



STAFF REPORT

DATE: October 1, 2019

REGULAR

AGENDA ITEM: MPCA Grant for Watermain Extension to 31st St Neighborhood South of UPRR

TO: Mayor and City Council

SUBMITTED BY: Kristina Handt, City Administrator

BACKGROUND:

In May staff shared with Council project ideas that were submitted for expedited project funding from the State 3M Grant Fund. One of those projects included the extension of watermain into the 31st St. neighborhood. This neighborhood has submitted a petition for water previously.

ISSUE BEFORE COUNCIL:

Should the Council approve the Grant Agreement with the MPCA for Watermain Extension to the 31st St neighborhood?

PROPOSAL:

This project will extend clean drinking water to six homes located just east of 31st Street North and south of Stillwater Boulevard in the City of Lake Elmo by extending the municipal water system to serve each property. The project extends the public water main across Stillwater Boulevard (County State Aid Highway (CSAH) 14) from the north side, approximately 800 feet east of the intersection at 31st Street north, to a shared private driveway, then south along the shared private driveway approximately 780 feet to the intersection with the individual private driveways. The properties reside in an area where per- and polyfluoroalkyl substances (PFAS) contamination exceeds Health Based Values (HBVs) and well advisories have been issued.

Private wells will be required to be sealed unless identified as a monitoring well by MPCA. Grant funds will reimburse property owners for the costs associated with connecting to city water and sealing their well. Staff would propose that the city assess properties (through the normal 429 assessment process) that do not hook up to city water in the allotted time in order to recoup those project costs that may not be covered by the grant due to non-compliance. At this time, staff estimates those assessments to be \$41,500 (water).

Our request for two years of water bills and smart controllers were not approved. As mentioned at the last meeting, staff has applied for a Met Council grant to cover 90% of the cost of a smart controller so this could be an option for those in this neighborhood who choose to purchase one.

The agreement has been reviewed by the city attorney. We will need to make sure the prevailing wage requirements are met by contractors but there are no other areas of concern.

FISCAL IMPACT:

The grant provides for a reimbursement of up to \$449,100.

OPTIONS:

- 1) Approve the 31st St. Grant Agreement with MPCA
- 2) Do not approve the 31st St. Grant Agreement with MPCA

RECOMMENDATION:

Motion to approve the 31st St. Grant Agreement #165902 with MPCA

ATTACHMENTS:

- None. Staff will hand out copies of the agreement and work plan at the meeting. Since they are non-public data the papers will need to be collected at the end of the meeting.