

**NOTICE OF ALBANY
CITY COUNCIL MEETING**

There will be a regular meeting of the City Council in and for the City of Albany, Stearns County, Minnesota at 6:30 o'clock in the evening on Wednesday, October 19, 2022, in the Council Room at 400 Railroad Avenue for the said City.

AGENDA

1. Convene meeting
2. Pledge of Allegiance
3. Audit Bills
4. Act on regular Council minutes of the meeting held on October 5th
5. Open Forum/Public comment (3 to 5 minutes max.)
6. Chad Martini, Stearns County Land Services Manager – update County Ditch 28 redetermination of benefits and damages proceeding
7. Public Hearing proposed Forest Avenue Reconstruction Improvements between 1st Street and 6th Street, and to 2nd Street between Midland Avenue and Lake Avenue, and to 3rd St., 4th St., and 5th Streets between Midland Avenue and Forest Avenue including adjacent alleys within this project area.
 - Jeremy Mathiasen, City Engineer - present project information
 - Resolution 2022-35 ordering improvement and directing preparation of plans and specifications for the Forest Avenue Capital Improvements Project
8. Jeremy Mathiasen, City Engineer – present the following:
 - Project updates
 - Proposed sidewalk cost share (1321 Shamrock Lane)
9. Reports of Boards and Department Heads
 - Keith Heitzman, Albany Golf Club Liaison – present club checkbook register and club activities
 - Al Amdahl, Park Board Liaison - present recommendation from a meeting held on October 12th to construct pickleball courts (3), remove trees, and site preparation, east of the skateboard/basketball court in North Park
 - Joe Mergen, Public Works Supervisor
 - Police Chief Ozzie Carbajal, Police Department
 - Tom Schneider, Clerk/Adm. – present the following:
 - recommendation to approve proposed job description for part-time Administration Office Assistant position
 - proposed street name for alley (east/west) between 2nd St. and 3rd St.
10. Mayor's announcements and letters
11. Mayor to announce next regular Council meeting date (November 2nd) and adjourn

Tom Schneider
Clerk/Adm.



COUNTY OF STEARNS

PROPERTY SERVICES DIVISION

Land Services

Service Center Rm 2310 • 3301 County Road 138 • Waite Park, MN 56387
320-654-4703 • <https://www.stearnscountymn.gov>

«OWNERDISPL»
«OWNERADDR»
«OWNER_CITY»

RE: Stearns County Ditch 28 Redetermination of Benefits and Damages Kickoff

Dear Property Owner,

This letter is a notification of upcoming activity related to Stearns County Ditch 28 (CD 28). The Stearns County Board of Commissioners is the Drainage Authority responsible for CD 28. You are receiving this letter because you own property within the natural watershed which contributes water to County Ditch 28. Some of you already participate in the County Ditch 28 drainage system, while many of you currently do not.

In March 2022, you received a letter discussing a petition by property owners benefited by CD 28 requesting a redetermination of benefits and damages of the CD 28 drainage system. As defined in Minnesota State law, the Stearns County Board of Commissioners acting as the Drainage Authority for CD 28 ordered the Redetermination of Benefits and Damages on March 22, 2022. On July 19, 2022, the Drainage Authority appointed the Joe Jacobs viewing team for the redetermination of benefits and damages of CD28.

Redetermination of Benefits is a process that identifies all properties that contribute stormwater to a County Ditch system. When County Ditch systems were established, most were considered "agricultural" ditches and the farmland owners immediately adjacent to the ditch system paid to construct and maintain them. The Minnesota Drainage Law now requires stormwater from agricultural and non-agricultural lands to be considered. The "benefit" for stormwater is considered when runoff may be accelerated due to subsurface tile, rooftops, driveways, parking lots, etc. The conversion of land from grassland or trees to a residential, agricultural, or industrial use is shown to accelerate runoff. If you are in the ditch system watershed, you may have a "benefit". Even at a very small level, this runoff contributes to the capacity needs and to the need for routine maintenance and repairs of County Drainage systems. This may be considered an "indirect benefit". An indirect benefit may be better described as "contributing stormwater". By receiving this letter, your property may be affected by the redetermination once the Drainage Viewers have completed their work.

