

Brighton, Ill.
September 24, 1975

A special meeting of the Village Board of Trustees was held on Wednesday, September 24 in the Municipal Building. Mayor Ahlemeyer called the meeting to order at 8 p.m.

Clerk called roll of trustees.

Present: Little, Carr, Rathgeb, Markwardt, Wild

Absent: None

Ahlemeyer explained that the reason for calling this meeting was to meet with the representative of Piasa Sewer District and have agents from EPA explain the proposed inclusion of Piasa Sewer District in the Brighton Facilities Planning Area.

The Brighton Water Board was present, also Jim Leinicke and Glen Dirks of EPA, Mr. Watwood, engineer for Piasa Sewer District, Chas. Sheppard, Brighton engineer, Attorneys Robert Watson and John Self, officers of Piasa Sewer District, Maurice Wilson of Heritage Estates, Wm. Preis of Thunderbird, Dr. and Mrs. Burden of Wedgewood.

Ahlemeyer reviewed what had taken place to date and said we should decide if it is feasible to go the route that EPA recommends (including Piasa Sewer District in our plans).

Leinicke explained that federal grants program for sewerage projects are no longer given strictly to municipalities because this is 75% public money, and rather than given to city limits, it is given to the community as a whole, and under this theory, have drawn up FPAs for all communities of Illinois. On small towns like Brighton, FPA was drawn up a reasonable distance from city limits and responsibility of city is to do planning for 20 year sewerage needs through FPA. About the time the plan of study was received for the Brighton area, they learned there was another entity adjacent to the Brighton area and Mr. Beaver of EPA felt both should be together and one entity be the lead agency. After receiving a feasibility study from Watwood, they thought it might be cheaper for Brighton to treat the sewerage from this area, Brighton being the lead agency. He explained that Watwood has made the study to demonstrate whether or not it is cost effective, and Brighton should make a study. The 20 year plan is the most economical route to go and it would save to run an interceptor down to the Brighton system.

Piasa district is a government body and grant eligible for 75% of all costs, including planning. This means agreements would be drawn up between the two bodies that Piasa would pay their share of the 25%, including construction. Piasa and Brighton would share in costs of plant operation and maintenance. This does not necessarily mean higher costs for Brighton as it might be possible to save in procuring materials in larger quantities. Treatment costs can be lowered in some cases by going to larger facility, but these must be made in facility plan by lead agency. Brighton to do the feasible study, also whether our sewers are adequate or would require additional sewer work.

The state wants to deal with only one entity and this entity would be designated by the local communities and costs divided, generally by population, 75% federal, 25% local and this, in turn, split between Brighton and Piasa Sewer District.

EPA is interested in what our growth pattern will be in 20 years. Cost of preliminary planning will be small as they already have some of the basic figures for the study.

Course of action would be: Brighton would submit plan of study and application for Step 1. After approval, enter into a contract with Illinois EPA that the things in plan of study will be accomplished. After approved, then submit an application for Step 2, then get reimbursed for Step 1 cost, which include incurred cost of previous engineering, analysis, etc. When finish Step 3, would get reimbursed for Step 2. We have a priority of 214 now, and 1977 is the deadline for money. Leinicke said the cost for planning should be around \$9500, and we would take 25% of this. Sheppard said \$1521.00 is previously incurred.

Sheppard asked if this is considered a regional project and Dirk stated that if the plan shows cost effect, would be funded thru regionalization. Our original application would not have to be changed, but amount of plan of study, lead agency, and amount of cost. If plant were to be expanded and an interceptor built, this could be funded by state.

Piasa Township has a priority of 514. They still have to have a cost study. They are already on the funding list for Step 1 and 2. If they were to combine with Brighton, they can take the highest priority which would be 214.

Agreement under discussion now is only Step 1. This grant is given to lead agency and after this has been approved, Steps 2 and 3 are given independently to community for designing. Collections, etc. can be worked out as service agreements.

Areas outside the limits designated still have to be considered if they want in. The planning costs have to be borne by the lead agency and they get reimbursed. Subdivisions can turn down if they want to, but the facility plan has been made, and later, if they decide to take advantage of this, they have to join the other system. Brighton would not be obligated to run an interceptor out there, even tho we do have to do the planning, if they are in FP.

Thunderbird has 65; Heritage 30; Wedgewood 12 houses and 75 lots. These are all in FPA. If these additional areas plus Piasa Twp. all become a government agency and took our number, and they all get grants, there should be more money funded, probably thru federal program. Treatment plants are generally federally funded and collection systems, state money. There is no certainty that federal money will be available after 1977, hence, the urgency of this project. Construction funds are set aside once design work is approved, and the final 10% is not paid until plan is in operation and approved. Can reimburse on task completed basis in case of extreme emergency.

