

**Revised MINUTES
City of New Berlin
Utility Committee Meeting
Tuesday June 22, 2004**

Members Present: Aldermen Gallagher, Ament and Harenda, Bob Dude and Ray Grzys (Director of Utilities and Streets)

Others Present: Rick Johnson (Utility Manager) City Attorney Mark Blum, Mayor Ted Wysocki, Larry Wilms (Division Engineer), Steve Schultz (Ruekert & Mielke)

Alderman Gallagher called the meeting to order at 5:02 pm and declared a quorum with all members present.

ITEM I-04 Approval of Minutes from May 25th meeting

Motion by Alderman Ament to approve the minutes from the May 25th Utility Committee meeting. Seconded by Alderman Harenda and upon voting the motion passed unanimously.

ITEM 02-04 Lowell Place Sanitary Sewer and Watermain Extensions Preliminary Special Assessment Resolutions

Larry Wilms stated that the developer was required to install sanitary sewer and watermain infrastructure to serve his new building constructed on Lowell Place, south of Janesville Road. The improvements benefited 4 parcels, 2 of which are exempt. This preliminary special assessment resolution is the next step to follow if the two property owners do not acknowledge and respond to the letter that says they owe money for the benefit they received. If they don't respond, this resolution will go to Council to set a Public Hearing date.

Motion by Alderman Ament to recommend to Council adoption of Preliminary Special Assessment Resolution # 04-31, "A Preliminary Resolution Declaring Intent to Levy Special Assessments and Directing the City Engineer to Prepare a Report for Installed Sanitary Sewer and Watermain Systems servicing properties along Lowell Place and east on Janesville Road" in accordance with City Code, conditioned upon the two property owners returning their Acknowledgement of Fee in Lieu of Special Assessment form. Seconded by Commissioner Dude and upon voting the motion passed unanimously.

ITEM 09-04 Well 11 Update

Steve Schultz from Ruekert & Mielke related their view of the history of Well 11. He said that Well 11 was constructed about 3 years ago and pumped 720 gpm (gallons per minute) of sand free water when it was constructed. A temporary pump was put in when the well was finished, for the summer months and it pumped water that summer. The next year when the pumpstation was being constructed, the City still needed additional water, so a second temporary pump was installed and the well performed as designed. Then the pumpstation was finished and the final pump went in. After a few months of pumping, they noticed sand coming out of it. After some investigations, the City got a number of opinions on what was wrong with the well, and Mr. Schultz said that they (R & M) were confident that in their opinion, they put their money where their mouth was and that they would do this and if it doesn't work, they (R & M) would pick up the tab.

Mr. Schultz went on to report that about a month ago, they started working on it and after 2 days of air bursting by injecting high pressure air into the well screen area to break up the bacteria in the screen and to mobilize any fines that the bacteria had let in, the well was back up to capacity and was sand free. Mr. Schultz said, however, step 2 of their proposal was not only to go in and do the mechanical things necessary to get the well back to its capacity, but also to protect it for the future attacks by attacking the bacteria. He stated that they used an aggressive disinfection process with hydrochloric acid to break up the bacteria, then pumped it out and put in a high chlorine solution.

Mr. Schultz said that this was successful in removing the bacteria, however, the native formation was affected. The 3rd part of their proposal was if they mobilized enough lime, they would have to clean it up and that is what they are doing now. They are now cleaning this out. Mr. Schultz stated that this process has taken longer than anticipated, because the contractor had his pump burned out, then replaced it with a new one that was not the correct capacity, and had to buy a 3rd pump that is now being installed. The hope is this would be done by the end of the week, maybe sooner. Mr. Schultz said that when pumping was stopped the last time, the well was pumping up to 600 gpm.

Mr. Schultz continued that the good news is that in their opinion their theory on what happened in the well was correct as well as their treatment. He stated that there is no reason to believe we won't get the 720 gpm back. He stated that he was confident with the continued effort that we will be back up in a matter of days. The other good news is that in his opinion some of the other opinions weren't correct, which were doom and gloom, that they would have to redrill the well.

Mr. Schultz added the other thing this shows that the process had done for us is that this well shows it may require more regular maintenance and treatment of bacteria. He stated that the City has to plan some type of disinfection process, like they do with others wells such as 9 and 10, which have regular treatment process because of bacteria growth. Hopefully next month we will be back to normal.

Alderman Gallagher expressed some concern that this treatment with the air bursting was a temporary solution, that it blows away the sand from the well. He asked how long the well must be run to show the problem has been corrected and will continue pumping sand free?

