

Special Meeting Grant Projects Update
Keithsburg City Council Minutes
Held at 302 S. 14th Street
August 22, 2016

Alderman Physically Present: Dave Hudson, Don Truitt, Lisa Wessels and Jan Occhi. Absent: Ronnie Brock and Donnie Cox. Also Present: Terri Gibson-City Clerk; Charles Reynolds-Treasurer; George Lyle-Maintenance Man; Nick Wagner and Chris Cooper-MSA Professional Services, Inc. (City Engineers). Illinois State Representative Don Moffitt and Bill Butts was also present.

Nick Wagner opened the Meeting at 6:30 PM

Nick explained the numerous Grant Agencies involved: HUD (Housing and Urban Development) and CDBG (Community Development Block Grant). Disaster Recovery-Illinois DCEO (Department of Commerce and Economic Opportunity) II Disaster Recovery Program. "IKE" Disaster Recovery (Roadway, Levee & Storm Pump Station projects) and Midwest Disaster Recovery (Water Tower).

Stakeholder Agencies: Army Corps of Engineers, FEMA and IEMA, IDNR, IDOT and IEPA.

He then presented the council and citizens with photos and maps explaining the current grant would have raised the levee approximately 2 ½ feet along Jackson Street, which is the same height across the river on the Iowa side. Right now our levee elevation is 546 and the levee project would have raised it to 548.5. Nick explained the base of the levee would have to be approximately 100 feet wide in order to build it to that height. The plan was to build the levee along Jackson Street on FEMA buyout properties and unfortunately FEMA has informed the city that all of the buyout properties must remain Open Green Space and that building a levee is prohibited.

The engineers have determined the only way to build the levee to the Army Corps of Engineers standard is to build a concrete floodwall right on the north side of the Jackson Street on the road right of way. The wall would be built below frost level and only be approximately 1-foot-wide and at whatever height necessary to reach the 548.5 elevation. Therefore, the height of the floodwall would be significantly higher around 4th Street (west end) versus 16th Street (east end). This plan would also include improvements to wetland mitigation, levee, flood wall, large storm pump station and storm sewer/detention ponds, lift station and sanitary sewer replacement, water main abandonment. The existing levee would be removed which will add the entire area on the north side of the wall to wetlands. The city has only been awarded 6.2 million dollars and the total cost to build the floodwall is 18 million dollars.

The city would only be able to build a small section of flood wall with the 6.2 million dollars that has been awarded. The funding sources wanted the city to submit a request for the projects asking them to consider the additional funding for the entire project. If the city was to only build a small portion of the levee now and apply for funding in the future, there would have to be a cross benefit analysis completed.

After much discussion the city council and citizens all agreed it would not make any sense to build a small portion of the flood wall and that we should utilize the funds as follows with approval from the funding sources: wetland mitigation-\$200,000; water tower-\$1,200,000; small storm pump station improvements-\$500,00; sanitary lift station and sewer replacement-\$1,500,000; 4th & 16th street closures-250,000, design to date-\$250,000, and rather than spend the remaining \$2,300,000 on a portion of levee utilize the funds for elevations, water filtration system and/or sewer plant improvements.

Terri Gibson/City Clerk