

April 12, 2022, Public Meeting (Water PER) and Regular Council Meeting

PUBLIC MEETING WATER PER

Meeting started at 6:00 pm. Patty Hayes (Town of Twin Bridges Mayor), Kristi Millhouse (Town Clerk/Treasurer) and Jessica Salo from Great West Engineering were in attendance.

Jessica Salo of Great West Engineering presented the findings from the Water Preliminary Engineering Report (PER). The presentation was also provided by Great Westing Engineering to the public on February 22, 2022.

The Water PER is a review of the Town's existing water system, identifying areas that may need improvement. It looked at three components of the Town's System, supply, storage, and distribution.

The Town is currently meeting their needs for water supply but will have difficulty within the next 20 years. In an average day, the Town is using 102,099 gpd and with an estimate of 25% leakage which was determined from a tank drawdown test that number increases to 127,632. The Town also meets the federal and state standards for quality. Twin Bridges currently does not treat their water. The following are deficiencies for the water supply:

- Current well pumping rates lower than original pumping rates
- Wells have not been rehabilitated or studied since initial construction
- Existing well equipment is approaching 60 years and has exceeded useful life
- Pump houses in need of improvements
- Source water meter errors
- No emergency power source
- The projected 2040 demand (548 gpm) is slightly over the pumping rate of the lowest producing well (520 gpm)
- Existing wells in close proximity to one another
- Existing wells close to floodplain boundary

The second item was storage. The Town currently has a 300,000-gallon bolted steel tank that was constructed in 1999. It was cleaned and inspected in 2021. The PER determined that the storage would need to have an additional 263,000 gallons capacity to meet the demands of Twin Bridges by 2040. The following were the deficiencies for the storage tank.

- Existing tank requires exterior re-coating
- Existing storage volume is not adequate for future demands and fire protection

The final piece of the water system is Distribution. The Town has a good circular flow and not a lot of dead ends that the water sits in. The current distribution system has the following deficiencies:

- Suspected leakage from old cast-iron and asbestos cement lines
- Cast-iron joints on Main Street are sealed with oakum and lead
- 4-inch lines are too small for fire protection and violate DEQ standards
- Some leaking valves and hydrants throughout the system
- Meters were installed 12 years ago and in need of a replacement program
- Future West side loop to serve area west of the Beaverhead River

Different repair alternatives were presented for the three components of the system that are identified in the PER as deficiencies. The Town Council chose Alternative S-2, which is rehabilitating the existing wells, R-2 recoating the existing water tank, D-3 improvements to the distribution system on Bridge Street, and D-5 the replacement of hydrants and valves to start repairing. The total project will be approximately \$2,000,000. Great West Engineering is currently looking at funding scenarios for the project which are also laid out in the PER.

Meeting adjourned at 6:45 pm.

REGULAR COUCNIL MEETING

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

Guests: None

Mayor Hayes opened the meeting at 7:02 pm with the Pledge of Allegiance.

Public Comment (Non-Agenda Items): No comments

NEW BUSINESS

Resolution 2022-01 BARSAA Gas Tax: Scott made a motion to approve resolution 2022-1 gas tax for the Madison Street Road material. Jordan seconded the motion. Motion passed with a unanimous vote.

Resolution 2022-02 Intercap Loan Approval for Fire Truck: Scott made a motion to approve Resolution 2022-02 to borrow funds through Intercap for financing of the new fire truck. Nolan seconded the motion. Motion passed with a unanimous vote.

Resolution 2022-03 Resolution accepting the Environmental Findings for the Water PER: Nolan made a motion to accept resolution 2022-03. Jordan seconded the motion. Motion passed with a unanimous vote.

Coree Martin (Food Pantry): Not present

Fence Application: Roger Hutchinson (108 E. 9th Ave) – Jordan made a motion to approve the fence application for Roger Hutchinson. Nolan seconded the motion. Discussion occurred regarding the height of the fence along Madison Street. It was determined that the portion along Madison Street was an internal gate (inside the setbacks) and so therefore it could be at six (6) foot. If the fence went out to the property line and did not meet the property setbacks, then it would have to be changed to five (5) feet. Motion passed with a unanimous vote.

Nolan Frandsen (106 W. 10th Ave) – Scott made a motion to approve Nolan’s fence application with the adjustment of five (5) feet on the portion that runs parallel with Bridge Street. Jordan Seconded the motion. Scott – yes, Jordan – yes, Nolan abstained from the vote.

Dept of Army Affairs Regional Multi-Hazard Mitigation Plans: Nolan reported that he spoke with Joe Brummel from Madison County Emergency Services. The Town has no say in whether we participate or not in the Regional Multi-Hazard Planning Process. The County is participating and so the Town will have to. Scott made a motion to approve participation in the Dept of Army Affairs disaster and emergency services plan update. Jordan seconded the motion. Motion passed with a unanimous vote.

Fairgrounds Digital Sign: Scott made a motion to approve the County Sign. Jordan seconded the motion. Motion passed with a unanimous vote. Nolan did comment that he was concerned about the Town having a bunch of commercialized signs coming into Town popping up.