The viewers will prepare a viewers' report of all property that, in the viewers' opinion, is benefited or damaged by CD 28. By statute, a redetermination and damages proceeding requires that a permanent strip of perennial vegetation must be established on each side of the ditch. The approved perennial vegetation must be 16-1/2 feet in width. The viewers appointed by the Drainage Authority, will make a recommendation in their viewers' report to the Drainage Authority on damages to be paid to owners of property over which a permanent strip of perennial vegetation will be established. The damages payment is reimbursement for the taking of the legally required 16-1/2 foot vegetation buffer from a land owner.

After the Redetermination of Benefits has been completed, a packet of documents will be sent to property owners that are determined to be part of the CD 28 Drainage System. The viewing work is expected to take 18 to 20 months to complete. In that packet, there will be a Property Owner's Report and the page(s) from the Viewers Report with your property's details. The top portion of the Property Owner's Report will be a Notice of a Public Hearing. Prior to the Public Hearing, there will be at least one Informational Meeting describing the Redetermination Process and the Viewing methodology, as well as to answer any specific questions you may have about this process.

To provide more information about the redetermination of benefits and damages proceedings, a special webpage has been created. It will be your best source of current information and resources connected to CD 28. If you have any questions, you are encouraged to read this material and watch the CD 28 Redetermination of Benefits and Damages Video Presentation available online at:

https://gis.co.stearns.mn.us/Ditches/CD28/CD28_redetermination.html

To submit a comment or question, please follow the link below.

<https://arcg.is/1rS8yr>

You may also contact us by email County.Drainage@co.stearns.mn.us or by phone at 320-654-4703. Please note that due to volume, email will be the fastest way to receive a response, but staff will return all phone calls in the order they are received.




