

CITY OF CASSELTON
Thursday, November 29, 2012
SPECIAL MEETING 1:00 P.M.
Council Chambers

Present: Mayor Edward McConnell, Councilmen Lee Anderson, Mike Eberhardt, Joan Carvell, Paul Spooner and Fred Wangler. Also present: Public Works Supervisor Kevin Mayer, City Auditor Sheila Klevgard, City Engineer Brandon Oye and Kyle Meyer.

Council met via telephone conference with the US Army Corp of Engineers, St Paul District regarding the condition of the levee system north and east of town. Deficiencies in the dike conditions as indicated in their report need to be fixed by September 19, 2013 in order to remain in the PLA499 post flood assistance program in which the CORP would pay 80% of costs to repair the dike if it were damaged by a flood. If not participating in the PLA499 program, the city would need to request FEMA for repair assistance. The city can apply for SWIF (System Wide Improvement Framework) with a 2-5 year plan to meet the program criteria if the city anticipates repairs cannot be completed by the deadline. The other option is to opt out of the program.

The annual report indicates several unacceptable items including vegetation, encroachment, rodent holes and culverts. Encroachment indicates buildings or trees within 15 feet of the toe of the dike, however if the buildings and trees are outside the easement, they are not considered encroachments. Utility poles on the inside slope are recommended to be moved if possible or at least moved when replaced. A waiver can be requested with an engineer's analysis. No inspection or video records are on file for the culverts. These records should be submitted every five years with an evaluation. Corrections should be noted on the provided spreadsheet and sent to the CORP prior to the next inspection in July or August 2013. If corrections are made after the inspection, the city should send photos to get the report changed prior to issuance.

This project would qualify for county sales tax for flood projects. The first action for the city is to have Moore Engineering find the city easement and right-of-way for the dikes, creating a map and putting up physical markers indicating the boundaries. The reservoir is a high area which should be verified that it is part of the dike due to unacceptable encroachments there. The city may need to build and designate a new portion as part of the dike to avoid having to remove trees.

Respectfully Submitted,

Sheila K Klevgard
City Auditor