We pay a percentage of Step 1 and all of Steps 2 and 3, but cost of including Piasa in our facilities plan is small. Our cost would be 25% of the total \$9500.

Tom Noble asked if total sum includes running sewers up the streets. It was explained that this includes planning, design work, interceptors, laterals, but does not include house connections from the street. Step 1 is only portion that 2 communities are sharing. Grants separate on 2 and 3. Only sharing is in planning. Each pays his own and gets reimbursed 75%.

Wedgewood and Thunderbird planning would be done in joint effort, but design work and construction work would have to be separate. The outside subdivisions could ask to be incorporated into Piasa or petition for their own government. If they petitioned in and formed their own water district, they would have to submit application and go thru process of applying for federal grant, depending on priorities, they would probably not be eligible, but because of regionalization, they should be. Facilities plan would already be done. They might not be in same regionalization project. They would have to become a legal entity and go through Plans 2 and 3. They would have to apply for a grant from the township to be a governing body, form a governing body of their own, or join another body, and you have to be adjoining a district. Wedgewood does not join.

Ahlemeyer asked for comments from all. Warner asked if this would take longer, and also what our position with the state on our present sewer status be during this. Sheppard said plan is contingent on federal funds. There is an expiration date on NPDES. If we do not keep with our schedule, we might be in trouble. We have the monitoring requirements. Warner was also concerned about what would happen if we get up to the peak of users - would we be subject to a ban? The reply was that it has been the agency policy to not take action against grant applicants if they are following proper schedules.

Scheffel asked who assumes cost of maintenance of lines, and was told that we draw this up between ourselves, but they assumed the cost would be borne by the sewer district (this is what the village of Brighton would charge to treat the sewer. This charge must be reasonable, and the agency reviews the service contract to make sure it is equitable, altho there could be a variance. Sheppard explained that by the time we are 80% completed with construction of treatment facility, have to submit to EPA and federal, a cost determination of treatment, however, it will be charged to various outside commodities and has to be reviewed and approved by federal government. After review and approval, would work between communities whatever would be agreeable.

Ahlemeyer asked if our minimum would have to be close to theirs and Dike explained that these costs would be detailed in service contract that Sheppard discussed. Sheppard said everyone must realize, especially village, is that presently, our cost for treatment is basically secondary treatment. We will be up-sizing and upgrading to

tertiary treatment which is more expensive, and with or without outside areas, we will still have to anticipate the village cost going up, even if outside areas were not there. EPA is hoping it might lower our rates.

Vonnahmen asked what would happen if these outlying districts would not get their money. Atty. Self said they would have to get the money, or they would have no sewers and if local share is not there it still would not affect Brighton - we still have to do the FPA.

Dave Bott was told that Piasa Twp. would do their own billing. Dirk said there is only one option if we do not want to go this way - we would go ahead and build what we want and pay for it all; also if there is potential regionalization and no cooperation, EPA has ultimate decision as to whether a grant is given, and after Illinois approved, it goes to SEPA and they will review it.

Sheppard said in regard to ability for local financing, the one problem seems to be that Step 2 and 3 in the two areas would have to come at the same time, in that if we went on the assumption that this would go through, and after Step 1, it looked like regionalization, final planning would be to size a plant to include Piasa Dist., we would need to know at this point that other project was going ahead. If we plan for larger size facility, we must have assurance at that time that they can pay their percentage. Dirk is to get the answer and let us know. Leinicke thought we could build smaller and put in design, life option for 20 years in case we can use it later. This does not affect planning.

Ahlemeyer asked if Piasa would have means to take care of their first portion and that does not seem to be a problem as the tentative figure was \$400. Watwood and Pyle are ready to help Sheppard in any way. Brighton was encouraged to go ahead as lead agency because of our low priority number and Piasa saw it that they were employing our services to do a job for them and they will take from there. Step 1 is to authorize engineer to make study and attorney would draw up contract to share in preliminary study. Leinicke said they need revisions to EPA and letters of agreement to send to federal.

Carr made motion to enter into agreement with Piasa Sewer Dist. to designate Brighton as lead agency and to further authorize Sheppard to do engineering study to complete facility planning area study for Brighton and Piasa Twp. Sewer Dist. attorney to prepare written agreement with Piasa Twp. Sewer Dist. Rathgeb seconded. Roll call vote, carried unanimously.

Ahlemeyer said next step is to instruct Sheppard to do preliminary planning, and Atty. Watson to meet with Schwartz and Self to be presented.

Little made motion to adjourn. Rathgeb seconded. Adjourned 9:30 p.m.

Ruelle Cravens
Village Clerk