

**City of Ida Grove
Special Council Meeting
5:00 p.m., March 18, 2019
City Council Chambers**

Mayor, Devlun Whiteing, called the meeting to order at 5:06 pm with the following council members present: Ryan Goodman, Paul Cates, Gregor Ernst, Doug Clough and Scott Tomlinson.

Motion by Clough to approve the agenda, second by Goodman. On a unanimous vote, motion carried.

Ethan Joy of JEO Consulting Group, Inc. presented the 2019 wastewater facility plan report. Joy reviewed a summary of existing wastewater flow over the past 5 years including daily averages and peak days. Joy stated the current comminutors are outdated and not removing solids as they should. The grit chamber is not working effectively and lift pumps at the plant are original and worn out. There is a definite need for additional sludge capacity at the plant. Joy also said the primary sludge pumps are original to the plant as well and don't operate well. Additionally, the aerobic digester blowers are original to the plant and not providing enough air; and the current generator is undersized.

Joy discussed the state of utility report that was previously done which estimated the cost of upgrading at 3.7 million. Now that the facility plan was done and a more in-depth look was taken at the plant, the estimated costs are 4.62 million to update the headworks, sludge capacity and generator. Joy discussed several different bonding/loan options the city could undertake ranging from 20-40 year loans. Council discussed the possibility of holding off on increasing sludge capacity and just focusing on improving the headworks for now. Joy states the next steps are to complete the full rate study and submit to USDA and SRF to see what they may offer the City. Joy also mentioned that some SRF loans will take the interest paid on the loan projects greater than 1 million and use that money on water quality improvements within the city. Joy also made clear that this 4.62 million dollar project does not address all issues within the entire plant and the City will need to address the RBC's in the future.

Motion by Cates to adjourn, second by Tomlinson. On a unanimous vote, motion carried.

Meeting adjourned at 5:49 p.m.

Heather Sweeden, City Clerk

Devlun Whiteing, Mayor