



BLACKDUCK CITY COUNCIL WORK SESSION

MONDAY, JUNE 17, 2019 @ 5:00PM

CITY WIDE TOUR & WORK SESSION MEETING MINUTES

CALL TO ORDER: The City Council of the City of Blackduck met in a scheduled work session to tour the City Streets & review blighted properties at 5:00PM on June 17 2019. The City Council was driven by a Blackduck School District bus driver and there was a quorum.

Roll Call

Councilors present: Mayor Patch, Councilors Moore, Kolb, Sellon, and Gullette

Councilors Absent: none

Staff Present: City Administrator, Christina Regas, Public Works Supervisor, Mike Schwanke

Others Present: Widseth Smith & Noting Engineer Technician, Brandon Carlson & Blackduck School Bus driver Kim Crunden

The meeting was called to order at 5:00pm the Pledge of Allegiance was not recited.

Topics covered in the work session were as follows:

OLD BUSINESS –

1. City of Blackduck Tour – Street conditions & Zoning Ordinance Violations – The Blackduck City Council toured the City led by City Administrator Regas and reviewed streets that were in need of repair long term and short term. WSN Engineer Technician Carlson was present to reviewed and update the City’s Capital Improvement Plan and make requested changes after the tour. Noted below are areas of concern:
 - a. Forestry Drive – Forestry Drive was assumed by the City after the Forestry Department built the now existing location. There was discussion if the City plows snow on Forestry or if it is considered a private drive.
 - b. CSAH 39 – Beltrami County has begun the last leg of the Scenic Highway updates; trees in the ROW have been removed but the highway will not see additional progress in 2019.
 - c. Beighley Road – Regas reported to Council members this was the municipal southern boundary line.
 - d. Small Engine Repair business on Scenic – Councilor Kolb asked if the zoning ordinances included the properties on the scenic. Regas stated yes. Kolb asked if the small engine repair needed screening from the road now that the trees were removed from the ROW. Regas stated yes, but would not be able to request until after CSAH 39 was completed since the county is moving the road and the ROW during reconstruction.
 - e. Railroad Ave East. - Only a 1 block section is paved to handle heavy use rest is rural section.
 - f. Old Fire Hydrants – Regas demonstrated how the Southeast portion of the City has older infrastructure demonstrating the older fire hydrants near 3rd Street SE & Brown Ave.
 - g. 3rd Street SE & 4th Street SE Frost Boils – Frost boils that return every spring on these two roads can make it difficult to pass. Regas suggested the Street department use barricades if there are other ways of egress to allow time for the rural roads to dry out.
 - h. Screening for Mill on 4th Street SE – Councilor Kolb requested the City look into enforcing the Mill to have screening on 4th Street SE.



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- i. 3rd Street NE & Margaret Ave. – Street is on the CIP and need to have paving on the corner complete. Carlson & Schwanke both stated the water & sewer both need replacing and are a 1st priority on the plan.
- j. 2nd Street NE between Northern and Margaret Ave. – Street receives heavy traffic and parking for the school; has suffered severe damage to storm drain; curb and gutter need repairs.
- k. Liberty Drive – Storm sewer has separated, causing cracks & holes surrounding it, the storm drain has been pushing up in the road for years and the infrastructure is now needing repair. Council agreed Liberty drive needed to move up on the CIP list. Discussion around completing underground in 2019 and leaving gravel until 2020. Carlson will work with Meyer on plans and report back to Public Works Committee prior to next council meeting.
- l. Walking Trail – the trail has not had funds budgeted for routine maintenance and is showing serious deterioration. Recommended on plans to fix.
- m. Carlson Ave. East – Suffered wear during Summit & Main road project, needs new bituminous.
- n. Cliff Hanson – 449 Main Street N. – After construction old City sidewalk was not in plans to be completely removed. High snow and water levels in spring caused flooding in his yard and was very close to having water in his home. Contractor on CSAH 47 increased slope behind curb but water does not drain to culvert. Regas looking for bids to remove sidewalk and regrade. Carlson noted the work is on the punch list for the contractor to complete. Councilors agreed work was County responsibility. Regas will continue to work with County to have shared costs.
- o. Towns Edge Estates Trailer Park – Regas reported the trailer park has new owners and have plans to implement water meters in all units and continue to clean up the park.
- p. 2nd Street NW & Morris Ave. – Rural section west of 1st Street.
- q. 2nd Street NW & Northern Ave. – Road has suffered major damage on intersection and before both apartment buildings. Regas reminded Council the amount of vehicle traffic the small section of road receives all year round. Carlson stated that section of road is on 1st priority of the CIP (2018-2021)
- r. 156 Morris Ave NE – Grass is too high, remind owners to mow.
- s. Winter Ice Rink – Schwanke and Carlson spoke of a simple solution the school to implement on the ground that is flooded in the winter for an outdoor ice rink to include a 12” berm and drain to storm drain on the road to avoid future sidewalk heaving issues.
- t. Alley between Summit Ave East and Railroad Ave – Regas reported alley will need repair and the Dental office will need to partner with the City to get the ground not to have a crown to avoid water coming into the building.
- u. Croswell Ave. – Road suffered severe damage in May due to increased traffic to the Quiet Meadows neighborhood, ice boils, increased snow levels, a wet spring, no other egress, and no ditch to let water drain to the culvert on Carlson Ave. West. Schwanke will have the Street department make the repairs to the road which will include removing all the added rock to allow the road to have passage and cut a ditch on both the west and east sides of the road.
- v. City Lift Stations – Schwanke pointed out the lift stations throughout the City during the tour. Schwanke reported the lift station on Oscar needed to be cleaned out again and has been having an increase of grease from the restaurant, bowling alley, and hotel in the lines. Schwanke suggested



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sending out PSA ensuring businesses have functioning grease traps so the material does not make it in the sewer lines.

- w. Intersection of Brandl Ave. and Union Ave. – After Dollar General was built and intersection improved the drainage for snow and water on the northwest residence of the intersection was poor. Schwanke stated the culvert under Brandl was not extended to the east far enough and is now covered not allowing for the drainage. The Street Department will have to fix the issue this summer.
- x. Oscar Ave. West – Street has increased traffic with new buildings and homes and will need to be widened and improved. Southern section of street bituminous has had several repairs to it over the last couple of years and will need more this summer.
- y. Wastewater Ponds – Schwanke brought the Council to the holding ponds north of the golf course and explained the pond systems and irrigation.

NEW BUSINESS –

No new business discussed.

ADJOURN – Council adjourned their work session at 7:35pm.

Christina Regas, City Administrator

Rudy Patch, Mayor