Thank you,

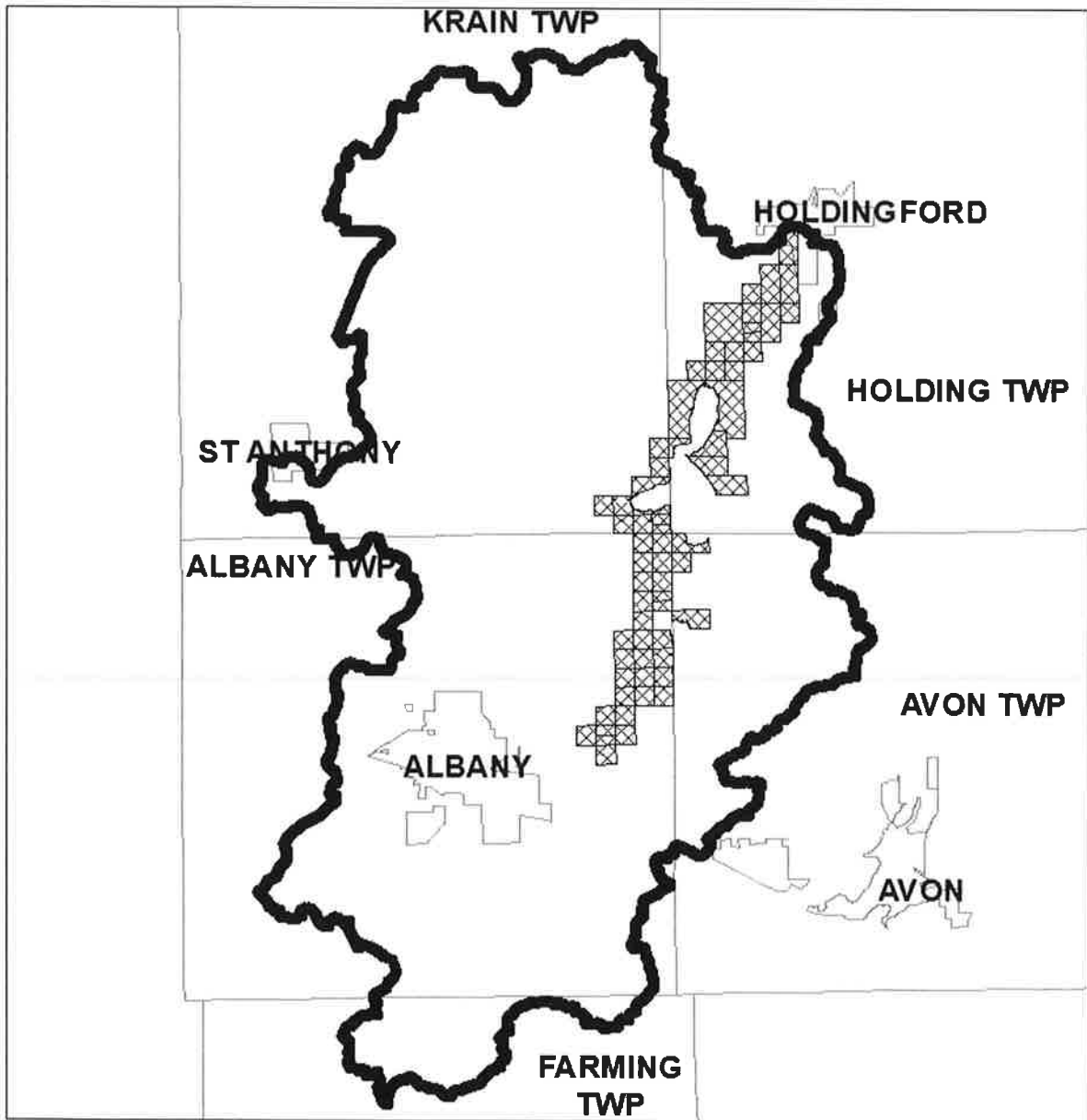
Chad Martini
Land Services Manager

CD 28 WATERSHED MAP

The watershed boundary shows the geographic area which naturally sends water to County Ditch 28. A redetermination of benefits and damages proceeding would update the system records to reflect present day use of the drainage utility. The CD 28 watershed boundary (heavy black line) is an approximation of properties which could be affected by a redetermination proceeding.

Legend

-  CD28 Watershed
-  CD28 Boundary
-  Township / City



PROPERTY OWNER RESOURCES

Stearns County Ditch 28 Webpage

<https://gis.co.stearns.mn.us/Ditches/cd28/cd28.html>

- Historical information
- Engineering documents and modeling
- Mapping

Stearns County Ditch 28 Redetermination Webpage

https://gis.co.stearns.mn.us/Ditches/CD28/CD28_redetermination.html

- Current news
- Property owner petition
- Property Owner resource video
- Petition validation

Video with background and explanation of Redetermination

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=dF-NF9CGXIE>

Submit a Question Online

<https://arcg.is/1rS8yr>

Phone

320-654-4703

Email

County.Drainage@co.stearns.mn.us

Independent Viewing Team Appointed by the CD 28 Drainage Authority

Lead Viewer – Joe Jacobs

Allen Wick

Brad Wick

Dave Schmidt

Jeff Johnson

Ron Ringquist

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

VIEWERS REDETERMINATION PROCESS

Q. What is a Redetermination of Benefits & Damages?

A. Redetermination of Benefits & Damages is a process used when the drainage authority determines that the original benefits or damages determined do not reflect reasonable present-day land values or that the benefited or damaged area have changed. The amount of assessment that landowners pay is based up on benefits.

Q. Who does this Redetermination of Benefits?

A. The drainage authority has appointed a team of viewers to use data as well as groundwork to determine who benefits from the ditch and how much they benefit. Per Minnesota Statute, these viewers must be independent and not own any property in the watershed.

Q. Why is a Redetermination being done?

A. The benefits and damages listed on the original viewers' reports (typically when the ditch was established) are outdated. Benefited lands and benefits of many drainage systems have not been updated for decades, some for over a century, and as a result:

- There are lands draining into the system which were not assessed for benefits; and,
- Benefits were determined when land was selling for a small fraction of what it is selling for today and are unrealistic.

