

FAIRGROUNDS SEWER/WATER COMMITTEE
Special Meeting Minutes

April 2, 2014

I. Call to Order

Kevin Myhre called the meeting to order

II. Roll Call

Attendees:

Vivian Shammel, Commissioner Assistant

Sandy Youngbauer, Commissioner

Gene Meier

Kevin Myhre, City Manager

Mark Machler

Tom Meissner

Faith Robertson

Erin Zindt, MAP

Dean Comes, First Bank

Chad Robinson, First Bank

Don Pfau

Sam Weidner

Don Pfau went through Conducting a Fund Drive.

Kevin Myhre asked that Midwest Assistance Program, Erin Zindt to present what she could help us out with. Erin was not familiar with the project so Kevin Myhre gave a synopsis of how this project has developed and gotten to this stage. The current open items on the project are securing the easement through Monte Weeden's property and then the process of which they will use to tie into the Waste Water Treatment Plant.

The financing of this project is being worked on through Alden Beard and Peccia and Associates. The Mill Levy education presentations have been done by Peccia and Associates up to now; and will have to know be turned over to the Committee to do. Once this goes to the voters it will need to have 51% of the votes cast to pass. The goal of the Committee is to get the project out to the general public and get supporters together and encourage and support the Mill Levy.

Dean Comes attended the meeting and indicated that First Bank has done several of these types of projects; one was in Choteau. Dean indicated that he had spoken with Alden Beard regarding the Counties finances and the documentation that he has currently developed for the SRF Loan. Dean indicated that he felt like First Bank could do this loan for the interest rate that the County was currently getting with the SRF, which is at 3%. Dean also indicated that they may be able to save the County money on the escrowed monies and then on making this one bond rather than two separate bonds. Dean indicated that interest rates will not remain at this low rate for any extended period of time and to take advantage of this rate as soon as possible. This is a kind of project of not "if" we need it, but "when", and what kind of interest rates we will be paying on these monies as well as the amount of monies that it will cost in the future by putting this project off.

The Committee then discussed specific ideas and tasks for everyone to do and follow up with for next week.

Tom Meissner is working on the ad and the wording. He will try and address some of the negatives that Gene Meier brought up this AM in the ad. Dean Comes indicated that the number on facility used in Fergus County was the Fairgrounds and that he felt the numbers for this usage would be very helpful in selling this project to the public. Erin indicated that getting the 4-H involved and FFA would be very helpful in promoting this project in the Community. Sam Weidner indicated that we really needed to improve the Fairgrounds image in the Public. There is too much negative in the paper about the Fairgrounds. Dean indicated that we should reach out to the rural communities. Mark Machler indicated that he was working on presenting to the Winifred Community, and the Deerfield, Ayers, and Spring Creek Colonies. Erin thought that we should list a website on the brochures that need to go out for people to look up information on this project.

Gene Meier is working with the News Argus and KXLO on the advertising.

Dean Comes indicated that he needs an official approval from the Committee to go ahead and have Bob Murdeau be able to move forward with talking to Alden Beard regarding the Bond and financing. Tom Meissner made a motion to have First Bank our local bank to see if this was a viable alternative to the SRF funding. Sandy Youngbauer seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Tom Meissner indicated that the government officials need to be objective and balanced in supporting this Mill Levy.

Faith Robertson indicated that she spoke with Chris last week regarding the presentation materials and that he was going to get with Brad regarding this. It was decided that the numbers for usage of the Fairgrounds was going to be a lot of work and that Faith would need to be freed up to get these numbers as soon as possible, therefore Kevin Myhre will do the communicating with Brad and Chris on the Brochures and the presentations. Erin indicated that she thought we should put up "Did you know" signs in the bathrooms for the events at the Fairgrounds to inform and educate the public regarding this Mill Levy.

Sandy Youngbauer has set up the presentation for the Port Authority meeting and the Community Council Meeting in April.

Meeting adjourned.

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