enough money or we didn't plan for enough money in the CIP to cover this project. It actually is right now projected to be \$16,000 under that.

Bauer asked if there would be any assessments on this type of mill and overlay.

Jochum said this is the type of project that they took out of the assessment policy because it will be funded by the MSA.

Skordahl said that in the comment they mentioned tacking on Lipan Street, the 90 degree corner on the north side of the map, 232nd and Lipan, and asked if there was a reason why they are stopping there? Is that where it's the worst?

Teicher said that is correct. It's opening up and in poor condition. The rest of that development is part of the street consortium. Crack filling and sealcoating will happen this year as well. The overall condition of the rest of the streets in that area is that sealcoating would provide us significant repair into the future.

MOTION TO APPROVE THE STREET MILL AND OVERLAY STREET PROJECT – PLANS AND SPECIFICATIONS RESOLUTION 2018-26 BY BAUER, SECONDED BY SKORDAHL; ALL IN FAVOR, MOTION PASSES.

C. Additional Skin Patching – Routine Street Maintenance

Teicher explained the updated quotes that they received for some additional skin patching that they would like to do throughout the city. This is routine street maintenance, and when they first put together their packet for their contractors in the spring, they underestimated how much skin patching would be needed. They are hopeful that this next swing of \$10-\$15 thousand will do the remaining skin patching throughout the city.

Feldman said that \$30,000 was budgeted for this but they are only going to use the extra, which is between \$10 & \$15 thousand, which is a good cushion.

Teicher said what they have been doing for the asphalt repair and maintenance this year with the street consortium, since it is new, is working backwards with these numbers. They wanted to make sure that their original dollar amount that they had budgeted for crack filling and seal coating within the street consortium was covered. From there they have been working backwards, doing some additional crack filling, pothole patching, skin patching or replay. Replay is a soy base product that adds more oil and they would like to start using more regularly. They are not quite there yet, but will be adding replay into their routine maintenance. This would be applied onto the newer asphalt roads and rejuvenates the road, adding more flexibility so that the roads don't crack as much, therefore they do not see as much crack filling required. It would provide longevity to these roads.

Feldman asked if any other cities were using Replay right now.

Teicher said that Hutchinson is using it and some counties further south are using the Replay product on a regular basis.

Skordahl questioned the comment that states that staff and contractor underestimated the amount of skin patching needed to be completed throughout the city. So we had an estimate, and now we are coming back and asking for two times the amount of the original estimate. How did we estimate too low and were we surprised.

Teicher said that skin patching is a throw and go type of application. Contractors give this in a priced per ton as they are putting the product down. Potholes will vary in depth, so we don't always know what the quantities are going to be on something like this. That's why it's difficult to estimate how much is going to be required for those repairs. They were surprised at the quantities required to get them as far as it did. They gave contractors a "not to exceed" price the first time around, and that was quickly met. They stopped them and wanted to re-evaluate where we were at and make sure they had the budget to finish pothole patching throughout the city.

Skordahl commends them on stopping and re-evaluating. Contractors are going to work more efficiently if they are allowed to just keep going. He questioned if in the end if this will be on par with what we typically do in a year.

Teicher said this is more this year. Typically they will do between \$5 & \$10 thousand but as our streets continue to age they are finding the harsher winter is not doing us any favors. Definitely more patching than they had expected.

Bauer said that the way he understands it is that you budgeted, there's \$30,000 left but this portion of road repair needs extra funds. He likes the idea of doing this work and stopping, not exceeding a certain amount, and re-evaluating it.

Teicher said this is all routine maintenance for our roads. Their approach has always been that they are going to maintain and try to fix potholes as they come up. It's not something they would like to avoid or wait for any length of time because they are only going to get worse.

Feldman said that this is why the road plan that they are coming up with will all work hand in hand and these costs will be less as the roads are repaired. He asked Teicher how they come up with the numbers that they need.