Q. What are benefits & damages?

A. "Benefits" refers either to the impact a drainage system has on land in terms of improving the market value of the land or the impact (and costs associated with that impact) that the land has on the drainage system because of land use that accelerates drainage, transports sediment or increases volume demand in a drainage system. "Damages" means the reduction of value of the land taken for the permanent grass strips bordering the open channel of the drainage ditch. This is a 1 rod easement.

Q. I was never in the benefited area before, why am I now?

A. We are required by statute to view all lands that drain towards the ditch. Technology has allowed us to create an accurate watershed delineation that accounts for all lands that add to the need for system capacity and/or maintenance.

Q. Why is my 80-acre parcel listed more than once on the report?

A. We are required by statute to break each parcel into 40- acre tracts. In addition, our GIS program breaks the parcels down by quarter, so you may see smaller acreage broken down because of the way it lies in spatial data.

Q. My neighbor has tiled ground and I do not. Does he pay more than I do?

A. We factor in the cost of private improvement into our benefit value per classification regardless if you tile or not. Therefore, it is up to the landowner to exercise their right and legal ability to tile if they chose.

Q. Didn't my grandfather/family already pay for this when the ditch was initially put in?

A. Yes, he did pay for the ditch to be established. What we are establishing with the redetermination of benefits process, is what percentage of the cost each landowner would be accountable for if there are any future repairs done on the system.

Q. Are there any repairs planned on my system?

A. Please refer to the drainage authority/ditch inspector for the answer.

Q. What consideration is given to residential lands?

A. Although residential lands still have the need to dewater, they are not producing a crop and making an income year after year. Therefore, they are benefited, but at a lower amount.

Q. How do you determine your values per classification?

A. We extract sales data from the townships in the footprint of the watershed, versus county wide. We include 7 years of agricultural sales with a process to eliminate extreme high sales, low sales, and family sales. MN Statute requires a benefit amount to be established to ensure that if a project is done, the benefits outweigh the cost.

Q. My land sits on a hilltop, why am I benefited?

A. We are required by statute to look at all lands that drain toward the ditch. We also look at all lands that have an indirect or direct benefit. With a direct benefit, you can clearly see your water drain into the ditch. However, the further away from the ditch you are, you receive an indirect benefit. Your water places a burden on neighboring lands which the ditch carries away. Therefore, your lands create a need for system capacity and maintenance.

Q. The ditch currently is not working correctly, and my land isn't able to drain, why should I have to pay?

A. Without the ditch to carry the water away, the land would more than likely be a lake or pond and you would only be able to farm the land a couple years out of 10.

Q. From the water of upstream landowners, why am I paying more?

A. We are required by statute to look at the ditch in 2 conditions; never being constructed and in its as constructing condition. The fact that the ditch may not be working currently cannot be factored in our evaluation.

Q. What consideration is given to wetlands?

A. We review the national wetland inventory and satellite imagery to determine how often the land is being farmed. Nonfarmable wetlands are not benefited as they are not allowed the ability to drain.

Q. My land is in CRP, why am I benefited?

A. To be enlisted in CRP, you must have a proven crop record. It is a management choice to enroll your land in CRP and there is nothing stopping you or a future landowner from farming it later.

Q. I have made conservation efforts (RIM/CREP programs) to my land, is this considered and how?

A. Yes, when we are aware of conservation efforts on your land, we do evaluate those lands differently. Since the land must be enlisted in CRP prior to RIM/CREP, we still consider the land benefited, however, it is at a lower amount.

Q. Are DNR lands benefited?

A. We research what the management plan of DNR lands are before we determine whether they are benefited. This is a determination made on each parcel they own.

Q. Why does my neighbors 1 red acre have a lower benefit than mine?

A. The availability of hydraulic capacity is different. You have drainage deemed optimal due to availability for capacity or the depth of the ditch to drain or tile your own land to get the optimal capacity.

Q. Is this a bill?

A. No, this is an informational document meant to inform property owners of changes to how future costs on the listed public drainage system will be paid if this report is adopted by the Drainage Authority.

