

PROCEEDINGS OF THE CITY COUNCIL
Rapid City, South Dakota

September 30, 2008

Pursuant to due call and notice thereof, a special meeting of the City Council of the City of Rapid City was held at the City/School Administration Center in Rapid City, South Dakota on Tuesday, September 30, 2008 at 2:00 P.M.

The following members were present: Mayor Alan Hanks and the following Alderpersons: Sam Kooiker, Karen Olson, Ron Kroeger, Deb Hadcock, Lloyd LaCroix, Patti Martinson, Bill Okrepkie, and Malcom Chapman; and the following Alderpersons arrived during the course of the meeting: None; and the following were absent: Ron Weifenbach.

Staff members present included Finance Officer Jim Preston and Administrative Secretary Heidi Weaver.

Dan Coon from Public Works introduced Steve Burian, consultant from AE2S Consulting Firm. Mr. Burian gave his presentation.

Kooiker asked for more clarification on the types of loans that can be used for this project. Kooiker was disappointed at the time chosen for this meeting, and said it's hard for most of the public to make a meeting in the middle of the day. Hadcock suggested other meetings be held on this topic so the public could attend.

Robert Ellis, Public Works Director, addressed the Council. He said the two proposed water treatment plants are necessary, the risk is too high to keep delaying the project. Mr. Ellis would like the effective date for the rate changes to be January 1, 2009.

Okrepkie asked why more wells and tanks can't be used instead of these plants. LaCroix stated this was a big decision and Rapid City's future depends on the plants. This recommendation came forward from the Water Advocacy Task Force and was previously approved by the City Council. LaCroix is in favor of building the treatment plants.

Discussion continued regarding the loan scenarios and which was better.

Hadcock suggested there be two more public meetings and that the information be posted to the website. Discussion took place regarding the bidding process for this project. Jim Preston, Finance Office, stated it would be an open bid process.

Martinson suggested that staff create a mock up of the new water bill in order for the public to better visualize what the change in rates will be.

Chapman left the meeting at 3:00 pm.

Motion by Kooiker and seconded by Okrepkie to hold two public meetings outside of Council Chambers. Hadcock wanted the meetings to be held in Council Chambers. Mayor Hanks said he thought the feedback would be better if two separate meetings were held on opposite sides of town in order to hear all public input. LaCroix agreed that the public would give more input if the meetings were held outside Council Chambers. Kooiker amended his motion to include two public meetings and one special meeting to be held in Council Chambers during the evening. Motion carried 6 to 1 to have two public meetings on opposite ends of town and one special meeting at the Council Chambers to discuss utility rates and public comments, Hadcock voted no.

As there was no further business to come before the Council at this time, the meeting adjourned at 3:34 P.M.

CITY OF RAPID CITY

ATTEST:

Mayor

Finance Officer

(SEAL)