

**SPECIAL CITY COUNCIL MEETING**  
**March 23, 2015 – 7:00 p.m.**

The City Council of Faulkton, SD met in a special session at the Faulkton City Hall meeting room on March 23, 2015. Sallie Traver, Finance Officer, and the following council members present were: Linda Bartholomew, Sheilah Fischer, David Hadrick, Danny Ramsdell, Mark Toennies and Steve Roseland. Helms and Associates staff present: Brooke Edgar, Terry Helms, Craig Harrison, and Karen Schaefers. Others present: Joe Bowar, William Kalkman, Verne Hansen, Gary Husted, Val Jensen (NECOG Representative) John Jones Jr., Orville Lerew, Jerod Raethz, Val Ramsdell and Norby Reuer. Mayor Roseland called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. with all those present reciting the "Pledge of Allegiance".

**Sewer Project Information:** Mayor Roseland opened the meeting by saying he wants everyone to know the city council has not made a decision on moving forward with the proposed sewer project. This meeting is to inform the public what shape our sewer system is in and for the public to give feedback to the city.

Helms explained this project started in 2011 due to the issue of not having an accurate knowledge of where all the sewer pipes were, what shape the system was in, and having unknown manholes. In 2014 the city televised the sewer line to resolve these issues. Helms showed pictures on a power point presentation of what the current sewer lines look like. Picture 1 shows a utility line running through the sewer main. Picture 2 shows a protruding service with heavy root growth into sewer line. Picture 3 show a protruding service pile and cracked joints in main. Helms stated there were several of these. Picture 4 showed an 18" sewer main with joint separation. Picture 5 shows severe sag and offset joint in the lagoon line. Picture 6: shows infiltration in the sewer main with considerable deposit build up. Helms then played a few videos of inside the sewer lines showing the same as the figures but in more detail. There were lines that could not be televised because they ended in a T and the camera was not able to get around the T end. Mr. John Jones Jr. asked of the project includes replacing those T ends with manholes. Helms stated yes and as a state standard there would be a manhole every 416ft but with our shorter blocks there will be a manhole at every intersection.

Helms continued with showing a map of the televised sewer line indicating different size of pipe all over the system. A concern is the use of 4" and 6" pipe which are not recommended by the state. The other concern is the changing of different size pipe throughout the system.

Helms then showed a map of the proposed sewer improvements. Cost is calculated at 5.1 million dollars of which the street repair alone is estimated to cost 1.87 million. Helms explained some sewer lines can be lined which will save cost on street repair. A copy of this map is available at the city office.

Val Jensen with NECOG (Northeast Council of Government) talked about funding. Department of Environment & Natural Resources has the ability to award up to 2 million dollars in grant funding through their program and their loan rates are at a 3.25% rate and a 30 year term. Rural Development loan rates are based on Market Rate and are locked in at closing date. Rates are as low as 2.25%. Grant funding is also available through Rural Development and as of now Faulkton is up to 75% grant eligible with them. CDBG (community Development Block Grant) can award up to \$500,000. In grant funds if eligible. The City must meet a low-to-moderate-income of 51.1% of households and residents. Based on the 2014 Census number, the City of Faulkton does not automatically qualify and therefore would need to complete an income survey to assess whether or not they are eligible to apply.

Jensen stated she has seen the mentioned funding agencies move the city rates up to \$40-\$45 per month before approving a grant or loan. Mr. Jones Jr. asked if a surcharge could be put in place and if this would then come off when the loan was paid form. Jensen said yes and stated most cities are doing this process. Helms stated it's very important for the city to be able to take care of their system. By raising the utility rates each year allows for the city to accumulate the funds needed to replace, or repair their system.

Councilman Toennies asked the 7 residence what they thought of the project. No one had any objections.

**2015.3.35 Adjournment.** There being no other business to come before the council, Councilman Wanner moved to adjourn, seconded by Councilman Hadrick. Unanimous. Time 8:15 pm

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Slade Roseland, Mayor

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Sallie Traver, Finance Officer