Q. Why are woodlots benefited?

A. Woodlots add the need for system capacity and maintenance.

Minnesota Drainage Statutes Reference

The list below is a partial list of the legal statutes that relate to drainage system redetermination of benefits and damages. This list does not represent the entire Minnesota drainage code but can serve as a reference specifically related to redetermination of benefits and damages.

103E - <https://www.revisor.mn.gov/statutes/cite/103E/full>

Refers to the full set of laws in Minnesota that govern drainage systems.

103E.021 Planting Ditches with Perennial Vegetation

Vegetative buffer strips that measure 16.5 ft on both sides of the ditch are required. The statute also outlines damages that must be paid to property owners for the vegetative buffer.

103E.091 Appeals

Property owners may appeal drainage authority determinations to district court. This statute details the appeals process and what may be appealed.

103E.311 Viewer Duties

Short explanation of duties for drainage viewers.

103E.0315 Assessing Drainage Benefits and Damages

Statute related to assessment and viewer responsibilities.

103E.325 Final Hearing Notice

Details related to the final hearing notice related to the viewers report.

103E.351 Redetermination of Benefits and Damages

State law details the conditions to redetermine the benefits and damages of a drainage system and how viewers are appointed.

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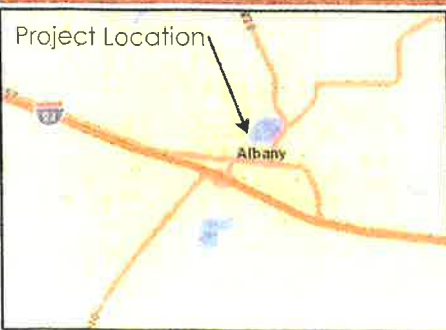
EXHIBIT A

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

City of Albany, Minnesota

Date, time and place:	Notice is given that the City Council of the City of Albany, Minnesota (the "City"), will meet on Wednesday, October 19, 2022, at 6:30 p.m. or as soon as thereafter at the City Hall, 400 Railroad Ave, Albany, Minnesota to consider the Improvement referred to below.
General nature of the Improvement:	The Forest Avenue, 2 nd Street, 3 rd Street, 4 th Street, 5 th Street, adjacent Alley Improvements will consist of a full Street and Utility reconstruction (the "Improvement").
Estimated cost of the proposed Improvement:	The total estimated cost of the Improvement is (TBD).
Area proposed to be assessed:	The area proposed to be assessed consists of every lot, piece or parcel of land abutting and benefited by the Improvement.
Written or oral objections:	Such persons as desire to be heard with reference to the Improvement will be heard at this meeting. Written and oral objections will be considered.
Materials available at hearing:	A reasonable estimate of the impact of the assessment will be available at the hearing, including a reasonable estimate of the total amount to be assessed and a description of the methodology used to calculate individual assessments for affected parcels.
Legal Authority:	The City Council proposes to proceed under the authority granted in Minnesota Statutes, Sections 429.011 to 429.111.

Published in the Star Post October 5th, 2022 and October 12th, 2022.



Legend

- Project Locations
- Lake Wobegon Regional Trail
- Right of Way
- Surface Water
- Parcels

Notes

1. Coordinate System: NAD 1983 utm Zone 15N
2. Base Features: Startec, sW/DNR, Stearns County
3. Orthoimagery © Microsoft Bing Maps

Project Location 193805671
 Albany, MN Prepared by DME on 2021-09-10
 Technical Review by JBM on 2021-09-10

Client/Project
 City of Albany
 Proposed Project Location - Forest Avenue &
 Adjacent Streets

Figure No.
1
 Title

Project Location Map

Disclaimer: Startec assumes no responsibility for data supplied in electronic format. The recipient accepts full responsibility for verifying the accuracy and completeness of the data. The recipient releases Startec, its officers, employees, consultants and agents, from any and all claims arising in any way from the content or provision of the data.

