

Minutes of Regular Meeting # 643 Held in the Lake Elmo City Council Chambers Thursday, May 24, 2001

MANAGERS PRESENT: Dale Borash, Vice President; Don Scheel, Secretary; Lincoln Fetcher, Treasurer; and Duane Johnson, Manager

MANAGER ABSENT: Dave Bucheck, President

STAFF PRESENT: John Hanson, Barr Engineering; Barb Wolle, Attorney, and Karen Schultz, Recording Secretary

OTHERS PRESENT: Jeff Berg, Washington SWCD; Cletus Schertz, Andy Radatz, and Brent Johnson, TLC Electronics, Leland Mann and Michele Richter, Northern Natural Gas Company; and Stu Grubb, Emmons and Olivier Resources

CALL TO ORDER Meeting called to order by Vice President Borash at 7:02 p.m.

ANNOUNCEMENTS There were no announcements.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES After discussion of the minutes of the May 10, 2001 meeting, **motion** was made by Scheel, seconded by Johnson, to approve the minutes as corrected. Motion carried unanimously.

ADDITIONAL AGENDA ITEMS Items added to the agenda: Under **Engineering**, Engineer Hanson added ADowns Lake Field Work@, AManagers= Tour@, and ASt. Croix Bluffs Park@.

PUBLIC FORUM No discussion in Public Forum.

SECRETARY'S REPORT Secretary Scheel said the mail has been picked up and distributed.

INSPECTOR=S REPORT Inspector Roemmich reported that he has begun checking all the projects that were started in 1998, to see if they are completed and correctly finished.

ATTORNEY=S REPORT Attorney Wolle had nothing new to report.

TREASURER=S REPORT Treasurer Fetcher distributed copies of the Income Statement: Budget Variance through April 30, 2001. He also said he will be meeting with Barr Engineering, the auditor, and the District=s accountant in the second week in June to review the account numbers and the chart of accounts that Washington County is proposing, to see if it impacts the District or not. **Motion** made by Johnson and seconded by Scheel to approve the Treasurer=s report.

ENGINEER=S REPORT Cardoza Property (Lots 1 & 2, Block 1, Valley Home Estates), Grant - Permit Request Engineer Hanson described a project located northwest of Jamaca Avenue and 63rd Street in Grant. Specifically, the project is located in the northeast quarter of the southeast quarter of Section 33, Township 30 North, Range 21 West. The applicant is proposing to construct a house and driveway. This project requires a permit because of wetland impacts and more than 6,000 feet of new impervious surface are proposed.

After discussion of the wetland management concerns, the water management concerns, and the erosion control concerns, **motion** was made by Fetcher and seconded by Scheel to approve Permit # 2001-10 with the engineer=s suggested conditions, and also changes to certain conditions made by the managers. Motion carried unanimously.

Northern Natural Gas Company, C-line Extension, Woodbury & Lake Elmo - Permit

Request Engineer Hanson described a proposed project that is about one mile long and runs parallel to Cottage Grove Drive, about 2400 feet east of it, within Woodbury. The northern end of the project is within the City of Lake Elmo, near the drive-in theater. The proposed project is within the southwest quarter of Section 36 of Township 29 North, Range 21 West, and the west half of Section 1, Township 28 North, Range 21 West. The proposed project involves the installation of one 30-inch diameter underground pipeline.

After discussion of the wetland management concerns, the water management concerns, and the erosion control concerns, **motion** was made by Scheel and seconded by Fetcher to approve Permit # 2001-09 with the engineer=s suggested conditions, and also changes to certain conditions made by the managers. Motion carried unanimously.

Ideal Avenue (CSAH 13) Roadway Reconstruction, Oakdale & Lake Elmo - Permit

Request Engineer Hanson described a project, which is the stretch of Ideal Avenue (CSAH 13) located between T.H. 5 and Stillwater Boulevard (CSAH 13). The road is the border between Oakdale and Lake Elmo. Specifically, the project is located in the common lines of the extreme northern portions of Sections 20 and 21, and the southern portions of Sections 16 and 17, all in Township 29 North, Range 21 West. The City of Lake Elmo has approved the project. No comments have been received from the City of Oakdale.

After discussion of the wetland management concerns, the water management concerns, and the erosion control concerns, **motion** was made by Fetcher and seconded by Scheel to approve Permit # 2001-12 with the engineer=s suggested conditions, and also changes to certain conditions made by the managers. Motion carried unanimously.

