

**Special Wahpeton City Council Meeting**  
**Public Hearing**  
**March 27, 2023**  
**4:00 p.m. – Wahpeton City Hall**

**City Council Present:** Mayor Brett Lambrecht, Council Members: Shannon Schillinger, Chad Perdue, David Woods, Jason Goltz, Tiana Bohn and Renata Fobb

**Absent:** McNary & Unruh

**City Staff Present:** Darcie Huwe, Dennis Miranowski, Kyle Rogahn, Don Wald, Dane Platt, Devin Michael, Matthew Anderson, Todd Johnson, Chris DeVries, City Attorney Brittany Hatting and Cheryl O'Meara

**Others Present:** Damon DeVillers-Interstate Engineering. Seth Lynne and Karla Olson of Apex Engineering. Steve Dale, resident of Wahpeton.

**CALL TO ORDER**

Meeting called to order by Mayor Lambrecht at 4:00 p.m.

**Public Hearing – Wastewater Treatment Facility Plan –**

Miranowski explained that this was a public hearing to hear the information on the Wastewater Treatment Facility Plan. If a member of the public would like to ask a question, they need to come to the podium and state their name and address. The City has not received any written comments pertaining to this facility plan.

Damon DeVillers explained that Interstate Engineering has partnered with APEX Engineering on this project. He then introduced Karla Olson and Seth Lynne to explain the project. Lynne explained the attached presentation.

The presentation reviewed the current facility, future conditions, needs assessment and recommendations. The current system was last updated in 2003 and usually have a lifespan of 20 years. There are 6 ponds and one has been abandoned due to lower elevation and flooding from the river. The existing influent design parameters were noted and the ponds are close to capacity. Future conditions are based on population forecasting for year 2043 and an expansion will be required. Treatment plant performance was measured and the aerated pond is undersized to treat for the future. The blowers lack capacity for current and future conditions. Overloading on downstream ponds becomes an issue. Corrosion control, rip-rap condition, lack of screenings, current diffuser system and electrical equipment will need updating. It is recommended that there be a new pretreatment building to capture the rags and debris. New coarse bubble diffusers, turbo blowers, a new blower building and aerated pond improvements were also recommended. The total project cost is approximately \$10 million. The development timeline would be started right away with a target completion date of August 2026. The construction portion would be two years.

Next steps are for the City Council to approve the Facility Plan, then it will be submitted to the ND Dept. of Environmental Quality for approval. The loan application will then be started followed by the design of plans and specifications.

Discussion held on the volume of waste that would be collected during the pretreatment phase and the cost for hauling it away. The sludge in the current ponds will be reprocessed to a new area. The dead zone in pond #1 was discussed. There will need to be a resolution passed approving this facility plan. This topic will be moved to the next City Council meeting for approval.

**Motion by Goltz, seconded by Woods, to adjourn the meeting at 4:35 p.m.**

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Mayor Brett Lambrecht

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Darcie Huwe, Auditor