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Mike Blaies
Denise Albers
Dean Pruett
Michael Heap
Lisa Meehling

VILLAGE TREASURER
Bryan A. Vogel

VILLAGE OF FREEBURG

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ZONING ADMINISTRATOR
Matt Trout

VILLAGE ATTORNEY
Weilmuenster & Keck, P.C.

Committee as a Whole Meeting
Monday, September 17, 2018
5:30 p.m.

The Committee as a Whole meeting was called to order at 5:33 p.m. on September 17, 2018 by Mayor Seth Speiser. Members present were Mayor Seth Speiser, Trustee Denise Albers, Trustee Mike Blaies, Trustee Mike Heap, Trustee Ray Matchett (6:35 p.m.), Trustee Lisa Meehling, Trustee Dean Pruett, Public Works Director John Tolan, Water/Sewer Department Leader Gregg Blomenkamp, Village Clerk Jerry Menard, Zoning Administrator Matt Trout, Village Administrator Tony Funderburg and Office Manager Julie Polson. Guests present for the Rhutasel presentation: Larry Rhutasel, Tracy Lawless and Tim Pruett. Guests present for the TWM presentation: Todd Peek, Chris Bergman and Jeff Bervirt.

I. Items to be Reviewed

A. **OLD BUSINESS:** None.

B. NEW BUSINESS:

1. Rhutasel & Associates Statement of Qualifications for Wastewater System Improvements: Tracy Lawless, President of Rhutasel & Associates introduced the team that would be in charge of the proposed sewer project. Tim Pruett would be the Project Manager and be our direct contact from beginning to end. Further, he would handle the design team, attend meetings, and be the first line for resolution. Larry Rhutasel is the resident technical expert. He has practiced in this field for over 50 years. They believe they are the best qualified firm for this project because they are a local firm that has been here for 50 years, their employees live here and they have the knowledge of our system and community. Ninety percent of their business is repeat customers. They deal with EPA, DNR, and the Department of Historical Preservation on a regular basis. They have worked on bits and pieces on our wastewater systems over the last 10 years, and feel this is a once-in-a-lifetime project in their backyard.

They discussed their related project experiences with New Athens, St. Clair Township, Smithton and Red Bud. Tracy explained the differences in code requirements for concrete structures and advised they use the ACI 350 for environmental structures.

Larry advised excess flow clarifier are not allowed anymore but confirmed ours is grandfathered in. Public Works Director John Tolan said he and Water/Sewer Department Leader Gregg Blomenkamp were thinking about an equalization or surge tank instead of the excess flow clarifier. Larry explained the surge tank doesn't hold a lot of flow, but the discharge is at a most constant rate in the discharge process.

Larry said the Village of Freeburg has done three facility plan studies in the last ten years. Rhutasel and Horner and Shifrin jointly worked on 2009 facilities plan study. Rhutasel did the study work related to the service area and sewer system. Horner and Shifrin did the treatment plant. The original plan was to eliminate the East Plant and go to a larger West Plant. After improvements to the East Plant were made, including cleaning the lagoons, it was decided to keep that plant in predation. The facility plan was updated in

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2015. Housing had slowed down and population growth rate had flattened out. The Comprehensive Plan was done at that time and recommended a new treatment plant which included a sequencing batch structure, new pump station, new dewatering system and a covered storage area for sludge stockpile at a cost of \$6,600,000.

The last facility plant study was done in 2018. Larry stated they have issues with it, namely the west plant was designed for all of Freeburg instead of factoring in what the east plant handles. At a projected cost of \$10,000,000, they think it is way over-designed for what the Village needs. This cost also includes the U.V. Disinfection, and John commented that if this plant is going to last over 50 years, he doesn't want to add little things along the way. Larry agreed the plant will have footprint if need in the future. Trustee Denise Albers asked if they would be getting rid of the lagoons, and both Larry and John said no. Larry also doesn't think the property the Village purchased from Mr. Kaiser needs to be used right now. They think cost to use the that site would be close to \$500,000. Rhutasel reiterated their employees are residents of Freeburg, they want to keeps the costs minimal and everything they have done has been in the best interests of the Village.

2. TWM Statement of Qualifications for Wastewater System Improvements: Todd Peek advised their philosophy for our plant is to design for today and plan for tomorrow. He stated it would be very hard to plan a plant that would last for 45 years without it being very costly. He also said our wastewater treatment plant no longer meets all the IEPA effluent requirements and cannot handle peak flows during rain events. Their facility plan update was submitted to IEPA on January 23, 2018, and we are still waiting on EPA approval.

The future of our treatment plant includes a new headworks, bar screen, sequencing batch reactor, possible oxidation ditches and a filter building. The advantage to a SBR is the ease of maintenance and footprint of the system. TWM wants to work with us to develop the cost of this project. They have extensive experience with the EPA loan and permit process. Todd referenced their work done for Stookey Township and City of Lebanon, and how they were able to save each entity a significant amount of money. Todd stated since the Village is under 5,000 in population, we would qualify for a 15% debt forgiveness loan. They would recommend a 30-year loan which helps lessen the burden on the residents.

Todd stated they have an affordable design fee. For a \$5,000,000 - \$10,000,000 project, the fee would be 8%. For a project over \$10,000,000, the fee would be 7%. They are planning a flexible design by keeping future in mind ensuring features would be easily added at minimal expense (filter tank space, filters, disinfection). The referenced Lebanon which has an open area for future SBR expansion.

Chris Bergman stated they designed the Belleville treatment plant without filters and then set aside an area where those could be included.

TWM has received several First in State Accomplishments in Illinois. They developed and permitted the first sequencing batch reactor in the state and have done five more since then. They also received a First in State for UV disinfection in Swansea despite there not being any regulatory guidelines, as well as a First in State for non-contact UV.

Jeff Bervirt stated he will be part of the construction observation team, and was an operator for 35 years. He stated TWM did a lot of work for Caseyville when he worked there. He stated TWM has superior customer service, fiscally responsible, innovative and

exceeded expectations when responding to clients' needs. They are a local firm, and their support network is easily accessible.

Todd closed by saying with choosing TWM, we would receive a cost effective design, plant flexibility, innovative plant design and a lasting relationship. Chris reiterated this project is really important to the firm.

C. GENERAL CONCERNS: None.

D. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION: None.

E. ADJOURN: *Trustee Dean Pruett motioned to adjourn the meeting at 7:36 p.m. And Trustee Denise Albers seconded the motion. All voting yea, the motion carried.*



Julie Polson
Office Manager