Teicher said that typically the first roads chosen for the pothole repairing is the parade route for Pioneer Days. They want to make sure that parade route is taken care of first for anyone that is marching or driving. From there they pick their next worst spots and work their way out. There are also calls from residents that they will address. Teicher wanted to point out that the street supervisor did some calculations this last time the contractor was here and the amount of time between their machine, which is a dump truck with a hot box to maintain the temperature of the asphalt so they can work with it longer, along with two guys and a roller, that at this \$975 per ton, we are paying them about \$300/hour. Teicher thought that was a very reasonable price.

Feldman asked if there was a way to be closer in the estimates?

Teicher answered that what they do focus on as far as precise estimates would be situations where they will use infra-red patching or patch around a structure that they will actually cut out or measuring a spot and performing a task, and those are more specific estimates that they can get for those spots. Skin patching is harder because it is a throw and go situation and the holes vary in depth. They try and drive around and take inventory of where they are so they know which streets the contractor will be on but it's still very difficult to give a dollar amount.

MOTION TO APPROVE ADDITIONAL SKIN PATCHING, NOT TO EXCEED \$17,000 BY BAUER, SECONDED BY FELDMAN; ALL IN FAVOR, MOTION PASSES.

D. City Buildings

Teicher explained the city building project that they had been working on for quite a while, and that they had talked in the spring about getting some direction on all of our city facilities, what each facility has to offer, and creating a plan to move forward with the efficient use of these facilities. Their main focus revolves around the fire station. Quite a few needs have been identified at the fire station and they've decided they should really take a look at all of our facilities and put together a plan that can move us into the future. Then we know we are making a good investment into each one of these buildings. The estimates that have been collected, will help council make those decisions.

Bauer understood that we are looking at a long range plan to move the city forward whether we consolidate buildings, or move the city hall into a fire station Tahj Mohall, or whatever the residents want to call it. This is a professional plan kind of like the comp plan. He likes the idea for this. He's all about not spending money to rebuild or refurbish a building that we are going to have a study to determine if we will keep it or leave it. He's ok with the idea that they need to do the study. Until this study comes back and says we can keep the fire station or it needs to be rebuilt and from his experience of being inside of it, it may be overdue. He believes that the city needs to do a comprehensive study to figure out if buildings need to be consolidated, and which buildings need to stay and which need to go.

Feldman said if we do the study and it comes back saying that a building is at a point beyond the 50% to repair or replace, we still may not be able to do that for years to come. We would still have to line up the money, whether that be through grant money or somewhere else that it may be coming from, so it could still be five years down the road. In the meantime, those problems in the building need to be solved. Basically this is a road map. When we see an item that we need, we plan ahead. Anything that this plan says is not going to be immediate. It has to come together with staff and finance and it has to make sense to come together.

Skordahl said that the price tag seems kind of expensive when you first look at it. It ends up being about \$100 an hour, which you are buying two people full time for five weeks to do a study involving utility rates, and going through all of our buildings. These people are knowledgeable on ADA standards and there's a lot of things that they can do that we cannot do in house. Several years ago we didn't have plans on the shelf to help guide future decisions. This is one of them that's long overdue. As Mayor Feldman had said, this isn't something that will be implemented overnight, but if you don't start thinking about this stuff now, we will be faced with a critical decision later. The price is already budgeted, so he thinks they should go ahead with it.

Feldman said that this sets a base line. You have to have a starting point to know where you are going. We budgeted \$60,000 for this and the proposal is for \$42,960. We have leftover money of \$17,000.

Muehlbauer said we need to be planning and preparing for it and having that road map and guidance for future council. As already stated, nothing is going to get torn down overnight. We have to maintain what we have until we are prepared to do such a thing.

MOTION TO APPROVE THE CITY BUILDING PLAN INSPECTIONS WITH PEARL ARCHITECTURE FOR \$42,960 BY MUEHLBAUER, SECONDED BY BAUER; ALL IN FAVOR, MOTION PASSES.

