MINUTES OF THE SPECIAL MEETING

JULY 18TH, 2025

The meeting was called to order at 6:00 pm by mayor Richard Ladwig

Pledge of Allegiance was given

Those in attendance were Richard Ladwig, Darlene Adams, Fred Krieger, Billy Hite, Chuck Sides, Kerry Knittel, Rose Fadness, Jordan Crane, Marlin Godfrey, Walt Lashmett, Chuck Fadness, Becky Butler, Frances Tschacher.

BUSINESS:

The meeting was turned over to Jordan Crane, the engineer for Sunrise Engineering.

Jordan started out saying that a lot has been learned from the water project. On the upcoming sewer project, the goal is to stay ahead of things like service connections much more in advance than on the water job. He wants to find the exact location of the sewer services by going into each house and under the trailers. The goal is to find out where the sewer line goes out and take measurements from the walls and from ground level.

We are working on a Mineral Royality Grant (MRG) that is due before September. Verbally, they have said they will give us a grant up to $1,000,000 but still need to get the application in.

Jordan shared that as soon as this water project gets to a better stopping point where the budget is finalized, Sunrise will put together a new contract for project cleanup. All the drawings, contract documents, and specifications need to be turned into the DEQ by December.

We have been approved for funding from USDA-RD. They are providing a grant for $5,320,000 and the loan is $1,525,000. The $525,000 will be paid off with the MRG grant and what the town has already paid for on the sewer design will be applied.

Jordan shared that outside of the age of the system, the main concerns and need for the new design is that DEQ rules requires more depth and steeper slope than the town has. As a result, the existing lift station is not deep enough and will need to be replaced.

Jordan provided an approximate timeline from now until the project is hopefully complete next fall around October or November.

The alleys are narrow (20 feet) and in places there are trees, buildings, shops, vehicles, etc. There will be limited space to pile dirt, and it may have to be hauled out and back in, but this is for the contractor to decide.

We are working to get as much handled as possible ahead of time, so when the residents are asked to submit information, they need to do it. It will not be possible to wait until the last minute and get several change orders as the budget will be much tighter. When the town reaches out asking for information, it will be imperative that they respond or they will not have the chance to have any work done on their private sewer services, even if the budget is available.

The sewer lines will be 8” for the main line and private residential lines are 4”.

Trees, vehicles, sheds, garages will all be looked at ahead of time and things may have to be moved. The majority of the sewer lines run down the alleys and Sunrise will work hard to avoid obstacles with their design.

There will be a crossing at 9th Ave and 4th Street across the chip seal and then a deep crossing across 5th Ave and 5th St. This could be the biggest problem due to it being the highway and having nowhere to reroute the traffic so a deep bore might be necessary.

The current sewer line that runs down 9th Ave has been moved out of the road.

Questions:

Billy Hite asked who was providing the information to DEQ. Jordan said the engineers would be.

Kerry asked if we would have porta potties available. Jordan said that was up to the contractor but if any house was going to be off for very long he thought they would.

Chuck asked if they would be going to the houses or just connecting to the line. Jordan shared that they don’t know the answer to that right now. With the current sewer lines being so old they may run into trouble connecting to the current line. Until the bids come in, we do not know how close we will be on funding and if the grant could pay for it. We will talk to the contractor about going to the houses if the homeowner is willing to pay for the materials and labor if there is not grant money available.

Frances asked how she would be tied in, she is the only one on her line. Jordan explained where her house will be connected and said he can explain anyone’s connection with the plan set.

Marlin asked if they will be putting in a clean out at each house. Jordan said that can be discussed but that more manholes will be installed than we had before. If there is a blockage we have the camera to see where the problem is occurring.

Jordan explained that there are a lot of unknows still before the comprehensive design cleanup occurs. As questions are asked it gives us further ideas to take into account. After the Engineers have looked over the plans again there will be a couple meetings held with the town to make sure everything is covered.

With no further questions a motion was made to adjourn the meeting. 1st by Billy, 2nd by Chuck, all approved.

The meeting was adjourned at 6:25.

Posted 7-21-25 RF