TLC Electronics, Mahtomedi - Update Engineer Hanson presented information on the permit application to build a warehouse and office space on Lot 2 of the Northeast Metro Business Park in Mahtomedi. At the last meeting the managers approved Permit # 2001-04 with the condition that the Technical Evaluation Panel (TEP) review the project to determine whether the wetland in question is an incidental wetland or not. The TEP did meet and it determined that Wetland #4 on the site is a wetland. Therefore, the permit issued at the last meeting is invalid.

The Technical Evaluation Panel suggested that the applicant use the stormwater pond for PVC credit, and to mitigate onsite or purchase credits from a wetland bank. At this meeting the managers were asked to approve conditions for a permit, since the applicant does not have a permit. **Motion** was made by Fetcher and seconded by Johnson to approve Permit # 2001-04, with the engineer=s suggested conditions of approval, and with an additional condition to extend the amount of time from one year to two years, to replace and/or purchase bank credits within the Lower St. Croix Valley Watershed District to the satisfaction of the managers. Motion carried unanimously.

New District Logo - Update Engineer Hanson displayed copies of the logos that he received from students at Century College. There have been five logos submitted, and more may be coming soon. The managers asked Engineer Hanson to mail copies of all the logos when he has received them, so that they can view them and possibly choose one at the next meeting.

Jim Palecek Property - Request from Owner Engineer Hanson reported to the managers that Jim Palecek has requested the District to remove the pile of brush from his yard, which is an accumulation of trees that have died because, he claims, of District activity, and also that the District cut down one dead tree in his back yard, which he states, died also as a result of District activity.

Engineer Hanson suggested that the managers invite Jim Palecek to the next managers= meeting to discuss the issue, and to attempt to finalize the issue of his property being flooded. Engineer Hanson will talk to Jim Palecek.

Washington County Water Consortium, 2-4:30 p.m. May 30th Engineer Hanson had mailed a copy of the agenda for the Washington County Water Consortium to be held May 30th in the Washington County Government Center. Several issues are on the agenda to be discussed.

Downs Lake Field Work Engineer Hanson distributed a draft letter addressed to residents of the Downs Lake area, stating that field investigations will be made of the area in the next few weeks, in an effort to plan possible strategies for managing the flooding problems at Downs Lake. The managers agreed that sending the letter to the residents alerting them of the possibility that Barr Engineering staff may walk onto their private property, is a good idea. **Motion** was made by Scheel and seconded by Johnson authorizing Vice President Borash to sign the letter when it is finalized. Motion carried unanimously.

Managers= Summer Tour Engineer Hanson had drafted a schedule for the managers= tour on June 9, 2001. The tour will begin at 9:00 a.m. at the District=s Project office. The managers agreed with the scheduled stops.

St. Croix Bluffs Park The Washington Soil and Washington Conservation District has asked Barr Engineering to help them solve an erosion problem within the St. Croix Bluffs Park. The area is located outside the Valley Branch Watershed District, but inside the expanded District. The managers said they didn=t think it would be a conflict of interest for Barr Engineering to work on the problem.

MANAGERS= REPORT Next Meeting - June 14, 2001 The managers said they do expect to have a quorum at the next meeting.

Sunnybrook Lake As directed by the managers at the last meeting, Engineer Hanson and Stu Grubb, of Emmons and Olivier, did meet to discuss an approach to the solution to the flooding problem around Sunnybrook Lake. The two engineers submitted their memorandums regarding the issue to the managers at this meeting.

Stu Grubb said that he tried to bring to the table a process that the Emmons & Olivier Resources firm has successfully used to implement infiltration projects in the county. He said he feels they are experts at it. He said it=s what they can add to the process, e.g. natural resource assessment and the advisory committee process, not something completely new.

Treasurer Fetcher said what would be helpful for him, is to have some information from the Emmons & Olivier organization that says what it can do that=s above and beyond the District=s resources; how that will make a difference, what the value is to that, what=s special about the organization. He also said that the managers need to discuss the issue within the group about the plan or process instead of reacting to it. He said it should be done in an executive session with all managers present.

In the lengthy discussion of the whole issue, Treasurer Fetcher said he did not see anything new in the suggestions made by the engineers as a result of their meeting. He also suggested that the managers direct Engineer Hanson to work with gathering water data to see what that picture looks like, see what

those opportunities are, and then come back and assess what=s missing, or whether we have enough to go forward with the advisory groups through the agencies.

ADJOURNMENT Motion made by Johnson and seconded by Fetcher at 9:20 p.m. to adjourn the meeting. Motion carried unanimously.

Respectfully Submitted,

Donald Scheel,
Secretary

Minutes Approved by Managers 06/14/01