E. Fire station building maintenance

Teicher explained that this item is also related to the fire station and the remaining dollar amount of approximately \$17,000 of the budgeted money for the study. Public Works staff, along with the Fire Chief took a look at the building and with the new leadership, have evaluated their utility bills and tried to find some ways to create some efficiencies, lower the utility bills and address some of the conditions that are starting to deteriorate within the facility. They put together a list of potential items that need to be addressed and picked the top priorities and put them together in tonight's packet for Council to consider. Teicher explained that there is a transposed number listed under miscellaneous repairs, shown in the middle of the first page on the Agenda Memo for \$2,650 for additional repairs. That number should have been \$2,605 for additional repairs. Total maintenance repairs would be \$14,175.

Feldman wanted to make it clear that the study for the buildings was budgeted for \$60,000 but the proposal they chose was for \$42,960 actual. With the maintenance repairs of \$14,175, we would still have a savings of \$2,865 over the money being spent on the study and the maintenance.

Feldman also explained that back in 2013, the city got a bid for painting the entire fire station building for just over \$15,000 using a standard paint. They received another bid for \$18,000 for a product called Loxon XP, which is a rubber membrane. On rock face blocks, it's good between cracks for mortar to use a membrane sealant. The city, at that time, decided to go with the \$3,000 less option for the basic exterior paint and now we have leaks in certain areas where the wind is driving the rain hard against the building and leaking inside.

One of these bids is for \$2,700, which will only do the locations that we spotted where the leaks on the block are. A short term gain that costs you money down the road is not good. We saved \$3,000 in 2013, but now are having to spend \$2,700, when we could have had the entire building done in the beginning the right way. No matter what the study says it is going to depend on our pocket book and our fiscal discipline to build that new fire station. How many years is another factor in play and we will have to keep this one as operational and in the best shape that we can.

Bauer said he's here to save the residents money. It's a pattern the way the city spends money. They want to do a study about the buildings, and whether they keep them, demolish them or replace them. He understands that things are going to be in the future, but a lot of things on this list are cosmetic. He wants to get in the mindset that we do a study, we pay the money to do the study, evaluate the study, then make the repairs. We don't ask for a study, whether we are going to keep a building or not keep a building and then turn around and throw thousands of dollars of cosmetics into a building that we don't even know if we are going to keep. The savings of the money, cosmetically, isn't what he wants to ask residents to pay. It's not something he wants to pay in his taxes. That's where he stands on some of the cosmetic things. He agrees 100% with the paint. We need to keep that building for the next couple of years so we want to make sure the outside walls are good. The vents to repair the air conditioning that's being wasted, the heat in

the winter that's being wasted, makes sense because that's a savings that our residents are actually going to see. As far as the sheetrock, he would like to know right now of that will save \$14,000 of their tax money that we are putting into a building that may be torn down.

Teicher said that the two rooms that they are proposing putting ceilings in, and sheet rock over, are direct access to an insulated portion of the building. The tool room does not have a ceiling, so the air goes up into the rafters. They would put an eight foot ceiling on it, rather than the current twelve foot.

Feldman said that it's not just cosmetic. If you are capping off a ceiling at eight feet, rather than twelve, that's more efficient. He's all for saving money, but one thing we are doing differently now is that we are spending the money wiser and in the right places.

Skordahl said that we will have to live with this building and we have to put band aids on it. When you look at the list you will see that it's not just cosmetic. It's helping to control heating and cooling, where that air is going and where you want to keep it. He hopes that we have a handle on it and know next year how much they will need to spend. What he doesn't want to happen is getting a surprise \$20,000 bill knowing that this building probably isn't for us five years down the road. A \$14,000 band aid sounds expensive right now, but maybe next year that band aid is only \$5,000. It's something that needs to be done. We can pay for it with the leftover funds from the study. The study needs to get done and then either this Council or the next will need to make some decisions.

