

January 11, 2022, Special Meeting and Regular Council Meeting (104 E. 6th Ave)

Special Meeting – Started at 6:05 pm.

Council Members in attendance were Matt Greemore, Nolan Frandsen, Scott Holbrook, and Jordan High. Also in attendance were Maintenance Supervisor Sam Novich and Clerk/Treasurer Kristi Millhouse

Guests: Dan McCauley, Jessica Salo, and Jeremiah Theys from Great West Engineering and Jeff Mills. Sam Novich and Kristi Millhouse

Great West Engineering: Water System Improvements - Jessica Salo gave a brief description of the Town's water system and what was evaluated. The following is a copy of that report from Jessica regarding their findings of areas that need to be addressed for repairs.

Twin Bridges Water System Improvements 2022 Preliminary Engineering Report Council Work Session – January 11, 2022

Background

- To address deficiencies in the water system, the Town of Twin Bridges retained Great West Engineering to complete a Preliminary Engineering Report (PER) to evaluate the existing system, identify issues, and develop alternative solutions to address identified issues.
- The PER also identifies possible funding sources for the necessary improvements.
- A PER is required by the funding agencies.

Evaluation of Existing System

- Evaluation of existing system components to identify problems.
- Summarized in Charts, Tables, Graphs provided to Council in October 2021.
- No significant failures or compliance issues noted.
- Supply
 - Good quality and quantity.
 - Existing well equipment is approaching 50 years and has exceeded useful life.
 - Pump houses are in need of improvements (mag meters, structural repairs, insulation, emergency power, etc.).
 - Existing wells are in close proximity to one another creating concern in the event of a contamination event. Wells are also in close proximity to the floodplain.
- Storage
 - Existing tank is in good condition but requires exterior re-coating.
 - Existing storage volume is not adequate for future demands and fire protection.
- Distribution System.
 - Leakage is difficult to assess with suspected errors in source meters. Consider tank drawdown test.
 - Adequate system pressure and fire flow availability.
 - Suspected leakage from old cast iron and asbestos cement lines.
 - 4-inch lines are too small and violate DEQ requirements.
 - Some leaking valves and hydrants throughout system.
 - Meters were installed 12 years ago and in need of a replacement program.
 - Fairgrounds/Children's Center loop needed to serve area west of Beaverhead River.
- Excellent O&M practices.
- Financial analysis indicates current rates appear adequate for operation and maintenance of the system.

Alternatives Considered

- Supply Improvements.
 - No Action (Alt. S-1)
 - **Rehabilitate Existing Wells (Alt. S-2) – \$984,000**
 - Develop a New Groundwater Source (Alt. S-3) – \$2,037,000
- Storage Improvements.
 - No Action
 - **Recoat Existing Water Tank - \$156,000**
 - New 250,000-Gallon Welded Steel Storage Tank - \$1,281,000
 - New 250,000-Gallon Glass-Lined Steel Tank - \$1,005,000
- Distribution System Improvements.
 - No Action
 - **Main Street Distribution System Improvements – \$3,862,000**
 - **Bridge Street Distribution Improvements – \$392,000**
 - Fairgrounds/Children’s Center Loop – \$1,308,000
 - **Replace Leaking Hydrants and Valves – \$508,000**
 - Meter Replacement Program – The Town will complete this work on their own. The PER will make recommendations to purchase and install a certain number of meters per year (typically 20% of system per year).

Environmental Evaluation and Agency Engagement

- No significant impacts have been identified.
- Letters were sent to pertinent local, state, federal and tribal agencies.
- Responses received from:
 - US Fish and Wildlife Service
 - Montana Historical Society
 - DNRC Water Resources
 - Montana Department of Transportation
 - Madison County Airport (RPA) - The airport is pursuing installation of a public water supply. Madison County has allocated some ARPA funds towards this and are in the preliminary stages. Had anticipated drilling a PWS well on-site but wondering if there might be another better possibility that could work to connect to the town improvements.
 - Montana Fish, Wildlife, and Parks
 - US Army Corps of Engineers

Council discussed the options for upgrades/repairs to the Town’s Water System with Great West Engineering. Council agreed that option three that was provided was the best option at this time with the smallest impact on users. Dan McCauley commented that Great West will finalize the Water PER and set up a public meeting so the PER can be approved, and the Town can start looking for funding as applications are due in May. He would like to do the meeting on the same day as the next Council meeting.

