

**PROCEEDINGS OF THE CITY COUNCIL
CITY OF PHILIP, SD
SPECIAL EMERGENCY MEETING
January 27, 2021**

A special emergency meeting of the Philip City Council was held on Wednesday, January 27, 2021 at 4:00 p.m. in the Community Room of the Haakon Co. Courthouse and via Zoom (Meeting ID: 841 0734 2369). Present were Mayor Michael Vetter and Council Members Terri Pelle, Marion Matt, Scott Pinney, Brit Miller and Marty Gartner. Also present were City Administrator Brittany Smith, Public Works Director Matt Reckling, City Attorney Stephanie Trask, Haakon Co. Commissioner Nick Konst, Chelsea Tobin with Pioneer Review; and later, Haakon Co. Commissioner Michael Gebes.

Absent: Council Member Trisha Larson

Mayor Vetter called the meeting to order. He advised that the reasoning for the meeting is to review an update on the City's artesian well and determine the course of repairs.

Motion was made by Gartner, seconded by Pinney to approve the agenda as presented. Motion carried.

Vetter reviewed an update from Jerry Hunt with Weston Engineering on his findings along with a new recommendation for the well. According to Hunt, "they have placed a temporary plug in the well and ran a video log of the upper portion. The casing material appeared to be in relatively good shape but a hole right at the surface where the flange was welded to the 9 5/8 casing was identified. His new recommendation includes a 7-inch liner to approximately 350 feet and tying into the existing 7-inch casing for a cost of \$87,275.00."

Vetter then inquired if the Council would prefer to move forward with the new recommendation or as originally planned. The original proposal included relining the entire well with a 5-inch casing at a cost of \$240,920.00. He stressed, "either way, we are fixing the problem."

Discussion ensued.

Comments for proceeding with the new recommendation noted that it would be considerably less expensive while allowing for a future option to reline the entire well. The concern for finding another contractor in the future to reline the entire well was mentioned. In addition, the cost would more than likely be considerably more. The life expectancy of the well with only relining the 350 feet is unknown while by relining the entire well, could be 60 years. It was also noted that the funding to reline the entire well has been secured but it does not have to be spent on this project.

The county's position on the repairs was questioned. More specifically, would they still financially support relining the entire well and/or contribute to a portion of the costs if the new recommendation is approved?

Commissioner Konst confirmed that the county had already committed \$90,000 to relining the entire well. If the new recommendation is approved, an amended request would need to be submitted to the commission.

Following a lengthy discussion, motion was made by Pelle, seconded by Miller to move forward with relining the entire well as originally planned and approved at a cost of \$240,920.00 back in October 2020. Motion carried 4 to 1. Voting aye: Pelle, Miller, Gartner, Pinney. Voting nay: Matt.

CA Smith was then directed to contact Mr. Hunt with the Council's decision and stress that the work shall be completed in the very near future.

With nothing further, Mayor Vetter thanked everyone for attending and declared the meeting adjourned at 4:23 p.m.

/s/ Michael Vetter, Mayor

ATTEST:

/s/ Brittany Smith, City Administrator

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