Muehlbauer said he understands council member Bauer's line of thinking. The insulation and sheetrock will provide efficiency. But, we don't have a plan for a new building, so there's no set idea on how long this building will be here. Having to band aid it may be what we have to do. If we don't fix it, it could get worse. We need to maintain it now because we don't have a plan set forth.

Teicher said that the maintenance tool room, as far as he knows, has never had a ceiling. The compressor room had an older false ceiling with removable ceiling tiles, and that's their access into a storage area of the training room and that also provides direct access right to those five vents that go right outside. You can stand in the compressor room and see outside through one of those vents. He thinks it would be important to seal that off.

Feldman asked if sheet rock was the better way to go, rather than an acoustic ceiling. The nice thing about an acoustic ceiling is that you have access to above where sheet rock, you don't. So would they be losing that ability by doing one and not the other.

Teicher answered that an acoustic ceiling is what is in there now and it's in a difficult spot with all of the HVAC that hangs from that ceiling already. You can see that the tile and grid are falling down already because you can't adequately secure it to the ceiling because of the duct work. Teicher said that in the plan he had asked for two access points.

Feldman said he completely understands where Bauer is coming from as well as the resident's concerns, but we've been a city that's running lean and mean for years. At some point, that can catch up to you. You can save, save, save, and then all of a sudden you are going to pay one way or the other. We have this building, it's here now, and that's what we have to work with. We all know sooner or later we will need a new fire department. He believes and commends that in the past 18 months they've worked really hard and the city is going in the right direction. That has happened because of multiple meetings, discussions, research, asking questions and being flexible where we can be.

Mike Rodger, 2770 232nd Lane NW, has been in the building trades for over thirty years. He's not so sure a membrane of paint is what we should put on that building. He thinks the better product may be a siloxane that will actually penetrate into the concrete block. The membrane is just going to hang on there. Target does this to all of their buildings. It goes on clear but you will be amazed when it rains and you can see how it repels that water. Regarding the sheetrock ceiling, not only are you losing the heat, but you are doing terrible things to that roof. By putting that ceiling in, will we have to re-pressurize that whole building because we will change the aesthetics of that atmosphere. When we are having a building remodel like this, we should be looking to our contractor and in the building trades, there's something out there called market recovery money. That's through the union trades and whenever a union tradesman puts in so much per hour out of their paycheck, that's market recovery money. The unions will throw money back at the city to bring unions in here. On the Police/Public Works building there was market recovery money out there. The council just didn't want to hear that. They would have saved \$150,000 on that project. Those are things that are out there that nobody knows about it.

Rodger also asked how much of the street repair is caused by studs on the tracks of snowmobiles. It's quite evident what these machines with the studs are doing to our streets. If we are going to keep throwing money at it, maybe we need to raise the permit fee and use the money towards street repair. And any fines they may be receiving for running the streets without a permit, along with a stud fee since they are destroying the streets.

Feldman said that he will bring Teicher over to the ponds area and show him where they looked at the damage from the studs.

Muehlbauer said that the pressurization all depends on the vents and the returns. You have to look at the heating situation. He doesn't think it will be a big issue but will go take a look at it.

Bauer said that what we want to look at is are we saving and doing the due diligence for our residents. A \$14,000 band aid is hard to rip off. He hates making our taxpayers pay that. But in the long run, some of these repairs are going to save us. He's walked that building for many years and he would have hoped that years ago the city would have had a plan to replace it.

Feldman reiterated what Skordahl had mentioned that the costs will be less every year as we get a handle on this. You build something then you have to maintain it. This wasn't the case in the past.

MOTION TO APPROVE THE FIRE STATION BUILDING MAINTENANCE NOT TO EXCEED \$17,000 IN COST BY MUEHLBAUER, SECONDED BY SKORDAHL; ALL IN FAVOR, MOTION PASSES.

10. MEETING OPEN TO THE PUBLIC

Sarah Udvig, 3709 229th Lane NW, said that a resident was watching online and was having a hard time hearing. She will address the school board.

