

City of Meservey Special Meeting Council Minutes October 17, 2022

Council Persons Present: Mike Gobeli, Jennifer Rembe, Cyneva Myers, and Mike McNutt.
Mayor Miller Called Meeting to Order at 6:30 PM.

Approval of Agenda –Motion by Rembe to approve, 2nd by McNutt. Approved unanimously.

Planning Stages of placing 2nd Well – Tom Madden from Short Elliot Hendrickson Inc. and Chris Diggins from NIACOG go over options.

The current well was drilled in 1957 and is 573 feet deep. The rules have changed since then, the City must own 200 feet in each direction of any new well. The park will be an excellent location, we already own it and it is only 10 feet off the requirement, which Tom believes the DNR will approve. One could be drilled at the same location as the current well, but that is not ideal and brings more risk to include possible contamination of both wells, lengthy water service interruption, etc. The current well was a complicated drill as they ran into some undesirable rock, which might also be avoided at the park location.

Tom presented a tabulation of bids from a similar project completed this year in another town. With both well and well house set up, that project was approx. 500K. Chris presented informational packets regarding eligibility and application process for CDBG Programs and the State Revolving Fund. Meservey is currently eligible based on the 2011-2015 American Community Survey Low/Moderate Income Percentage.

Would be looking at a 50/50 Grant/Loan, will want to make sure the City's current rates are reasonable, and the current system is self-supporting. Tom and Chris both suggest putting together a report for the whole town, and lumping other projects in with the well project. Would want to do fire hydrant pressure testing, review water main design, and identify any problems. Meters could be included with a larger project, and most of the current ones need updating. Does not have to be done all at once, can be set up in phases. The report does not expire and would just need to be updated when the City was ready to move into a new phase. This greatly helps our ability to get grant funding.

Of course, there will be expenses for a bonding attorney, a municipal advisor, an engineering report, there are limitations on what types of materials must be used and wage requirements. All of this would be in a \$0 payment/\$0 interest Planning and Design Loan from the SRF and the IFA. Once the project was started, this loan would be consolidated into a construction loan.

Recommendations were made for several bonding attorneys, etc.

Chris and NIACOG will walk us through everything and administer the grant. We have a fundable project! The most important thing is to have a great team of experts. Tom Madden would attend every council meeting until the project is completed to make sure questions are answered and assistance is given wherever it is needed.

Discussed timing of applications and getting reports together. Madden will get us a report asap, hoping to have all investigating to include hydrant testing ready, but if the weather doesn't hold out, he can make an amendment later on that portion.

Motion by Gobeli to adjourn, 2nd by Rembe. Approved unanimously.

Next regular meeting of the Council: November 14, 2022, 6:30 PM.

Respectfully Submitted,
Aimee J Frohling

(Mayor)