

CITY OF PIERZ
Official Minutes of the Pierz City Council
Public Hearing – Preliminary Assessment Hearing 2020 Street Improvements
March 9th, 2020
7:00 PM

Members Present: Dave Fischer, Don Bujalski, Lynn Egan, and Jacque Ballou.

Staff Present: Bob Otremba

The Public Hearing was called to order at 6:00 p.m. at Pierz City Hall by Mayor Dave Fischer.

Bill Zidon from S E H presented the 2020 Street Improvement project including improvements on Kamnic St., 1st Ave SE, and Memorial Drive which involves spot replacement of curb and gutter, spot storm sewer repairs, and a mill-in place of the bituminous. These roads were improved in 1991 and the roads need improvement. The typical section of Kamnic St. and 1st Ave SE will be a 7” base along with a 3.5” bituminous section.

Resident Jim Tolbert on Memorial Drive commented on the bituminous thickness of Memorial Drive. The bituminous on Memorial Drive will be removed and a 2” bituminous section will be re-installed. No records exist on the specifications of Memorial Drive and decisions about additional gravel or bituminous may need to be made when the bituminous is removed.

Jim Tolbert also brought up the concern of frozen water lines on three houses on 1st Ave SE. City Administrator Bob Otremba commented that the lines freeze because of the storm sewer pipe that is over the water lines and there is inadequate insulation between the two lines. Bill Zidon commented that in order to fix the situation correctly, the storm pipe would need to be removed, insulation laid down between the pipes, and the storm sewer pipe reinstalled for a correct fix. This scenario was presented to Bob Gruber from Rich Prairie Sewer and Water District and it was determined as cost prohibitive and would need to be addressed at the time of a total reconstruction.

Resident Greg Tetrault asked about damaged curb and gutter and Bill Zidon discussed that spot curb and gutter replacement will be determined by S E H and city staff in the spring.

Bill Zidon explained the crosswalk flasher system proposed as part of the street improvement project. Since the school construction project some crosswalks do not line up with the flasher systems. Discussion followed and Bill will follow up with school personnel and city staff to determine the best locations for crosswalks and flasher system placement.

Bill Zidon explained the engineer’s estimate of \$697,000 and the special assessment options of 10% of the construction costs, 16% of the construction costs, and 20% of the construction costs. He explained the City of Pierz will determine the percentage assessed at a later date and he also explained the engineer’s estimate of the per foot assessments. When the project is complete, a final assessment hearing will be held in September or October to present the final construction costs and the final assessments. Bill Zidon explained the assessment process of the corner lots as 100% of the short side of the lot and 25% of the long side of the lot if not abutting a county or state highway.

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Resident Mike Wilson asked about how the assessment is financed. Mayor Dave Fischer explained the assessment is typically over 10 years and Bill Zidon added the interest is typically 1% over the interest rate that the City of Pierz used to finance the project. Bill Zidon explained the timeline of the project would be approximately two months. He explained some inconveniences that will occur especially during curb and gutter replacements.

Resident Dennis Welle asked about how the sprinklers that are in the way of the project will be handled. Bill Zidon said the contractor will be required to notify the residents of work that will affect sprinklers. He commented the residents should lift the sprinkler heads and make sure they are deenergized, so they don't operate when the contractor is working in the area.

Resident Cathy Tetrault asked about emergencies during construction. Bill Zidon explained if concrete and bituminous are replaced in an area they will still require a cure time before being driven on. In an emergency, responders may be forced to drive on uncured materials. He explained for the most part, the roadways will be accessible and, driveways will be accessible unless paving is being performed.

Bill Zidon explained the private work that may be requested by residents during the project. Residents can contract directly with the contractor to perform private work but, the work will not be part of the contract with the City of Pierz. United Friends handicap access needs were discussed and, Horizon Health will work with the engineer to determine any special needs during the project.

ADJOURNMENT:

The meeting was adjourned at 6:42 pm.



Dave Fischer, Mayor



Kyle Bednar, City Clerk