Skordahl asked when we would get this issue solved once and for all? An 18 year old kid that Dee Jays parties on a Saturday night could help us.

Muehlbauer stated that he spoke to the school board about it already and they had a ridiculous bid for \$50,000.

Feldman said that he has a meeting with Ferguson, from the school board, tomorrow and will mention it. It's not right for the residents not to be able to hear them.

Udvig also said that another resident asked about our contract with animal control if patrolling is allowed? Or are they simply on a need to call basis?

Police Chief Schwieger said that he believes it's just for pickup and that they do not patrol.

Feldman stated that the committee would be meeting on the 24th to discuss the animal control situation.

Udvig asked when there are upcoming events, like when Planning and Zoning have their meetings, if they could be highlighted better. The easier for people to find it the better.

Feldman asked Chief Schwieger if we could incorporate Nixle to be used for that.

Schwieger said that Nixle could be used for that.

Udvig said she is hoping they are planning something for Night to Unite to talk about Nixle. It should also be on the website. Something should be made available for neighborhood parties too.

11. REPORTS

- A. Department Reports –
 - 1) Community Development Quarterly Report
 - 2) Police Quarterly Report
 - 3) Public Works Monthly Reports

Community Development Quarterly Report

Thunstrom explained the quarterly report as provided in the council packet.

Skordahl complimented Thunstrom on the report and said that he really likes when we take credit for things. He asked if there is a way that this information, showing them doing good things with the resident's money can get out to the public better. In reports like this, there are pictures of the bike rodeo, pictures of staff out doing good things with the resident's money, developments going in, ground breaking pictures, etc. They are taking an active role in trying to get people to clean up their properties. Otherwise this type of information just gets buried in a council packet that may or may not ever be looked at again. He feels that if we are going to burden our department heads to do reporting, and they are going to take the time to report the good stuff that they do, let's make sure it gets out there and more than just this form. He also asked if they have been seeing any of the septic forms coming back now that the weather is getting nicer.

Thunstrom answered that they sent out letters to the providers within a 30 mile radius of the city, trying to catch our most current providers and we are definitely seeing more this year and having them participate in getting those permits like they are supposed to.

Bauer asked if there's a way we can put a note on our water bills that say the rates are coming down 20%.

Mulvihill said bills have already gone out so it's too late to add it.

Bauer asked Thunstrom about page 4 of the housing, if there was a stipulation that all of the houses had to be blue?

Thunstrom answered that there was no stipulation. The homeowners were able to choose their own color.

Feldman asked Mulvihill if they could put something in the water bill regarding Nixle.

Mulvihill said you can add information to the water bills. Bills are run down in Florida so we would have to send it there, and there's a cost involved.

Muehlbauer said that this is a very good report, and Thunstrom is doing great. He also agrees that we need to find a way to get information out. There's a lot of comments on code enforcement and that would be nice to get out.

Feldman pointed out that there are 13 acres of commercial property in front of the Public Works building for sale and 124 acres on the corner of Ambassador and 47 that will be coming to market. In addition, there are 33 acres north of The Bottle Shop and some property south of O'Reilly Auto for sale. So there are some things coming and they are all in our Municipal Service Area.

Police Quarterly Report

Chief Schwieger explained the 2nd Quarter Report from the Police Department. Overall, calls for service increased in the second quarter by about 15%. Thefts and DWI's have increased. Traffic

enforcement remains a high priority. In addition to moving the speed signs around to different residential areas, they have been placing officers at different locations during stationary radar details for traffic enforcement. The Police Department has been involved in many events during the 2nd quarter, such as winning with cops, the high school mock crash, the pet clinic, bike rodeo and car seat clinic, and they were all very successful and provided a good way for them to interact and educate the public at the same time.

Muehlbauer said that a lot of these numbers are going up because the weather is getting nicer. He also mentioned that someone had posted on Facebook about an issue she was having regarding the speed in her neighborhood, and she claimed that we promised we were going to do something about it. Muehlbauer said that he tried to get a hold of her but couldn't and just wanted to follow up.

