

MINUTES OF THE PUBLIC HEARING OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF SAVANNA TO REVIEW PROGRAM PERFORMANCE AND OBTAIN CITIZENS REVIEW VIEWS REGARDING THE ACTIVITIES COMPLETED TOWARDS A CITY CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT PLAN AND A WASTEWATER TREATMENT FACILITY CONDUCTED AT 7:30 PM ON AUGUST 09, 2011 IN THE COUNCIL CHAMBERS LOCATED AT 333 CHICAGO AVENUE, SAVANNA, ILLINOIS

Mayor Stebbins called to order the regular meeting of the City Council of the City of Savanna at 7:30 PM August 9, 2011 in the Council Chambers, 333 Chicago Avenue, Savanna, Illinois. Said meeting notice had been distributed to all board members and posted in accordance with the State of Illinois Open Meetings Act. The Mayor asked for a roll call and the following Board Members were present: Mayor Stebbins, Bill Robinson, Merle Long, Peg Haffey, Jeff Griswold, Lois Hunsaker and William Grummitt constituting a quorum. Also in attendance were Sharon Pepin , City Clerk Paul Hartman, City Attorney Phil Jensen, Irv Shrake and Mr. Miller – News media, Public Works Director – John Lindeman, Police Chief – Mike Moon, City Comptroller – Sheryl Sipe.

The Mayor asked for presentation the CDAP public hearing and turned the hearing over to Ms. Sharon Pepin of Community Funding & Planning Services. Ms. Pepin passed around an attendance sheet and asked everyone to sign in. Ms. Pepin then presented and reviewed the following information.

The City of Savanna is holding a second Public Hearing to provide information on creation of a Facilities Plan and a Capital Improvements Plan. The first public hearing was held October 13, 2009, prior to the City submitting the Community Development Assistance Program (CDAP) grant application to the Illinois Department of Commerce & Economic Opportunity (DCEO).

The City applied for a Flexible Opportunity grant, and its application met all three of the national objectives: 1) benefit low-and moderate income persons; 2) aid in the prevention or elimination of slum and blight; and 3) addressed a problem that poses a serious and immediate threat to the health and welfare of the community. The grant application was submitted on October 14, 2009, and the City received word in April, 2010 that it was awarded a \$47,500 CDAP grant; with a two-year contract which ended June 30, 2011. No grant modifications were necessary. The overall project was estimated to cost \$62,500, with the City contributing \$15,000.

The Flexible Opportunity grant was for the creation of a Facilities Plan that will identify options/recommendations on the construction of a new wastewater treatment facility and the creation of a five-year Capital Improvements Plan (CIP) for the City. Because the project was considered a 'planning' project, it was exempt from the environmental review process. The City secured its environmental clearance letter and its special grants condition clearance letters from DCEO in May 2010. These letters allowed the planning project to move forward.

In March 2009, the City started the process for selecting an engineering / planning firm that was qualified and experienced in the preparation of facility plans and capital improvement plans. The City received statement of qualifications from a number of different engineering firms. In August the City recommended working with Willett, Hofmann & Associates for the preparation of the facility plan and CIP. Engineering costs were negotiated and were used in the CDAP grant application process. Ultimately, we abandoned the RFQ/RFP process because of the whole lengthy process caused by (50 ILCS 510/) Local Government Professional Services

Selection Act, and chose to use Willett, Hofmann & Associates because of their relationship and familiarity with the City.

The City entered into a contract with Willett Hofmann in the amount of \$60,000, and work commenced on the facility plan in June 2010. A number of different treatment processes were reviewed, and visits were made to other facilities to see and learn the process involved and hear from other operators. The facility plan recommended the City of Savannah construct a new wastewater treatment plant. The recommended new plant will be an activated sludge extended aeration plant (Sequential Aeration) with clarification, influent fine screening and grit removal, UV disinfection and river outfall. Sludge facilities will include aerobic digestion and belt filter presses to dewater the sludge for landfill disposal. The new plant will also include a new lab and office for the sewer department staff. Additionally, a new lift station must be constructed at the existing plant site to pump all the wastewater that flows by gravity to the existing plant to the proposed new plant site.

A new location was also recommended for the new wastewater treatment plant, which is between Bowen Street and Oak Street, and between South 4th Street and South 5th Street in the southwest part of the City and north of the railroad yards. This site is recommended because it requires the least amount of in-system sewer improvements, the site is above the 100-year flood elevation of the Mississippi River, and there is existing street access to the proposed new site. The proposed site is actually within the 1% flood zone, however when the plant is constructed the property will be filled to ensure that the structures are at least one foot above the 1% flood elevation.

Willett Hofmann subcontracted with Community Funding & Planning Services who is assisting the City in the creation of the capital improvements plan. The CIP will entail a description of the projects needed over the next five years, a detailed cost estimate, an identified timeframe and a list of potential funding sources for each project. A number of meetings have been held with the City and Willett Hofmann and a draft project list has been prepared. Cost estimates have been generated and we are in the process of finalizing the project list, which will then be reviewed with the Water, Sewer, Refuse, Street and Alley Committee.

Community Funding & Planning Services was hired by the City to provide grant administrative duties. The administration fee was \$2,500 and was paid with CDAP grant funds. Administrative duties included DCEO contract review, on-going correspondence with DCEO staff, quarterly project status reporting, quarterly financial status reporting, annual HUD Performance reporting, record keeping of project costs, overall financial management, public hearing, and close-out reporting. A copy of the final facility plan and capital improvements plan will be provided to DCEO as part of the grant requirements.

Total project costs are \$62,500, with the City contributing \$15,000 and DCEO providing a grant in the amount of \$47,500. The grant contract ending date was June 30, 2011. A CDAP Close-Out Report and a Grantee Evaluation Report will be prepared and submitted to DCEO as part of the project close-out process.

A representative of DCEO may conduct a monitoring visit to ensure that the project was done in accordance with DCEO grant guidelines. If a visit is conducted, Community Funding & Planning Services will attend the monitoring visit.

Based upon the data gathered from the community-wide income survey that was completed by the City in 2005, this project will benefit at least 66.87% low-to-moderate income families throughout the City.

Sharon Pepin asked if anyone had questions or comments on the project or the CDAP grant program. Hearing no questions, Mayor Stebbins closed the public hearing at 7:43:45 PM.

Minutes composed by Paul Hartman, City clerk, Savanna, Illinois