

Bridgewater City Council Special Meeting Minutes
February 21, 2020 1:00 pm

The City Council of the City of Bridgewater met in the Council Room for a special meeting on 2/21/20. The meeting was called to order at 1:00 pm by Council President Travis Holthaus. Answering roll call were Bob Anderson, Tony Hofer, Travis Holthaus, Alicen Strombeck, and Mark Vondra. Absent Lacey Weber. Others present were Finance Officer—Joan Julson, Todd Letcher-Maintenance, DGR Engineering (Trent Bruce, Scott LaVoy, Lance Nolz), Jim Julson, and Roger Hofer.

Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

The purpose of the meeting was to further discuss the Storm Sewer project mainly the detention pond areas. Trent Bruce started off by going over what we've done since the beginning of the project. Our main focus was on Basin A of the project. For the \$2,783,000 projected cost, we've secured some grant money, which wouldn't have been available without doing some inter community work like streets, etc., through a Community Development Block Grant (\$765,000) & Community Access Grant (\$258,000) and with the \$1,760,000 balance we've secured a 30 yr SRF loan from DENR. (This SRF loan payment is covered by the \$24.45 Storm Sewer Debt Service fee on everyone's water bill that started in Jan 2020.) Our project goals were to increase pipe capacity, increase inlet capacity, add detention, design for future extension, and add curb & gutter to prevent standing water and improve water flow. Bridgewater is very flat, so it has been challenging to get water to drain properly. We do have areas that are also just too low to completely not flood in the event of a very heavy rain, but the new drainage pipes should help with the water draining away quicker, being better than what it is now.

Detention areas were the main focus of this special meeting. The area along Highway 262 by the city sign (4th & Cedar) will be one detention area. This would be a mowable, grass water pond, with water not sitting there longer than 48 hours due to the tiling that would be done in the area. They are also looking at areas east of the cemetery to supplement the 4th & Cedar pond. This area is the lowest area in the whole basin and already prone to flooding, so it would be a logical location to put a detention pond, but landowners will need to be contacted first to see if it's a possibility to use/reshaping that area. Several of the council members will do the contacting.

Our outfall pipe (storm sewer line going out to the lagoon) is also another area of great concern and was discussed. It currently is a 24" clay pipe (old sewer/storm sewer line) which is deteriorating, vastly undersized and should be upgraded to a 42" pipe as soon as possible. We've already had to repair various areas of the line. It was noted that with the size of the outfall pipe that we currently have, that certain areas, during heavy rains, could still be prone to flooding, but the duration of the flooding should be much less than it currently is. Upgrading this outfall line is not part of this project. Engineers stated many times that all the work of this part of the project working properly still hinges on the outfall line staying intact and working properly, but that it definitely needs to be upgraded in the near future. Projected cost for that upgrade could run up to \$2,000,000+ to run the 2½ miles of pipe.

No further discussion, a motion was made by Hofer, second by Vondra to adjourn. Motion carried. Time 2:39 pm.

Travis Holthaus – Council President

Joan M Julson – Finance Officer

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