RESOLUTION 2022-35
ORDERING IMPROVEMENT AND DIRECTING PREPARATION OF
PLANS AND SPECIFICATIONS
2023 Capital Improvements
(Street and Utility Reconstruction Improvements)

WHEREAS, a resolution by the City Council of the City of Albany, Minnesota (the "City"), adopted on September 21, 2022, (the "Resolution"), fixed a date for a public hearing for consideration of certain improvements consisting of street, storm sewer, sanitary sewer, water main, water services and sewer services improvements, to wit: Forest Avenue (from 1st Street to 6th Street), 2nd Street (from Midland Avenue to Lake Avenue), 3rd Street, 4th Street and 5th Street (each between Midland Avenue & Forest Avenue), and adjacent alleys, as described in and in accordance with the preliminary report prepared by Stantec Consulting Services, Inc., consulting engineers for the City; and

WHEREAS, after due notice of such hearing, given in accordance with Minnesota Statutes, Chapter 429 (the "Act"), the hearing was held thereon on October 19, 2022 at which time the City Council heard all persons desiring to be heard on the matter and fully considered the same.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the City Council as follows:

1. It is advisable, expedient and necessary that said Improvement be constructed, and the Improvement is hereby ordered as proposed in the Resolution.
2. Stantec Consulting Services, Inc., consulting engineering to the City is hereby directed to prepare the final plans and specifications for the Improvement.
3. The Improvement shall be known as the 2023 Capital Improvements.

Adopted by the City Council on October 19, 2022.

Tom Kasner, Mayor

Tom Schneider, Clerk/Adm.

(S E A L)

To:	Mr. Tom Schneider and Albany City Council City of Albany	From:	Jeremy Mathiasen St. Cloud Office
File:	193801690	Date:	October 14, 2022

Reference: Engineering Update for the 10/19/22 Council Meeting

2022 Capital Improvement Project

Breitbach and their Contractors have completed the 2022 work, except for a little remaining concrete step work and one block of the alley wear course between 5th and 6th Streets. This work will hopefully be completed in the coming couple of weeks as it looks like the temperatures will be getting back up to average highs. There is also a little bit of final grading and restoration work needed along the alleys. Breitbach will be getting ready to remove catch basin protection and making final preparations for winter.

We'll be working with Tom to prepare the final project assessments for submittal to the County.

Golfview Lift Station Improvements

Liberty Electric began the work last week and is working through startup of the new control panel and generator with Public Works. The new pumps are scheduled to be installed this coming week.

