

**VILLAGE OF MAHOMET
STUDY SESSION
FEBRUARY 9, 2016**

The Village of Mahomet Board of Trustees met Tuesday February 9, 2016 at the Village of Mahomet Administrative Offices, 503 E. Main St., Mahomet, IL.

MEMBERS PRESENT: Bruce Colravy, Vicki Cook, Andy Harpst, Donald Lynn, Bill Olinger, and Brian Metzger

OTHERS PRESENT: Acting Village President Sean Widener, Village Administrator Patrick Brown, Village Clerk Cheryl Sproul, Water/Wastewater Superintendent Jason Heid, Chief of Police Mike Metzger, Village Attorney Jim Evans, and Amelia Benner editor of the Mahomet Citizen.

CALL TO ORDER/PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE/ROLL CALL

Acting President Widener called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m. After the Pledge of Allegiance, the Clerk called the Roll, and a quorum was present.

PUBLIC COMMENT:

There was no public comment.

DISCUSSION ITEMS:

2016/2017 WATER/WASTEWATER RATES AND 2016/2017 WATER/WASTEWATER CONNECTION FEES:

Brown stated this was a discussion item only at this time. He also stated both items would be discussed at the same time.

Brown stated staff proposes a .03 increase. He stated need to keep up with maintenance as well. He stated even the .03 would not meet those needs and anticipated another increase next year. He stated water rate increases had been slowed due to the need to increase the wastewater increase and wastewater plant expansion.

Heid stated the next big project would be the water main upgrade.

Brown stated the new rate would be .41 per 100 gallon. He noted the current rate was .38.

Heid stated this increase would generate an estimated income of \$45,000. Brown stated that increase would still take 3 years to fund the next major water project.

Heid much of the original water main from 1941 is about at the end of its life.

Heid stated no wastewater rate increase because they are still not sure of the actual operations cost.

Heid stated the blowers they are using now are much more efficient.

Brown stated possibly in March the Board would be asked to discuss the West Mahomet Interceptor project.

Widener asked Heid what the next major project would be in the Water Master Plan. Heid stated he believed it to be an additional water tower. He stated the location would impact the cost. Heid stated he anticipated it to be located in the Crowley Road area. He noted the tower would be used for additional storage and would benefit the entire Village. He added that if it was built on the highest elevation in tower it would not to be built so high. He added, an additional tower would provide a redundancy on the system that would allow staff to take the tower at Sandy Ridge off line for maintenance. Heid asked Heid when he anticipated the additional water tower project. Heid estimated 2022 or 2023 once some of current bonds are paid off due to the cost of the project bonds would have to be issued.

Heid stated the life of the wells would carry through until 2040 and the Water Plant would last until 2040 as well. Widener asked Heid if he knew what population number would cause the Water Plant to reach capacity. Heid stated he did not know the number off the top of his head, but did concede that a vast growth in population could cause that 2040 prediction to change and move the project up.

Widener reminded staff that it was the intention of the Board to possibly implement a reduction in the sewer rate once the plant was up and running. He asked staff if a \$.01 reduction could be possible this year. Brown stated staff had not looked specifically at that. Widener stated he did not want to forget that a reduction was discussed during the planning process and wanted to keep that possibility. Heid stated staff needed to consider economic development project that could come along as well and would need funds for maintenance and new development.

Brown did not anticipate looking at a reduction next year because he believed the money would be needed. He added that once the engineering study was complete concerning improving the current infrastructure system, then it could be possible and reduction could be implemented.

Brown stated staff was recommending a \$.03 water increase but no increase in wastewater rates and no increases in water/sewer connection fees.

Oliger reviewed Mahomet's place in the study done by Berns, Clancy and Associates. Heid stated each year ranking would change due to many of the smaller communities reaching capacity and needing to expand as Mahomet did. He gave Monticello as an example stating that its facilities improvement was in the process and their rate would be increased to fund that improvement and that would change their status on the list.

Heid stated most plants were built in the 80's due to government money that was readily availability and now they are coming of age. He also stated some communities have not had any growth and they will not need to expand. Heid stated Mahomet was not in that situation.

(Cook arrived at 6:20 p.m.)

Brown related the planning process for the wastewater plant expansion and rate increases for the most recent Trustee Metzger's benefit.

Brown stated rates also have to fund maintenance for the system. Metzger stated there had been growth so there are more people paying water/sewer bills. Brown stated staff needed to look at the future projects to make sure the funds are there and also that funds are available to pay back loans.

