

Meeting/Project Name:	City of Detroit Lakes Wastewater Treatment Facility Plan- Public Hearing		
Date of Meeting:	February 2, 2015	Time:	5:00 PM
Meeting Facilitator:	Vernell Roberts-General Manager Utilities Minutes: Scott Gilbertson-Water/Wastewater Supervisor	Location:	Detroit Lakes, MN City Hall Council Chambers

1. Meeting Objective

Short Elliott Hendrickson (SEH) presented overview of wastewater facility plan for the City of Detroit Lakes. Presenters from SEH: Jessica Hedine, PE and Tracy Ekola, PE.

2. Attendees

Sign in attendance sheet available from the Public Utility Department, 1025 Roosevelt Avneue

3. Meeting Agenda and Presentation

Vice Mayor Ron Zeman called the Public Hearing/Council Meeting to order. General Manager Vernell Roberts introduced SEH engineers Jessica Hedine and Tracy Ekola. Hedine then presented a power point outlining the history of the Detroit Lakes Wastewater Facility including: age of structures, current flows and loadings, and current conditions. Hedine then discussed options for new facility. Items discussed: New and current discharge locations, new site or current site construction plans, seasonal vs year around discharge, treatment options to obtain proposed limits, solids treatment process options. Cost estimates were presented for each of the treatment alternatives. Cost estimates included construction costs and 20 year present value estimates based on operation and maintenance costs. Costs for construction is estimated at 30.5 million dollars. Grant funds are obtainable which should offset costs by 3-7 million dollars. Future sewer user rates will be impacted and are estimated to increase from \$37.00 per 6000 gallons/month to \$63-71.00 per 6000 gallons/month. Proposed schedule was discussed and the city will decide when design and construction will proceed. The compliance schedule outlined in the current NPDES was also noted.

4. Questions from Public and Council

Description- Public was encouraged to participate with any questions or concerns

Vice Mayor Zeman asked about the condition of the RIB's and spray irrigation sites. SEH responded that the current operations of land disposal will not be in compliance in the future. VM Zeman then questioned terms of the possible PFA loan and what the terms would be (20 or 30 year). Discussions were also held regarding reuse of existing structures and would it make more sense to build everthing new to get longevity. Ekola commented concrete structures should last 40 years if not longer, equipment 20 years. With that said, it makes sense to try reusing tanks that were constructed in the 1996 project. GM Roberts explained population projections with annexations around lake property (Floyd Lake, Lake Sally). Questions regarding the Buffalo River and ability to handle Detroit Lakes future flows. GM Roberts indicated storage facilities would need to be built to hold back effluent when required by Buffalo River Red River Watershed District (BRRWD). Ekola commented a maintenance agreement would need to be followed, including user fees, if changing discharge locations from Saint Clair by the BRRWD to County Ditch #5. Council member Schiller questioned why Saint Clair Lake made the most sense for future year around discharge. Ekola commented on the costs and difficulty of moving the WWTF. Even with the proposed stringent phosphorous limits, staying at existing discharge location (Saint Clair Lake) at the current site is the best option. Other questions: How long have other cities been treating to these low phosphorous limits, what happens to old structures at WWTF, does the collection system make staying at existing site easier, Saint Clair LakeTMDL influence on future limits. Comments were also acknowledged supporting paying all project costs through sewer user rates. There being no further comments, Vice Mayor Zeman closed the Hearing/Council Meeting. Respectfully submitted, Scott Gilbertson, Water/ Wastewater Supervisor