Schwieger said that a Sergeant went out to visit her. Certain locations just don't work for speed signs. It has to be along a straight stretch. If there are curves and intersections, it will give them a lot of false data. This wasn't an ideal location for that but what they did do was put some officers up there.

Feldman said that he commends Schwieger for taking this out of his forfeiture fund.

Bauer missed the bike rodeo but was able to look at the pictures. He would like to get this out to the residents, as well as Thunstrom's report. Throw it on Facebook and the city page. He also stated that the report is really good and commends the police department for all of the good things they are doing for the community.

Skordahl agrees with everything that Bauer just said. He does want to talk about the DWI's a little bit more. He's not sure if it's just because they are getting good reports and data, but every time they get a report, the DWI's have gone up. Is there an indication whether its people passing through town, coming home, or leaving our establishments. Obviously the message is not getting through to some people. We allow some establishments in the city to serve alcohol, but there comes some responsibility with that. They are not supposed to serve intoxicated adults. He's not blaming this problem on them but is there a point where we need to send them a letter and remind them of their responsibility?

Schwieger said they sent letters to the local establishments as they renewed their liquor licenses. He even personally discussed certain laws that they should be watching for with some staff that were willing to do that. The majority of our local businesses are very good in identifying and teaching their staff on who and who not to serve to.

Public Works Monthly Report

Teicher explained the June public works monthly report. He explained that in June they did see some significant water production. A little over 20 million gallons of water pumped to our water treatment plant to make into drinking water. A lot of that goes on grass so that's something to keep in mind when we see those significant upticks in production. You can compare that to the influent at the wastewater plant which was at about 10 million influent gallons. You can assume that about 10 million gallons of water went on lawns.

Teicher continued to say that one of the projects that they have been working on is getting rid of our bio-solids that are accumulating at the wastewater treatment plant in the bio-solid storage tanks. We have approximately one year of storage within those facilities based on the amount of influent coming into the wastewater treatment plant. This takes time to facilitate and create land that we can apply our bio-solids to or find a way to dispose of those solids through a landfill or incineration. They will be coming forward with those quotes once they have them. This is another expense related to the wastewater treatment facility. This is something from the start that we have known will need to be taken care of and it will be a significant number.

Feldman asked about the 183 acres in Isanti that the city owns and if we could use that in an effort to save costs to the city.

Teicher said yes, but we would need to be aware that when bio-solids are applied to any land, the land cannot be used for 3 years after that final application other than a type of crop land that is not consumed by people.

Feldman mentioned that they visited a plant that packaged this bio-solid and sold it to farmers. Is there a possibility that we could package this and sell to farmers for a profit?

Teicher said that the part about drying the bio-solids can be quite expensive. To buy or build a facility that dries the sludge to a Class A type sludge is a significant number. And it would have to be a large facility.

Teicher said that they have met with three companies that can handle these type of situations. One has already backed out, but they are hoping to get two qualifying quotes from the other vendors. As far as applying it to the 183 acres, these companies have to work with the MPCA, who works with the owners of the property that we would be applying this land to. There's a lot of other things that happen with this. They survey the property, they do drainage studies, they make sure the property is going to absorb the nutrients properly, making sure it's not too close to a public road or public waters. So the 183 acres that you think you are going to apply everything to might only be two after everything is said and done. That may be over exaggerating, but it is a potential. These two companies are very good at doing this in Minnesota. What we do struggle with a little bit is our Minnesota rules are more strict.

Feldman asked if we should have incorporated the bio-solids to create a product that we could sell and recycle the bio-solids vs. reclaiming water.

Teicher said that they did investigate the idea of building a dryer type system to dry the bio solids so that we could use them as fertilizer and felt it was cost prohibited at the time.

