

CITY OF CASSELTON
Thursday, May 22, 2014
SPECIAL MEETING 5:30 P.M.
Council Chambers

Present: Mayor Edward McConnell, Councilmen Lee Anderson, Mike Eberhardt, Paul Spooner, Joan Carvell and Fred Wangler. Also present: City Attorney Del Losing, Jesse Hagen, Dan Weber, Carol Weber and City Auditor Sheila Klevgard.

Councilman Anderson made a motion, seconded by Councilman Wangler to approve the agenda. All voted aye on roll call vote; **motion passed.**

Sewer & Street Improvement District 25

Change orders for the following work have been discussed with the Public Works committee: 8th Avenue North spot repairs, 8th Avenue North and 2nd Street North intersection replacement, 1st Street North parking expansion, paving in front of Phil Rieniets' shop, Front Street reconstruction in front of Earl's Repair and concrete curb repairs. Seal coating of the city and Catholic cemetery roads is in discussion and not included on this change order. The clay pipe running along the south side of the road will be lowered allowing the catch basins to be lowered and drain tile will be added to eliminate the excess moisture on Front Street. There were two city wells on Earl's property, but they have been capped years ago. What has been done for the truck route sections is to take an 18 inch subcut, lay down fabric, temper the clay to get the moisture right and replace it, add more fabric followed by the eight inches of gravel and the eight inches of concrete. Braun Intertec recommends an 18 inch layer of pit run gravel, which is a lesser screened gravel, rather than replacing the clay, and placing drain tile in the bottom. Concrete has been replaced in that location a few times and this should address the moisture issue causing the need for constant repair. Contingencies still available are \$600,000 after this change order of \$110,120.65. Councilman Carvell made a motion, seconded by Councilman Spooner to approve the change order. All voted aye on roll call vote; **motion passed.**

The question was presented as to whether the public works committee should have authority to approve change orders for a set dollar amount or a percentage of the contract for this project. Councilman Anderson would prefer not to allow a committee to make that decision unless the mayor would be included, which would then create a quorum.

Alley Improvement

Weber Insurance and Hagen Dental have requested that the alley behind their offices be asphalted. Moore Engineering has estimated a cost of \$11,000 to put in a 5 inch thick layer of asphalt which should hold a loaded garbage truck without breaking the asphalt. If farther north would be wanted the base wouldn't have to be replaced. The area has not been surveyed yet to determine the grade and the elevation of the concrete parking area at Hagen Dental needs to be determined in order to make sure it will drain properly. Hagen Dental's dumpster is located at the north end of the property line which will increase the cost estimate which was based on a distance to the end of the concrete parking area. The city does not pay for alley improvements. The business district has asphalted alleys but the business owners were most likely billed for the original installation. It has been brought up by others to have their alleys improved but council has denied them. Councilman Carvell asked if it's possible to grade the alley and add millings as a reduced cost improvement. Although it would need to be covered with gravel, it would be the same as any gravel road and would hold up as long as it is maintained and the base is good. Weber stated that he would not pay for the improvement. The city policy is that the city does not do anything to maintain alleys. It would require a petition from all neighbors to have the city grade it, but usually at least one of the neighbors gets angry because they feel their spot is too high or rocks end up in their yard. The alley is city right of way but the city is not required to maintain them for traffic nor can the city afford to go fix all the alleys. Not all properties have an alley, but a project could be created which would be assessed to all the properties with an alley. Most alleys in Moorhead and Dilworth have been concrete, not asphalt. Councilman Eberhardt stated that when he was in Fargo one neighbor would collect money from the neighbors to have gravel brought in and then had the city come in and blade it. The Wells Fargo alley is asphalted to the end of their property line and so is the alley behind Central Sales and Foss Body

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Shop. Weber thought that the business district alleys were asphalted by the city to assist the garbage truck in collecting trash from the dumpsters which are needed by the businesses. It is estimated that the alley by Wangler's was asphalted in 1970 at the latest. Holes are left in the alley by the garbage truck and Cody Holt has filled them already on several occasions this spring. The deep trenches are four to six feet to the east of the alley since the truck needs to back onto Hagen's property to pick up the dumpster. The large commercial totes could be an option to just leave the alley as is or with minor work to the alley and not needing to drive on the private property to collect the trash. The city will look into the totes and address this issue at the June council meeting. Weber is concerned about the diameter of the new tote which could end up in the alley right of way. The best solution may be to firm up the alley with shavings and gravel.

Councilman Eberhardt made a motion to adjourn at 6:28pm.

Next regular meeting June 2, 2014 at 7:00pm.

Respectfully Submitted,

Sheila K Klevgard
City Auditor