

City of Meservey Special Meeting Council Minutes

June 19, 2023

Council Persons Present: Mike Gobeli, Pat White, and Mike McNutt.

Also Present: Christina Skalko (SEH), Mitch Hanson (S&H Env), Chris Diggins (NIACOG)

Mayor Miller Called Meeting to Order at 6:00 PM.

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

Well Project Update – Skalko asks how often the City would like to switch between the two wells, her recommendation is to switch regularly at least once a week. Hanson would prefer not to do it daily, but will do whatever the City decides. Discussion surrounding additional time it would take, coordinating flow readings, testing, etc. Also amount of chlorine to keep at each location, how long it can be stored without degrading. Skalko also presents control options and pricing, can be hard-wired which is what we currently have, with other options being cellular and radio. Questions regarding whether cellular would work if there's not great reception here. Sales rep tested both locations and was able to get a notification in less than a minute, it runs on low grade cellular data which is more reliable. The current hard-wired system costs approx. \$75/month per line, the cellular system would be \$47/month per line. With the hard-wired system, would have to manually override if both pumps needed to be used at the same time. Cellular system would have a phone app that personnel could review statuses remotely. Radio – SCADA system is considerably more expensive and is not in the budget. White makes a motion to go with Option 1 – Cellular and to switch weekly, unless the water quality necessitates doing it more often, 2nd by Gobeli. Approved. Skalko states that data fees generally increase about 5% per year, however there is cost savings by signing a 2-3 year contract. Diggins gives update on CDBG, there has been a change to the application process and applicants must have a construction permit in hand when they apply. Might be able to get everything ready for an October application, but more likely will be January. Discussed water rates, and that we'd have a better chance for approval if we increased them more now rather than later, recommends \$5.00/month. Reviewed process and timelines with the council, including who makes the funding decisions at the State level and what they are looking for. Council asks Hanson about current water operations, just had a DNR inspection on Friday, everything went really well. Meservey utilities run very smoothly! Will put water rates on the next agenda.

Blacktop estimates – after reviewing the estimates and the current fund balance and budget, council members that were present thought we should wait another year, would like to bring it up again at the next meeting to get input from the council members that couldn't be here. Motion by Gobeli to table the item, 2nd by White. Approved.

Fireworks will be on July 1st, Mayor will make sure mosquito spraying gets done at the appropriate time.

Motion by White to adjourn, 2nd by McNutt. Approved unanimously.

Next regular meeting of the Council: July 10, 2023, 6:30 PM.

Respectfully Submitted,
Aimee J Frohling

(Mayor)