



MAYOR & COUNCIL COMMUNICATION

DATE: November 18, 2014

REGULAR

ITEM # 14

AGENDA ITEM: Jane Road 201 Wastewater System (Tri-Lake Remote D) – Authorize Investigation for System Repair/Replacement

SUBMITTED BY: Ryan Stempski, Assistant City Engineer

THROUGH: Dean A. Zuleger, City Administrator

REVIEWED BY: Jack Griffin, City Engineer
Cathy Bendel, Finance Director
Mike Bouthilet, Public Works

SUGGESTED ORDER OF BUSINESS:

- Introduction of Item..... City Engineer
- Report/Presentation City Engineer
- Questions from Council to Staff..... Mayor Facilitates
- Public Input, if Appropriate..... Mayor Facilitates
- Call for Motion Mayor & City Council
- Discussion Mayor & City Council
- Action on Motion..... Mayor Facilitates

POLICY RECOMMENDER: Engineering/Public Works

FISCAL IMPACT: Initially unknown.

Staff must expend initial time and resources to investigate potential solutions and to identify probable cost impacts and cost recovery procedures. As a potential public improvement the total project costs may be assessed to the benefitting property owners.

SUMMARY AND ACTION REQUESTED:

The City Council is respectfully requested to receive an update on the Jane Road 201 Wastewater System and direct staff to investigate potential repair/replacement alternatives. The recommended motion for the action is as follows:

“Move to direct staff to investigate potential repair/replacement alternatives for the Jane Road 201 Wastewater System (Tri-Lakes Remote D).”

LEGISLATIVE HISTORY/BACKGROUND INFORMATION:

The City was contacted by the property owner of 9369 Jane Road regarding a non-compliant septic system inspection performed by Inspect Minnesota & Midwest Soil Testing on July 28, 2014. The inspection was completed by the property owner as a Washington County requirement to sell the home. The home is currently connected to the Tri Lakes Remote D – 201 System owned and operated by the City of Lake Elmo. Two other properties on Jane Road are also connected to this 201 System. Both appear to be duplexes with address numbers 9393 / 9395 and 9397 / 9399. The “201 System” references a septic system replacement program that was partially funded through federal grants and implemented throughout the City of Lake Elmo from 1984 to 1987. The City is the owner and operator of the system due to the federal grant requirements.

As an emergency response to this information, the City hired Soil Investigation & Design, Inc. to further evaluate the condition of the distribution system and obtain soil borings. Soil Investigation & Design, Inc. also found that the system does not meet current Washington County Code and further stated that the system does not appear to be functioning properly. No surfacing of effluent was observed at the time of inspection therefore the system is not currently considered an imminent health threat.

Based on the information provided above staff needs to investigate potential repair/replacement alternatives for the Jane Road 201 System which will likely require the acquisition of property for a new site. Staff will need to continue to retain the technical support services from Soil Investigation & Design, Inc. Once a solution has been identified the improvements could be pursued as a public improvement project with the costs being wholly or partially assessed to the benefitting properties.

RECOMMENDATION:

Staff is recommending the City Council direct staff to investigate potential repair/replacement alternatives for the Jane Road 201 Wastewater System. The recommended motion for the action is as follows:

“Move to direct staff to investigate potential repair/replacement alternatives for the Jane Road 201 Wastewater System (Tri-Lakes Remote D).”

ATTACHMENT(S):

1. Jane Road 201 Wastewater System (Tri-Lakes Remote D) Record Drawing.
2. Soil Investigation Report dated October 24, 2014.