

HARLOWTON CITY COUNCIL

January 14, 2014

Harlowton Library Conference Room

A regular meeting of the Harlowton City Council held January 14, 2014 opened with the Pledge of Allegiance. New officials; Jeff Sell: Mayor, Bryan Tomlinson, Jim Kalitowski, and Bob Jones: City Council Members and Jayme Colby: Treasurer were sworn in. Minutes of the December 10, 2013 were approved as written.

Petroleum contamination removal was discussed. Tomlinson reported that the fuel will now be hauled out and taken to a company in Texas, a load was taken out last week and it is the second load to go out. Pumps have started up again and are already half full. There has been 14,000 gallons of fuel removed. One of the current wells that is pumping now has begun to dry up and cannot be used to pump fuel out of the ground at this time, but there are two pumps still removing a great deal of fuel. The last measurement taken from the largest tank was at 7' and when they started this project it measured at 9'. Tomlinson stated that it will be hard to tell how quickly the other two tanks will dry up but they will continue to pump fuel out of the ground as long as they can. The fuel is testing gasoline with diesel and motor oil mixed in.

The City of Harlowton received a CDBG community development grant on January 7, 2014 for the amount of \$15,000 for Phase III of the water project, which will pay for half of the project. We also have two grant applications out to two other funding agencies to pay for Phase III that Mayor Sell believes we will be successful in attaining. This is the first time the City has been successful in receiving a CDBG grant.

Mayor Sell stated that due to the petroleum contamination issue that the City of Harlowton is facing with the petroleum under ground, Great West Engineering has been working with the City and has been given permission to change Phase III of the water project. We will now concentrate on the lines in the area of town where the fuel contamination is under the ground and can cause health hazard problems to the community. Even though there has been no fuel found in the wells at this time, we could get fuel contamination in those water lines. Great West has a new engineer that was the review engineer for the TSEP program and she has asked us to look at get funding for those water lines so the City could potentially get \$1.5 million in grant funding, rather than the \$500,000 that was initially planned for.

There are 4 blocks that are very bad that need to be replaced, that are not in the area of town where the potential fuel contaminates are, so we will have to replace those 4 blocks on our own, like we did with part of the last project, where the city crew did the work at a lower cost. The City will have to look into borrowing funds at a low interest to fund that part of the project.

Many of the supplies for this part of the project have already been purchased and sitting in the yard, Sell stated that the City would probably not do all 4 blocks at the same time, but two blocks this year and two blocks the next year. City Superintendent, Ian Reed told the council that there are lines from A Avenue, going out past Central Lumber that are directly under the highway and they are trying to justify replacing those lines, into the project, as those lines are just as old as everything else, but those lines will be much more expensive to replace. Nothing has been decided on those lines, but they are being discussed in the planning. SRF has already told the City of Harlowton that we are eligible for another 50/50 low interest loan/grant forgiveness for whatever dollar amount we may need to replace water lines, they are happy with the work that we have done thus far, so they are willing to give us money to complete more projects, though this project is a couple of years away.

We should be ready to go to bid with our sewer project this winter and replacement of sewer lines will begin in the spring of this year. They will replace the main line, going all the way out to the lagoon. The most important line is the line running down through the Harlowton football field and underneath the creek below the high school, as that is where we are getting the most water infiltration.

Reed stated that he has been working with Great West Engineering and they have determined that our current water leakage into the ground is at 35%, though before any of the water lines had been replaced in the first two phases of the water project the leakage was at 60%.

Anderson asked about the sidewalk project and when it was going to be completed by the state. Sell said that he was told it would most likely begin this summer 2014. The project is surveyed and they have spoken with landowners, they just have to put the project out for bid.

Kalitowski reported on recycling; Target is now taking beer bottles as long as they are in 6-pack containers or crates. The bottles are being taken to Coors in Denver, CO.

Ian Reed reported that the crew has been working on year-end DEQ reports. They purchased a new backhoe, so they have been working on that, they had to wire lights into it. The quote to repair the old backhoe was \$24,000. Ian found a backhoe that is 10 years newer, with half the hours on it, that they wanted \$50,000 for, but they gave the city \$25,000 trade-in for the old backhoe. The City is borrowing the money from Tri-County Federal Credit union for the backhoe at a 1.5% interest rate. We will pay \$1,000 per month, but our loan from the Credit Union for the Durapatcher is paid off. They have purchased a new software program system designed for cities, so they have been working with the new software. Ian has been working with Great West, and Robert Peccia and Associates to get the projects going and finalize work on the sewer project. The crew has also been doing a great deal of maintenance to the equipment.

Sell reported that he will be out of the country from January 15, 2014 through January 25, 2014.

Teig made a motion to pay the bills, Anderson seconded, all in favor.

Meeting adjourned.

Next meeting will be held January 28, 2014

Council members present:

John Anderson

Joe Brouillette

Bob Jones

Jim Kalitowski

Ron Teig

Bryan Tomlinson

City employees present:

Ian Reed

Jeff Sell, Mayor

Jayme Colby, Clerk