

City of Ida Grove
Property & Protection Committee Meeting
Thursday, April 9, 2020 5:00 p.m.
Due to the COVID-19 crisis, this meeting was held electronically.

Committee Chairman, Reynold McLead, called the meeting to order at 5:00 p.m. with the following Council Members present: Jared Bogue and Gregor Ernst. Mayor Devlun Whiteing, City Engineer Cody Forch and OABCIG School Superintendent Matt Alexander were also present. In order to help stop the spread of the COVID-19 virus, the meeting was held electronically via GoToMeeting. McLead read the following statement: An in-person meeting is “impossible or impractical” because of the social distancing required by COVID-19 and the President’s and Governor’s statements that in person meetings are discouraged. This is provided to comply with Iowa Code Section 21.8”.

Motion by Ernst to approve the agenda, second by Bogue. On a unanimous vote, motion carried.

The meeting was called to discuss the current situation with stormwater run-off along Seventh Street and to develop a recommended plan to mitigate the issue. The City reviewed an estimate from JEO from September 2019 in the amount of \$97,340 to complete drainage improvements. The estimate included moving the drainage structure South, closer to the trail, and would be a 2 ½ foot deep by 6-foot wide channel. The City did not move forward with the proposal in 2019 due to lack of financial capability. Forch noted the quoted channel would still support the amount of run-off with the proposed OABCIG High School addition plans. McLead noted; if the council voted to move forward with the improved drainage structure, the City would need to obtain easements from property owners along Seventh Street and it wouldn’t be a quick process. Additionally, there may be some concern for additional flooding prior to being able to complete the improvement project. Council discussed whether re-routing the additional stormwater that would be created from the school addition to John Montgomery Drive would be a feasible option. Alexander noted the school wants to work with the City to come up with the best solution, but is unsure of the cost to re-route. Alexander discussed the option of implementing a stormwater district in the area and/or implementing a stormwater utility fee City wide such as many other cities do. A stormwater district can be set up with a “reverse responsibility” which means the property owners at the top of the hill pay more, while the owners downstream would pay less. After discussion of the numerous options, the committee plans to move forward with recommendation to the council to work with the bid package from JEO (moving the drainage structure to the South), discuss financial partnership with Golden Horizons and send letters to the affected property owners to notify them of discussions and ask for feedback/cooperation in obtaining easements. Alexander noted he is willing to contribute \$15,000 toward the project, but needs to seek board approval for anything more than that amount.

Motion by Ernst to adjourn, second by McLead. On a unanimous vote, motion carried. Meeting adjourned at 5:55 p.m.

Heather Sweeden, City Clerk

Reynold McLead, Committee Chairman