Mr. Schultz responded that you have got to remember that the theory they (R & M) put forth was that the velocities increase further out from the well and that brings smaller particles in. Once you clean the small parts away from the immediate well bore, the velocities get smaller and smaller the further you go away. In theory, this should last forever, unless you get a clogging problem again that causes the particles to be mobilized. Steve Schultz added the way wells are designed with the gravel pack, once you have a well that doesn't pump sand, it won't start pumping sand unless something happens down underground in the formation to change the velocity.

Alderman Gallagher added that it is good it is working so far. Steve Schultz responded that he was confident it will.

Commissioner Dude asked if the growth was the problem, not the screen as was discussed previously? Mr. Schultz replied in his opinion this was correct.

Commissioner Dude asked how often well is usually cleaned?

Steve Schultz said that if sufficient colonies in the ground water and aquifer exist, it may have to be done every 2 years. Rick Johnson stated that some require cleaning every 3 years, some 7 years. It is roughly \$25,000 to \$30,000 each time to clean the well.

Director Grzys said that the last information he received was that there is still sand in the well about 2 feet in the bottom. He asked Mr. Schultz if it is their intention to pump it out?

Mr. Schultz stated yes, the intent is to have all of the sand out. How they remove it is up to them.

Director Grzys asked if the well was televised yet to see the screen?

Mr. Schultz responded yes it was televised. He stated that the contractor didn't see anything wrong. He stated that he would supply Director Grzys the video.

Alderman Ament asked about the protrusion that was seen on a previous video.

Steve Schultz stated that he had not seen the video. He added that in his opinion the protrusion was not there when the well was drilled, and could have only come from the inside of the well. He said that he would get a copy of the video for Ray Grzys and that the only way it could have gotten there was from the inside of the well, and that it looked like a piece of black tape.

Steve Schultz stated that the project is actually ahead of schedule in that July 2nd was the estimated date for the bids to be completed, and they were accepted on May 25th. The construction project starts today and is projected to be completed June 3, 2005.

Mr. Schultz said that there was a slight hold-up with the Greenridge Pump station, as they are waiting for signed contracts and DNR approvals. He added that the DNR is satisfied with the City of New Berlin's answers, but is waiting for the City of Milwaukee for several items. Mr. Schultz said that the brick supplier informed them that the brick they ordered was not available, and they are waiting for another color to review.

He added that Grange pumping station construction is scheduled for about July 30th. A soil analysis has shown learned that the soil is not right. There will be site filling with structural fill being added, and this must sit for 3 months during which a certain compaction must occur.

Mr. Schultz stated that water main projects are being given special consideration, as all must be completed prior to the pumpstations. He stated that by June 30, 2005, we should be ready to go.

Commissioner Dude discussed the critical path of the Grange Avenue pumpstation. He stated that because we have the same contractor, we may want to speed up the process by redeploying some workers to Grange pumpstation, therefore balancing the two timetables.

Mr. Schultz answered that we can't force the contractor to do this, but we can recommend it. He added that the only way to change the contract would be a change order, and that he can't speak for the contractor.

Commissioner Dude asked who would be watching over the project for the City?

Steve Schultz responded that Paul Schulman would be the project engineer to represent R & M, and Mel Corley would also be representing the City. Mr. Schultz said that a schedule will be provided.

Alderman Gallagher asked that when we hook up to Milwaukee Water, could he see any problems, like manhole covers blowing off, etc? Director Grzys added that we could see additional water main breaks. Steve Schultz stated that hydrants will need to be flushed because of the flow changes.

Alderman Gallagher asked if the compaction at Grange Ave pumping station was natural or mechanical? Steve Schultz responded that natural compaction is needed. Director Grzys added that a soil analysis was done on this site to do an extra look at the soil early, to avoid having the problem we did at Well 11. Steve Schultz added that soil boring samples were taken, and it was lucky that we did.

Director Grzys stated that the brick samples were dropped off and contracts will be signed in a day or two. Director Grzys asked if we were on schedule? Steve Schultz responded yes, the early summer of 2005.

Item 14-04 Nomination for Chairperson

Chairman Gallagher stated that he has chaired this committee for several years, but if someone else would like the position, they were welcome to ask for it.

Motion by Alderman Harenda to nominate Paul Gallagher for chairperson of the Utility Committee. Seconded by Bob Dude. Alderman Gallagher asked if there were any other nominations. There were none.

Motion by Alderman Gallagher to close the nominations. Seconded by Alderman Ament and upon voting the motion passed unanimously.

The Committee then voted on the nomination for Paul Gallagher for chairperson. Upon voting, the motion passed unanimously.

Motion to adjourn at 5:40 p.m. by Director Grzys. Seconded by Alderman Ament and upon voting the motion passed unanimously.