

CITY COUNCIL PROCEEDINGS
BEMIDJI, MINNESOTA
Work Session – Monday, February 12, 2018

Pursuant to due call and notice, a work session of the City Council of the City of Bemidji, Beltrami County, Minnesota, was held on Monday, February 12, 2018, at 5:35 p.m. in the Conference Room of City Hall, Mayor Pro Tem Erickson presiding.

Upon roll call, the following Councilmembers were declared present: Meehlhause, Hellquist, Johnson, Erickson, Larson Absent: Albrecht, Lehmann

Staff Present: City Manager Nate Mathews, City Attorney Al Felix, City Engineer Craig Gray, Finance Director Ron Eischens, Deputy City Clerk Michelle Miller

Others Present: Brian LeMon and Katie Wolohan, Barr Engineering

Erickson stated that the purpose of the meeting was to discuss Options to Address PFAS in Bemidji Water Supply Wells from Barr Engineering.

Motion by Meehlhause, seconded by Johnson, to close the meeting in accordance with Minnesota Statute Section 13D.05, Subd. 3(b) for the purpose of discussing with the City's Attorney regarding threatened or pending litigation with regards to PFC contaminator at airport. Motion carried unanimously. Meeting closed at 5:36 p.m.

Motion by Meehlhause, seconded by Johnson, to reopen the meeting at 6:48 p.m. Motion carried unanimously. The meeting reconvened at 6:52 p.m. after a brief recess.

City Water System

LeMon and Wolohan of Barr Engineering presented to the Council options to address perfluorocarbons ("PFAS" or "PFCs") in the Bemidji water supply wells located on the airport property. Since receiving notice from the Minnesota Department of Health of the detection of PFCs in wells four and seven, the City has been doing a good job of blending the water supply from three of the wells to maintain levels below the new standards. However, that could become a problem if one of the three wells fail. LeMon presented, in detail, options for the City to consider, including short term and long term solutions as well as an immediate alternate well siting project and temporary treatment project which would consist of testing pilot holes and testing the use of treatment options, one being granular activated carbon (GAC) and the other being a pilot project called single ion exchange. The cost for this includes \$100,000 in engineering costs, \$95,000 for the well siting contractor and \$15,000 for the GAC bench testing. The single ion exchange is being offered as a free pilot test from Evoqua. Staff recommends that this could be paid utilizing the sewer and water utility fund.

Motion by Hellquist, seconded by Johnson, to proceed with the well siting project and temporary treatment project for a total of \$210,000 to be paid out of the sewer and water utility fund. Motion carried unanimously.

ADJOURN

There being no further business, motion by Hellquist, seconded by Meehlhause, to adjourn the meeting. Motion carried. Meeting adjourned at 8:10 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,



Michelle R. Miller
Deputy City Clerk