

UTILITIES COMMITTEE MINUTES
OF MARCH 8, 2021 @ 7PM VIA ZOOM

In Attendance: **Vermilion City Council:** *Steve Herron, President of Council; Emily Skahen, Ward One; Frank Loucka, Ward Two; Steve Hologacs, Ward Three; Barb Brady, Ward Four; Brian Holmes, Ward Five. Absent: Monica Stark, Council at Large*

Administration: *Jim Forthofer, Mayor; Amy Hendricks, Finance Director; Chris Howard, City Engineer; Tony Valerius, Service Director; Attorney Ben Chojnacki*

Call to Order: Frank Loucka, Chairman, RESOLVED THAT this Utilities Committee comprised of the committee of the whole does now come to order.

TOPIC ONE: Liberty Avenue Water Main Replacement (Adams to Decatur)

T. Valerius said after speaking with the Finance Director earlier this year it was determined they would be able to finance another water main project. They decided on the section of water line on Liberty Avenue between Decatur and Adams. This was chosen on the city's 10-year water main replacement priority list the city submitted to the EPA. He asked council to consider entertaining a motion to authorize the city engineer to proceed with design services for this project.

C. Howard said two years ago the city submitted for OPWC funding for this section of water line, and it did not warrant enough points because there are not enough laterals or services off this main line. However, it is a critical feed for the western portion of the town, so it makes sense to be the next project now that there is money available.

B. Brady asked what the total project cost is. C. Howard said on the 10-year plan they provided to the EPA; this section was around \$710,000. B. Brady asked if the city has the available funds. C. Howard believed the water fund has over one million. F. Loucka asked C. Howard in his professional opinion if this is the next step in their programs to meet EPA requirements. C. Howard said this is correct as this project will be hard to get OPWC funding for because the city already tried, so if the city has the money it makes sense to move forward.

S. Hologacs asked the city engineer if the costs on this project could come in under the engineers estimates with aggressive contractors. C. Howard said definitely as they are seeing bids come in under. He said they will have a bid recommendation for Sunnyside Road as the city had the bid opening last week and numbers were \$150,000 to \$200,000 less from what was estimated, so it is a competitive market. A. Hendricks said in relation to the finances, this project was included in the update to the available funds for the water fund at the last meeting.

S. Holovacs MOVED, S. Herron seconded to authorize Bramhall Engineering to proceed with design services for the Liberty Avenue Water Main Replacement on Liberty Avenue between Adams and Decatur. Roll Call Vote 6 YEAS. **MOTION CARRIED**.

F. Loucka adjourned the meeting upon no further discussion.

The next meeting is scheduled for April 12, 2020 at 7:00 p.m. at the Vermilion Municipal Complex, 687 Decatur Street, Vermilion, Ohio.
