

**CITY OF CHIPPEWA FALLS, WISCONSIN
MINUTES OF THE BOARD OF PUBLIC WORKS MEETING
THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 8, 2011– 5:30 P.M.**

The Board of Public Works met in City Hall on Thursday, September 8, 2011 at 5:30 P.M. Present were Council President CW King, Director of Public Works Rick Rubenzer, Finance Manager Lynne Bauer and Darrin Senn. Absent was Mayor Greg Hoffman. Also, present were Darrell Reed and Erik Tomlinson of S.E.H., Water Supervisor Rory Olson, City Planner and Chairperson of the Groundwater Technical Committee Jayson Smith, Steve and John Rasmus, Don Moga, and Alderperson Jane Lardahl.

1. **MOTION** by Bauer; seconded by Rubenzer, to approve the Minutes of the August 18, 2011 Board of Public Works meeting. All present voting aye, **MOTION CARRIED.**

2. Director of Public Works Rick Rubenzer introduced Darrell Reed and Erik Tomlinson of S.E.H. and stated that the City of Chippewa Falls has been a pioneer in Wellhead Protection dating back to 1996 (the year Chippewa Falls first became a Groundwater Guardian Community). He cited the City's inclusion in "Demonstrating Benefits of Wellhead Protection Programs" as one of nine case studies across the nation. He also noted that the "old" wellhead model (Flowpath) was outdated, further stating that there are regulated areas that shouldn't be regulated, while not regulating some areas that should be.

Erik Tomlinson reviewed the Existing Wellhead Protection District and Zones and discussed the two-dimensional FlowPath (old) model. He then explained the Modflow three-dimensional model used to determine the updated districts. He noted the model incorporated both surface topography and bedrock topography. The model also included numerous monitoring wells, high capacity wells, and DNR data points. The City of Chippewa Falls existing municipal well pumping rates, with an adjustment for the future were input into the model. He noted that the seventy-plus feet of head that Lake Wissota exerts on the six east well field wells determined that a large amount of water supply for the east well field comes from Lake Wissota. He explained Darcy's Law and outlined Hydraulic Conductivity and Hydraulic Gradients as they related to the model. He discussed surficial aquifer porosity and storativity as they related to the model. He then proceeded to discuss how the groundwater technical committee had determined the three Wellhead Protection Zones: Zone 1-sixty day capture zone, Zone 2-two year capture zone, and Zone 3-five year capture zone. John Rasmus then asked for a second opinion, and asked if the new zones would "put him out of the farming business."

Groundwater Technical Committee Chair Jayson Smith responded that Rasmus' farm was presently in the City Wellhead Protection District Zone two and that Agriculture is a permitted use in the Wellhead Protection District.

Responding to a question about moving city wells, Rubenzer stated that the most recent well (West Well #3) construction cost was over a million dollars, and that moving wells would be a "last resort" option. He mentioned the City's multi-million dollar investment in the Nitrate Removal Plant for the East Well field.

The board members also discussed that the City enforced the wellhead protection zones and standards IN THE CITY LIMITS. He stated Chippewa County enforced wellhead standards outside the city limits, as Chippewa County also was a pioneer and city partner in the 1996-99 formation of the original wellhead protection district.

MOTION by Senn; seconded by Rubenzer to recommend the Common Council adopt the Wellhead Protection Zone 1-sixty day capture zone, Zone 2-two year capture zone and Zone 3-five year capture zone and District Boundaries as shown on the Attached maps. All present voting aye, **MOTION CARRIED.**

MOTION by Rubenzer; seconded by Bauer to recommend the Common Council proceed to the next phase, which is revising the Wellhead Protection Ordinance (Municipal Code Chapter 29) wherever necessary, upon recommendation of the Groundwater Technical Committee and the Board of Public Works. All present voting aye, **MOTION CARRIED.**

3. **MOTION** by Senn; seconded by Bauer, to adjourn the meeting at 6:20 PM. All present voting aye, **MOTION CARRIED.**

Richard J. Rubenzer, P.E., Secretary
Board of Public Works