

**CITY OF BAYPORT
CITY COUNCIL WORKSHOP MINUTES
COUNCIL CHAMBERS
MARCH 1, 2021
4:30 P.M.**

** Due to COVID-19 and social distancing protocols, this meeting was conducted by electronic means as permitted by Minnesota Statute 13D.021 due to a health pandemic or declared emergency. **

CALL TO ORDER

The workshop was called to order by Mayor St. Ores at 4:31 p.m.

ROLL CALL

Members Present: Mayor Susan St. Ores, Councilmembers Connie Carlson, Michele Hanson, and John Dahl. Councilmember Ethan Gilmore joined the meeting at 4:38 p.m.

Staff Present: City Administrator Adam Bell, Assistant City Administrator/Planner Sara Taylor, Public Works Director Matt Kline, Fire Chief Allen Eisinger, Police Chief Laura Eastman, City Engineer John Parotti, and City Attorney Tom Loonan

DISCUSS A REQUEST FOR EXTENSION OF MUNICIPAL WATER INFRASTRUCTURE TO THE PROPOSED HILLS OF SPRING CREEK RESIDENTIAL DEVELOPMENT IN BAYTOWN TOWNSHIP

Public Works Director Kline noted that Derrick Custom Homes is requesting an extension of Bayport municipal water to serve the proposed Hills of Spring Creek subdivision, consisting of 102 single-family residential dwelling units. In 2018, the property was proposed for development and the existing joint powers agreement (JPA) between Bayport and Baytown for municipal water service was modified to facilitate additional potential extensions. That development never proceeded, but a new development and water extension for potable water is now proposed for the site. At this time, the developer is seeking approval from Bayport, while also continuing with plat approval from Baytown Township, as well as obtaining consent from the MPCA to construct high-capacity wells to serve as a backup to a stormwater reuse system for irrigation. Background on the original 2006 JPA was explained, noting the objective was to extend municipal service to provide safe drinking water for new developments in Baytown, as opposed to drilling individual private wells, which could potentially affect the TCE contaminant plume in the groundwater. The developer would be responsible for all costs associated with connecting to the city water system. The trunk area charges for this development are significant and would help fund potential mechanical upgrades that are likely needed for the entire water system in the future.

Discussion followed on opportunities of looping the system with this connection, allowing for improved water quality/flow and an emergency shut off, as well as existing and proposed water usage and capacity in the upper water zone, potential impact individual wells may have on the TCE plume, and enforcement of illicit connections of potable water for irrigation use. City Attorney Loonan noted the city's responsibility in considering this request shall be focused on the capacity of the system and whether the extension is in the best interest of the city and consistent with the JPA, not based on whether the land use is appropriate or supported by Baytown. It was noted that the revised JPA now requires a surcharge specific to Baytown users for the future replacement of their infrastructure.

Baytown Boardmembers John Hall and Rick Weyrauch noted their appreciation for Bayport's consideration of the request and cooperation as they work through the plat review of the subdivision. Further discussion ensued on the capacity of Bayport's water system and the potential for a municipal water connection to serve as a backup for irrigation ponds. Public Works Director Kline commented that severe use restrictions and controls would need to be implemented, as well as potential upgrades to increase the capacity of the booster station to serve as a backup for irrigation. Further discussion on the topic will continue at the March 1 regular City Council meeting following the workshop.

DISCUSS A TRAFFIC SPEED LIMIT STUDY

Administrator Bell reviewed the traffic study discussion from the February 1 City Council meeting. The direction was to proceed with public engagement efforts and to report back to the City Council at the May 3 meeting. Since the last discussion, staff has been working on public outreach and engagement materials and researching speed reduction efforts completed by other cities. Staff is in the process of drafting a community survey on the topic, which will be distributed and/or promoted in various formats, beginning mid-March through April, including an online version, print version in the city newsletter, and promotion of the survey by multiple methods, such as direct mail, the city website, and email. Legal issues surrounding enforcement were discussed, including meeting public notification requirements for the speed reduction and posting new speed limit signage. Discussion followed on the community survey, validity, and content of the proposed engineering study, current traffic data/statistics, and whether the current 30 MPH speed limit is suitable or a matter of concern, particularly in residential neighborhoods.

ADJOURNMENT

It was moved by Councilmember Dahl and seconded by Councilmember Carlson to adjourn the meeting at 5:46 p.m. and upon roll call being taken thereon, the following vote via voice:

Susan St. Ores – aye
Michele Hanson – aye

John Dahl – aye
Connie Carlson - aye

Ethan Gilmore - aye