

October 17, 2011
Special City Council Meeting Minutes

Meeting called to order at 6:30 p.m. by Mayor Staner. Council members Boffeli, Henry, Knepper, Moriarity and Soppe answered roll call. Motion Henry, 2nd Soppe to approve the agenda – all ayes.

Mayor Staner opened discussions on the South Levee Extension Project. Council member Moriarity reported that when the City held the Gadiant property hostage, negotiations ended before they even began. Administrator Lansing asked Moriarity how discussions went with the Gadiants. Marty Gadiant took the podium and explained that the tone the Mayor and the Administrator had during discussions was not a negotiating tone. The discussion was more as if the Mayor & Administrator were saying, “this is what the City wants and this is how the project is going to happen”. Gadiant explained that he is not in favor of the City’s proposal, but presented a counter proposal to secede from the city limits. Council member Boffeli asked if that is possible and how it works. Mayor Staner expressed concerns with use of the property if it were ever sold. Administrator Lansing explained the condemnation process. Mayor Staner asked the Council how they wanted to proceed with the South Levee Extension Project since there is no agreement with the Gadiant’s. Gadiant responded that he never said they would not do this project and is willing to meet with Administrator Lansing to discuss a price for the City to purchase the property needed to extend the levee.

Buesing & Associates Engineers, Ken Buesing, Tom Larsen and John Gantenbein reviewed options for the 1st Avenue Street Project. One option would be to mill off the current surface and use a hot-mix asphalt to overlay 1st Ave from McKinley St to Industrial St for \$946,746.00. Buesing reported that he and Administrator Lansing met with Art Gourley with the IDOT to discuss construction of the Hwy 136 intersection. The IDOT is favorable of helping with the cost associated with construction of Hwy 136 from the alley north to the alley south of the intersection. Buesing & Gantenbein reported the possibility of eliminating the traffic signals from the Hwy 136 intersection and making it a 4-way stop intersection and the approximate cost savings of \$150,000.00. The cost estimates for upgrading the Hwy 136 intersection from hot-mix asphalt overlay to a complete reconstruction with Portland cement concrete would add \$100,991.00. The cost to upgrade the downtown section of 1st Ave from Hwy 136 to the bridge from hot-mix asphalt to a total reconstruction including curbs & sidewalks with Portland cement concrete is \$375,922.00. The cost to upgrade the section of 1st Ave from Washington St to Industrial St from hot-mix asphalt to Portland cement concrete is \$50,756.00. All of the upgrades would add \$527,669.00 to the \$946,746.00 construction cost plus additional engineering costs. Council will consider the cost estimates and the upgrade cost additions and make a decision at the October 24th Council meeting.

Mayor Staner read a resignation letter submitted by Council member William “Buff” Boffeli that indicated changes in his employment may limit his attendance at Council meetings. Boffeli will fill his seat on Council through the end of 2011.

Motion Knepper, 2nd Moriarity to adjourn the meeting at 7:40 p.m. – all ayes.

Shelley Annis, City Clerk/Treasurer