

VILLAGE OF THREE OAKS SPECIAL COUNCIL MEETING – DATE: 12-02-21

Village Council President, Richard Smith, called the (in-person) Special Council Meeting, to order at 7:01 PM. This meeting was to present and discuss the Feasibility Study conducted by Wightman on the Village’s Sewer Wastewater System.

Pledge of Allegiance: Yes

Roll Call: Present: Graziano, Kramer, Thomas, Hinman, Newquist, Smith

Absent: Ream

Approval of the Agenda as presented by Village President, Richard Smith. Moved: Hinman Supported: Thomas Aye: 6 Nay: 0 Absent: 1 Abstain: 0 MOTION CARRIED.

PUBLIC COMMENT: None

CORRESPONDENCE: None

- **REVIEW and DISCUSS the FINDINGS of the FEASIBILITY STUDY CONDUCTED BY WIGHTMAN on the SEWER WASTEWATER SYSTEM:** Mary Nykamp of Wightman said that they reviewed the project goals to determine the financial impact and the options for the proposed improvements of the sewer lagoons. There has been a total of (5) five violation notices received from the State and the outstanding issues need to be resolved with EGLE. She reported that GRSD (Galien River Sanitation District) is receptive to the Village joining their system, however, they do not have the capacity to accept us without extensive cost to the Village which is projected to be about 5.6M dollars. In addition to that, there would be a cost of 1.775 M to decommission the lagoon and another 1.729 M to run a line about 4 miles along U.S. Highway 12 to connect with GRSD. There would be approximately \$3.5 million available thru grants, but that is not nearly enough to significantly defer the costs. Mary said that the lagoons are performing well, but they are still over the capacity for what is allowed. They are organically overloaded and not functioning at a level that they should be according to EGLE. There is erosion that needs to be corrected on all (3) three ponds- mostly the south and the west banks. She informed Council that the Village is in better shape financially than 90% of other communities. Our infrastructure is only 20 years old and one of the Sewer bonds will be paid off in 2022. She reported that the study shows that our permit to operate the lagoons (NPDES) is a “general” permit – it does not allow non-domestic and/or industrial discharges. If the Village continues to accept non-domestic waste, then we must apply for an “individual” permit – we can no longer operate under our “general” permit. If the Village decides to make improvements to the lagoons as identified in the Feasibility Study (rather than connecting to GRSD), such as installing an aeration system to increase capacity (\$560,000) air supply piping and associated site work (\$113,290), correcting erosion on all three ponds (\$300,000 to \$400,000) and screening (\$348,000) and other costs, the total of improvements are estimated at \$2.5 to \$3 million. If the lagoons need to be re-lined that would be an extra \$1M. Additionally, it will cost the Village approximately \$50,000/annually to manage a (recommended) aeration system for the lagoons. The State is insistent that the Village conduct an updated study to identify the high users within the system. The last study was done in 2018. Wightman submitted a proposal for \$21,024.00 to conduct this study. They will seek a time extension for the sampling that will need to be done for this study..

- A Motion was made to approve the proposal from Wightman in the amount of \$21,024.00 to conduct a study to analyze and identify the high strength users of the sewer wastewater system. Moved: Graziano Moved: Newquist Aye: Graziano, Kramer, Thomas, Hinman, Newquist, Smith Nay: None Absent: Ream Abstain: None MOTION CARRIED.
- MEETING ADJOURNED AT: 8:05 pm

Submitted by:

Cynthia E. Moynihan
Three Oaks Village Clerk
Minutes for the 12-02-21 Special Council Meeting
Were **APPROVED** at the 01-12-22 Council Meeting