OLD BUSINESS – None

REPORTS

Sheriff’s Report: Council reviewed the written report

Madison County Planning Report: No report

Library Director’s Report: Written report received from the library director regarding the number of items circulated and guests that have visited the library. Kristi reported that last week Mayor Hayes, Matt Greemore, Attorney Lori Harshbarger, and herself went to the library board meeting to discuss the interlocal agreement with the board. MMIA has sent out a notice stating that they will no longer cover libraries underneath their insurance plans because it is hard to determine whose employees they are. The library has until May 16th to sign the interlocal agreement that will allow them to stay on the Town’s insurance and confirms that the employees are the Town’s.

Mayor’s Report: Mayor Hayes reported that she sat in on the Zoom meeting with Great West this evening for the Water PER.

Last week she met with a group that is interested in the Children’s Center. The meeting included Ken Walsh, Commissioner Nye, the interested buyers, Joe Willauer (Headwaters RC&D), Dan McCauley (Great West Engineering) and additional individuals from the State of Montana. Dan McCauley talked to

them about the water/sewer and the connection to the Town system. The approximate cost he is thinking is \$2,500,000 because of the inflation factor from when the original PER was completed. The buyers are looking at tearing down most of the buildings. The Victorian is on the historical register so it cannot be torn down.

Mayor Hayes also reported that Kristi will be at the Clerks Institute May 1st through the 5th and Patty would be attending May 3rd through the 5th.

Maintenance Report: Sam Novich reported that he and Rick Zahn attended Rural Water in Great Falls a couple of weeks ago. This should have full filled their continuing education requirements for the year.

Safety Walk through with Department of Labor – The Department of Labor and Industry did a surprise inspection in March of the Town’s shop. We had a few items that we needed to fix. These included training on the forklift and the new John Deere tractor, a chuck guard on the drill press, lower guard on the radial arm saw, safety valve on a compressor, storage of a program, and development of a training plan. All items have resolved except for the lower guard on the radial arm saw. Sam has been unable to find a replaced guard so he is going to tag it as out of service and then next fall/winter when he has time, he will try to build something.

Gophers – The gophers at the rest area are starting to come back. The gophers were removed last summer. They are coming over to the park from the Children’s center. Sam would like to know if the Council wants to have the gophers treated again or not? And do they want to talk to Leslie about treating the Children’s Center. Discussion occurred. Sam will talk to Rich Bayers to see if he can treat the gophers and if he cannot then we will contact the company that took care of them last summer.

6th Avenue – Stormdrains and Curb and Gutters- Sam reported that the Town needs a curbing design to help with the flow of water down the channels in front of the school. He wants to have Great West do the design work and then Sam and Rick would do the labor. Once the curbing completed in front of the school then we can tear up asphalt and relay it. Great West already has the info in the system so it should not cost much to do the design work. Discussion occurred. Sam will get a hold of Great West and find out cost.

Gravel on Madison and the Dump Road - Estimate from RE Miller was \$31,050 for Madison Street and the dump road. Discussion occurred. Sam will contact Rick at RE Miller to have them start crushing the material.

Safety Report: Kristi reported that with the inspection from the Department of Labor and Industry we had to do the forklift training. She was able to find a group located at MSU that would come and do the training. They will also come back and do confined space training, trenching training and anything else that we may need. They also have monthly topics that they do recordings on so we can use them as a resource for the Safety trainings.

Clerk’s Report: Auto Pay – Clerk/Treasurer Kristi Millhouse would like to set the two Intercap Loans up on auto pay. It saves us .05% on the interest. This is not a huge amount, but it still helps. The other item that she is going to set up is AFLAC. It is the last of the payroll items that is paid via a paper check. This would help eliminate that end of the month manual signatures. Council agreed that this would be fine.

Remaining ARPA Funds – Kristi explained where we were at with Bucket A on the ARPA Funds. We have approximately \$15,000 left after the Levee Study match, the grant writing at \$32,000, and the Scada system are completed. The SCADA system will be approximately \$21,000. She would like to take the remaining \$15,000 if we can and put \$5,000 towards the new fire truck and then \$10,000 towards Town Hall. Discussion regarding Town Hall occurred and different options.

Claims: Nolan made a motion to approve the payroll checks 88527 to 88565 and 5858 to 5859 and the claim checks 21589 to 21613 and 89743 to 89745. Scott seconded the motion. Motion passed with a unanimous vote.

Minutes: March 8, 2022 – Scott made a motion to approve the March 8, 2022, minutes. Nolan seconded the motion. Motion passed with a unanimous vote.

Council Review: There will be meeting April 26th to wrap up the Water PER and Regular Council Meeting is May 10th at 7:00 pm.

Jordan asked if we need to update the fence ordinance. Discussion occurred regarding the ordinances. Kristi commented that we need to pick one or two to work on instead of doing all of them. We will start with Water and Sewer Ordinance.

Nolan made a motion to adjourn meeting at 9:15 pm. Scott seconded motion. Motion passed with a unanimous vote.

ATTEST:

Kristi Millhouse, Town Clerk/Treasurer

Patricia Hayes, Mayor

COPY