Widener suggested that Brown provide a similar study that has been done by Carbondale to the Trustees.

Oliger stated he appreciated the information provided to explain why Mahomet's rating has changed and was so high in the ranking.

Colravy asked if Heid was able to meet the phosphorus removal without chemicals. Heid stated they were able to do it biological. Heid stated the chemicals are very expensive if you need to use them. Heid stated it was possible that chemicals would have to be used if the USEPA lowers the allowable amount.

Heid stated he had submitted a permit renewal and had received a draft permit. He noted the permit was in the public comments stage at this time. Colravy asked about Sangamon Valley Public Water District's permit and their regulations. Heid stated he had not seen their current permit, but in the past its effluent standards were far less than the Village's.

ORDINANCES, RESOLUTION, OTHER MOTIONS:

WATER & SEWER:

A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE PURCHASE OF 2016 CASE 590 SUPER N BACKHOE - BIRKEY'S CONSTRUCTION EQUIPMENT, URBANA, IL - \$69,997:

Heid reviewed the current backhoe and how the needs had changed since it was purchased. He noted that lately he has needed to break up concrete so an additional "thumb" implement was included to assist with this need. He noted this "thumb" attached to the boom and locks the concrete to the bucket so it also adds a safety element as well. Heid noted that the trade in from Birkey's was exceptional. Heid noted there were 3 bids but Birkey's had the best bid and staff recommended awarding the bid to Birkey's for a total with the thumb of \$69,997.

Lynn moved, Harpst seconded, "TO PLACE A RESOLUTION A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE PURCHASE OF 2016 CASE 590 SUPER N BACKHOE - BIRKEY'S CONSTRUCTION EQUIPMENT, URBANA, IL - \$69,997 ON THE CONSENT AGENDA FOR THE FEBRUARY 23RD BOARD MEETING." ROLL CALL: ALL YES. Motion carried.

A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE PURCHASE OF DRIVE-BY METER READING SYSTEM - HD SUPPLY WATERWORKS, WASHINGTON, IL - \$17,500:

Heid noted that when he started the meter reader did it all manually with paper and pencil. He stated the metering system has evolved over the years since he had been here. He stated in 2004 the Village started installing radio readers, but it was a walk by radio system. He said most of the Village had been converted to the radio readers and now was the time to take it to the next level by upgrading to a drive-by system. He stated that during testing the reader was able to read 1,400 meters in 30 minutes. He stated this also helps the water/sewer bills to be more consistent with the number of days in the cycle, which the residents are wanting. Brown stated it would also be a time saver. Heid noted that change outs never stop as they are needed to be replaced after the meters get some gallons on them. He stated the next step in the future would be to install a tower that would allow automatic reading.

Heid noted that included in the drive-by reading system was a laptop that has mapping software included that shows there the readings had taken place and the areas that still needed to be read.

Cook asked if this would cost someone their job. Heid stated right now the department is probably ½ of what it should be, so this new system would make it easier to free up a person if needed.

Harpst moved, Cook seconded, "TO PLACE A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE PURCHASE OF DRIVE-BY METER READING SYSTEM - HD SUPPLY WATERWORKS, WASHINGTON, IL - \$17,500 ON THE CONSENT AGENDA FOR THE FEBRUARY 23RD BOARD MEETING." ROLL CALL: ALL YES. Motion carried.

ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT:

MONTHLY REPORTS:

WATER/WASTEWATER:

Heid stated good water going in, bad water going out, just as it should.

TRANSPORTATION

Brown stated the Transportation Department did a little salting today in spots as needed.

OTHER:

Brown had distributed the IML agenda for the Trustees information.

MAYOR'S REPORT

Widener stated the next Study Session would be held, Tuesday, February 16 at 6:00 p.m. The Board of Trustees meeting would be held Tuesday February 23rd at 6:00 p.m.

Metzger stated he would possibly be absent on the 16th and he would be gone on the 23rd.

NEW BUSINESS:

Harpst mentioned some commercials for McDonalds that had been aired recently that highlighted Mahomet.

Brown stated the dance team video had been good press for Mahomet as well.

ADJOURNMENT:

There being no further business, **Oliger moved, Lynn seconded, "TO ADJOURN AT 6:45 P.M." ROLL CALL: ALL YES. Motion carried.**

Respectfully submitted,

/s/ Cheryl Sproul

Cheryl Sproul
Village Clerk