

## Unapproved Minutes of the Montrose City Council Special Meeting on Flooding

The Montrose City Council special meeting was held on September 28, 2019 in the Community Center, Montrose, SD. The meeting was called to order by Mayor Paul Klaudt at 11:00 am. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited. Present were Mayor Paul Klaudt; Council Members Tony Heumiller; Susan Painter, Jasen Hanisch, and Justin Hagemann (arrived at 11:01); Maintenance Supervisor Daryl Sieverding; Finance Officer Sara Smith; and five members of the community were present.

Mayor Klaudt reminded all in attendance to adhere to the Rules of Decorum.

Motion by Heumiller, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Painter to approve the agenda but to discuss all items requiring a vote first as Heumiller needed to leave by noon. All approved.

Reviewed purchase decisions made during the flood. Motion by Hanisch, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Heumiller to approve entering into a 6 month contract to rent a payloader at the cost of \$1500 a month. All approved. Motion by Hagemann, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Heumiller to approve entering a rent-to-own contract to purchase two pumps at \$500 a month until the pumps are paid in full. All approved. Motion by Painter, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Hanisch to approve the rental of portable toilets. All approved. Another pump was rented and returned to Stan Houstons. No bill has been received, and will be reviewed at the next meeting.

Discussed whether televising of the sewer system should be done now or still wait for grants to cover the cost. Because the sewer system is still pumping out over 200,000 gallons a day when the usual is 40-50,000 a day, this work couldn't be done now regardless. Smith was asked to follow up with SECOG on when grant money, if we receive it, would be available.

Discussed what went well during the flood: a lot of volunteers, obtained extra trash pumps, city council involved through entire process, monster blocks borrowed from the Humboldt elevator and communication through text alerts, city website, facebook and press releases. The food in the Community Center was much appreciated. Lessons learned: Lift station needs a permanent barrier and increased height and is the highest priority infrastructure improvement needed. Lift station needs upgraded technology and a built in generator. Need to determine the boundaries of the easement around the lift station to lessen damage to private property during flood relief efforts. Having a GIS system created for water and sewer system was authorized in a previous council meeting but the work has not been done yet. This could have helped quickly identify water shutoffs during the flood when access to paper maps was limited. A written procedure document would be helpful as a reminder of tasks that should be done by the city and homeowners, such as shutting off water at the curbstop and inside the house, shutting off electricity inside at the panel, more door to door communication or utilizing the fire truck PA system. All curbstops need to be inspected to ensure they are in working condition.

Discussed ways to improve on communication. Could the siren system be utilized with a special sound for flood warning. Use fire truck or police PA system to notify residents of emergency information. More door to door communication. Implement a phone call system like what the school uses to get messages out, rather than texts when not everyone has a cell phone. Set up a special meeting right after the flood. Close roads/better enforcement of closed roads to keep looky-loos out of the way of evacuating residents and the people helping with the flood. Need more barricades.

Discussed water/sewer minimum bills for residents impacted by the flood. Ordinance 005-2018 states that all properties that have a connection to the water and sewer mains must pay the minimums for water and sewer. This will continue for flood-impacted homes until a demolition permit has been obtained at the city office and proof that the water and sewer lines have been turned off/capped.

Heumiller left the meeting at 12:06 pm. Motion by Hagemann, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Painter to authorize the creation of a new money market account for donations received to go toward the city's flood expenses. All approved. Discussed the baseball field scoreboard. Previously, the council instructed Smith to have the scoreboard replaced with the insurance money already received. Smith confirmed with the insurer that the insurance money does not need to be used on the scoreboard, therefore the council directed Smith to not have the scoreboard replaced and Sieverding will look at straightening the board because it continues to work despite the damage from a tree falling on it during the spring. Discussed the possibility of having a 100 yard football field rather than an 80 yard field now that the fence at the baseball field has been washed out. The FFA plans to volunteer to help remove debris from the softball field after school on October 10. Any volunteers are welcome to help remove the grass stuck in the fencing and other debris that washed into the field.

### HEARING OF THOSE PRESENT:

Jeff O'Hara would like the City of Montrose to revisit the issue of the outlet maintenance for Lake Thompson. Mayor Klaudt instructed Smith to find a phone number for the Water Management Board so that he can follow up. Jean O'Hara spoke about riverbank erosion all along the river, including impacting private property. Mayor Klaudt instructed Smith to look into the possibility of creating a levy system to protect the city from future flooding. The Council briefly discussed the possibility of extending city limits. After the meeting, Smith resent a June email to the council from SECOG regarding how to annex property.

Motion by Hagemann, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Painter to adjourn at 12:35 pm. All approved.

Attest: \_\_\_\_\_

Sara Smith  
Finance Officer

Published once at the approximate cost of \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
Paul Klaudt  
Mayor