Bauer said this is a great report and wants to add it to the Facebook page. He likes Teicher's note that says "Please residents, if it doesn't come out of your body, don't flush it." We had four rags flushed and it costs an average of four man hours to unplug those pumps. If these pumps fail, due to flushing rags, we as the residents that pay the bill for our wastewater treatment facility, pay that bill. Please don't flush rags down our system.

Skordahl said that it is a good report but just wanted to ask about meter re-reads. Somebody spends half a week each month re-reading meters that were not read by Opus. Why aren't they being read by the people that we pay to read them?

Teicher said that many times it's things that they can't get to, like a locked door or gate, dogs they aren't comfortable approaching, or touchpads that failed and they can't get a reading. Typically they will hang a door hanger letting the resident know they need to set up an appointment to get a reading. Most people will cooperate.

Feldman said that mistakes can be made and sometimes the meters aren't correct, so if you suddenly see a spike, please contact Public Works or Mulvihill in the Finance Department at the city.

Teicher ended by saying that crack filling should be next week. Seal coating will be the end of August.

Councilmember Reports:

Muehlbauer said that he hopes to see everyone at Night to Unite on August 7th.

Skordahl said that he was driving on 233rd to turn north onto 47 and if you are looking south, it is really hard to see. He hopes MNDOT comes to mow the weeds because it's really hard to see and it's an accident waiting to happen. He also mentioned that he hopes everyone comes out to Night to Unite.

Teicher said that the MNDOT tractor was in town mowing today.

Bauer thanked the department heads for their reports. They are very informative. He can't wait for Night to Unite.

Mayor asked Thunstrom if we could stick a tab on the website labeling the links.

Kate said we need to be careful with how much we put on that front page. One thing they could do, for example in the Community Development Department page, is to add information in the reports link within it. Each department has their own page to add links. Then when you do a Facebook post or e-mail blast, you can take that link from that individual department and send that out. A generic link may not be understandable.

Feldman reiterated that if you see a spike in meter reading, call the city office or public works. There are also water saving tips that he put on the website. While watering lawns, the best thing he can advise is no more than 15 minutes of watering in each zone, and water early in the morning before the sun beats on it. Use common sense, and if you want more hints, go to the city website or call the city. The water rate reduction will go into effect September 10th. We had to go through a first reading, a second reading, and then a publication.

Feldman said that he had someone mention the center of the roundabouts for flowers, so he called Princeton. Princeton was dealing with MNDOT. They got Council approval to get residents to take care of it. Feldman will be looking into that more and have a discussion with Thunstrom. He thinks flowers would be nice. Princeton did it because it's the entrance to their city. He asked that if anyone in the public has any ideas, to please bring it to their attention.

Night to Unite is Aug 7th 5:30 pm – 8:30 pm. There will be a lot of activities at the St. Francis Community Park, so please come out and enjoy the day. There will be bouncy houses, face painting, ropes with the Marines and Army, various exhibits, a petting zoo, food & music. Come out and meet your neighbors.

Code compliance has been an issue that keeps coming up. He talked with Thunstrom about it earlier and it has also been a council discussion. They are now looking into two different ways of dealing with this. Either through an internship or a retiree. They do have a name of a retiree who may be open to doing it part time. They don't want to have it as a full time job, but they know there is a need for it.

Feldman asked that all Riverbank Lane residents please come out to the July 23rd work session. They have only gotten about 1/3 of the residents at all of their work sessions. This is the last meeting that the city will be hosting for this.

B. Councilmember Reports -

B. Upcoming Events –

July 23	Work Session for Riverbank Lane/Kings Highway Street Imp.6 pm
Aug 6	City Council Meeting @ ISD #15 Central Services Center 6 pm
Aug 7	Night to Unite 5:30-8:30
Aug 14	State Primary Polls Open 7 am to 8 pm

12. ADJOURNMENT

Meeting adjourned at 8:00 pm by Mayor Feldman

Respectfully Submitted by:



Lori Streich
Acct Tech/Deputy Clerk