

Minutes from the City of Eureka, SD, Emergency Council Meeting on June 7, 2016

Subject: Broken Sanitary Sewer Main on H Avenue at Eureka School

Attendees:

Mayor Lloyd Miller

Council President Rick Weisbeck

Councilman Dennis Heilman

Councilman Josh Flemmer

Councilman Jeremy Eberhart

Councilman Brandon Duquette

Gregg Arnold

Kyle Hemeyer

Finance Officer, Nicole Frerk, not present due to attending Finance Officers' School in Spearfish, SD.
Public Works Director, Gregg Arnold, appointed to take minutes.

Mayor Miller opened the meeting at 5:30 p.m. by requesting that Council declare that an emergency existed and that the Emergency Council Meeting was warranted. Rick Weisbeck motioned to declare an Emergency Meeting, Dennis Heilman 2nd the motion, vote was unanimous in favor of motion.

Gregg Arnold and Kyle Hemeyer updated the Council and Mayor on the events and activities regarding the sewer problem:

On Thursday, May 26, the City Public Works crew were requested to assist Eureka Plumbing in a sanitary sewer issue on H Avenue. Upon arrival, the crew discovered a flooded sewer manhole at the intersection of 9th Street and H Avenue. The crew worked unsuccessfully to clear any blockages by jetting the mains from manholes on 9th and 10th Streets. Approx. six homes on H Avenue experienced sewer backups into their basements.

The City was forced to contract with outside sources to remove sewage and to clean the flooded manhole on 9th Street, and to hydro-jet and camera the main under the Eureka School Building. Jetting was unsuccessful as well as obtaining clear video images due to blockage and flooded sewer main. Further attempts to determine the source of the problem continued on Saturday, May 28. Fischer Plumbing ran their camera through a sewer cleanout eastward through the school's sewer. These images seemed to indicate that the school's General Contractor (Puetz Construction) had connected their new sewer to a cast iron lateral, and not the 8" clay tile main as they stated.

A meeting was held with representatives from the Eureka School, Puetz, Gregg Arnold, and Mayor Miller. After much discussion of the Contractor's activities and interpretation of their record drawings, it was agreed that Puetz would have the new sewer line exposed adjacent to the school's west wall, and that the City would have the opportunity to either video the main or attempt to clean the main.

On Tuesday, June 7, Puetz began to excavate and expose the new 8" PVC sewer main and cleanout adjacent to the school. During the excavation, the 8" clay tile sewer main was discovered (and damaged) approx. 12 inches south and 12 inches below the cast iron line that Puetz connected to. The result of this excavation confirmed that Puetz connected their new sewer to a lateral, and that the Contractor had cut & abandoned the City's 8" main, creating the blockage and subsequent sewer backup.

The utility subcontractor to Puetz, A&H Excavating, offered a verbal quote of \$22,000 to install a new 8" PVC sewer main on 9th Street connecting the manhole at H Avenue to a manhole at I Avenue, thereby eliminating the 8" clay pipe inside the school property. The City would provide the PVC pipe, and stone for the work. The City would perform the asphalt work after the pipeline was installed.

During the Emergency Meeting, a phone call was made to Rod Hoffman, Long Lake, to discuss the project and ask for a quote from him for the new sewer main installation. Rod stated that his current work load would not permit him to respond in a timely manner.

Rick Weisbeck recommended contacting B&B Construction in Aberdeen for a proposal as well.

The Council eventually directed the Public Works Dept to proceed with either A&H per their proposal, or proceed with B&B if an acceptable quote could be obtained. A motion to this effect was made by Josh Flemmer, with Jeremy Eberhart seconding the motion. Roll call vote taken. All Council members voted 'aye'.

The Council agreed that the Eureka School Superintendent should be notified of the City's plans, and that the City will seek reimbursement for its expenses that result from the sewer damage. Mayor Miller and Gregg Arnold will visit with Mr. Bo Beck on Wednesday, June 8.

A motion to adjourn was made by Brandon Duquette at 6:05 p.m., seconded by Rick Weisbeck. All voted aye. Motion carried.

Mayor Lloyd Miller

Gregg Arnold, Public Works Director