Levee Study: Jeremiah Theys of Great West Engineering gave a brief presentation to the council to summarize their findings on the Levee that will help get it certified. The project will cost the Town \$4,400,000. The Town will need to have a public meeting and present this to the citizens of Twin Bridges. Great West is looking at wrapping up the feasibility study after the public meeting and have the finalized PER to the Council for approval at the February meeting. The Town has approximately two years to get funding put together before the new flood maps are finalized by FEMA.

Public Meeting to be held at the School in the Montana Room or the Multi-purpose Gym at the end of January at 7:00 pm. Matt will coordinate with Jeremiah and the school for the date.

Regular Council Meeting

Council Members in attendance were Matt Greemore, Nolan Frandsen, Scott Holbrook, and Jordan High. JB Klyap was absent. Also in attendance were Maintenance Supervisor Sam Novich and Clerk/Treasurer Kristi Millhouse.

Guests: Town Attorney Lori Harshbarger, Halvoz Kamrid (McKinstry – Twin Bridges School), Jeffery Mills, and Joe Wiltzen.

Council President Matt Greemore called the meeting to order at 7:25 pm and opened the meeting with the Pledge of Allegiance.

Public Comment (Non-Agenda) Items: Halvor Kamrid –School hired McKinstry out of Missoula to upgrade their HVAC system in the elementary to make it more energy efficient and they are looking at the gymnasium at the school at the same time. The gymnasium needs some ADA compliance improvements and structural issues repaired. The school is also looking at adding on to the building. They are just starting to look at the project and will have more information later that they can present to the public.

New Business

Fire Department – Scott Holbrook (Fire Chief): The fire department is wanting to upgrade the Town's Fire truck. Ethan Nordquist has found a truck in Missoula that would work well for the Town. Roughly going to be around the \$40,000 mark but do not have a final cost yet. The fire department is wanting to know if the Town can help with the purchase. Discussion occurred regarding purchasing the truck and getting rid of the old truck.

Library – Estimates: Scott made a motion to approve the increase of construction for Baldy Mountain Construction. Jordan seconded the motion. Motion passed with a unanimous vote.

Nolan made a motion to approve the asbestos abatement bid for \$4300 with Ingraham Environmental. Jordan seconded the motion. Motion passed with a unanimous vote.

Jordan made a motion to approve the asbestos clearance for \$500 first trip and any additional trips cost of \$200. Motion was seconded by Nolan. Motion passed with a unanimous vote.

Sheriff's Report: Written report received.

Madison County Planning Board: No Report

Library Director's Report: Written report received

Attorney's Report: Attorney Harshbarger had nothing for the Town to be reported. Her office is now located in Twin Bridges.

Mayor's Report: No Mayor at this time. Matt Greemore is filling in until such time as we fill the seat. Position has been posted in the paper. One individual is interested in the position but is not qualified

Maintenance Report: Sewer Pumps – Sam recapped the issue with the shaft in the sewer pumps breaking and not being able to get them fixed by Gorman Rump. He has spoken to John Nash about the

pumps, and he is going to take them to Nash to see if he can rebuild them. Sam does not know cost of work at this time but will get back to the Council with numbers.

Stormdrains: Sam reported that he thinks we might have an issue at the driveways of individual residents during the seasons (pipes will move up and down like the road does when frost comes out). He walked through the project this past week with RE Miller and talked to them about the situation. Sam suggests that we talk to individual homeowners about the driveways. They can have RE Miller dig out driveways when the stormdrain project is being done and then we pay for the gravel and owner pays for the digging, or they can wait to see what happens and the resident will be responsible for the gravel and digging. The homeowners will not be able just to fill in the area as it will cause issues with the stormdrains. Council will discuss further at February council meeting.

Clerks Report – Clerk/Treasurer Kristi Millhouse reported that the Annual Financial Report was completed and filed with the State. She has also received confirmation from the State that it has been accepted. Kristi has also printed and mailed the 1099's and W-2's for 2021.

Gas Tax (BARSA Funds) – Clerk Kristi Millhouse asked the Council to think about what they want to use the money from the second gas tax for as requests for projects are submitted in March to the State. Kristi suggested it to be used for the extra materials from Horse Creek that Sam wants for Madison St.

Claims: Nolan made a motion to approve claim checks and payroll checks 21491 to 21533 and electronic checks 89752 to 89756. Nolan requested amendment to motion to include payroll checks 5847 to 5853 and 88619 to 88645. Scott seconded the original motion and the amendment. Motion passed with a unanimous vote.

December 16, 2021 – Nolan made a motion to approve the minutes from December 16, 2021. Jordan seconded the motion. Motion passed with a unanimous vote.

Council review: Kristi commented that the Council needs to think about what they want to do for the Mayor position. Discussion occurred with no solution at this time. Matt will continue as interim Mayor until position is filled.