Forest Avenue Improvements – Feasibility Study & Public Hearing

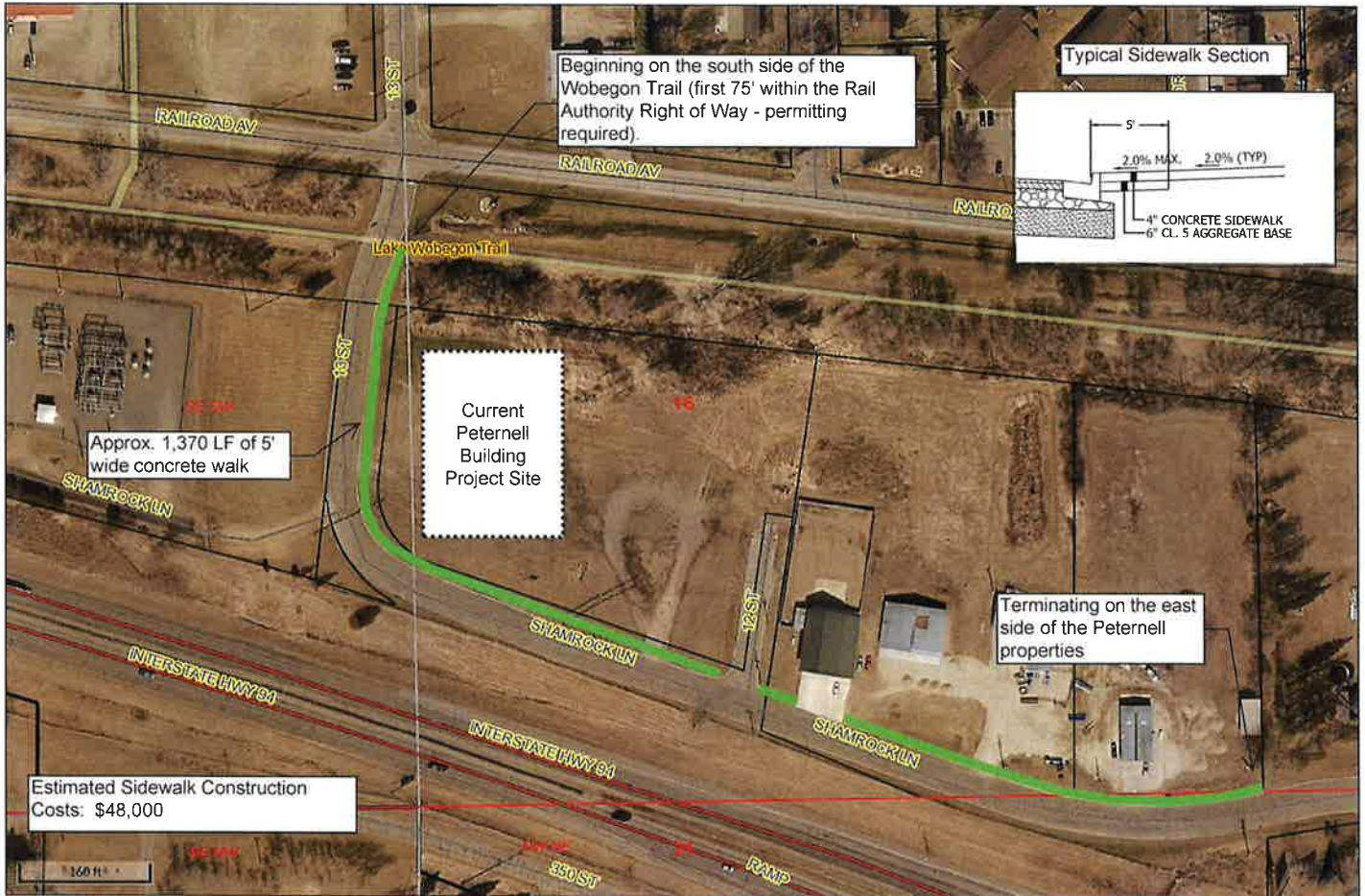
Our public information hearing is scheduled for this coming Wednesday at the Council meeting. We'll have a short presentation before taking testimony and listening to resident's questions and comments.

Feel free to contact me at any time with project related questions.

Jeremy.mathiasen@stantec.com 320.266.5232

Sidewalk Improvements - 13th Street/Shamrock Lane
Peternell Building Project

10/14/22



Pursuant to due call and notice thereof, a meeting of the Park Board in and for the City of Albany, Stearns County, Minnesota, was called to order by Chairman Ross Voit at 6:30 o'clock in the evening on Wednesday, October 12, 2022, at 400 Railroad Avenue, for the said City.

Other Board members present: Sonya Hoffarth and Grant Johnson. None was absent. Councilor Al Amdahl, Park Board Liaison, was absent. Others present were Tom Schneider, Clerk/Adm., and Councilor John R. Harlander.

Chairman Ross Voit called for any additions or corrections to the minutes of August 15, 2022 and hearing none declared the said minutes approved as written.

Mr. Schneider presented to the board the following park improvement funds:

Albany Area Jaycees	\$40,000	(\$5,000 - pickleball court)
Albany Lions	\$21,000	(\$15,000 - pickleball court)
2022 City budget	\$30,000	(\$30,000 - pickleball court)
Annexation Park fee received	\$500	
Albany Mutual Telephone Assn.	\$5,000	(\$5,000 - pickleball court)
Proposed 2023 City budget	\$20,000	(\$20,000 - pickleball court)
2005 Whispering Oaks <u>Park fee (CD)</u>	<u>\$38,752</u>	

Total funds: \$155,252 Total set aside for pickleball: \$75,000

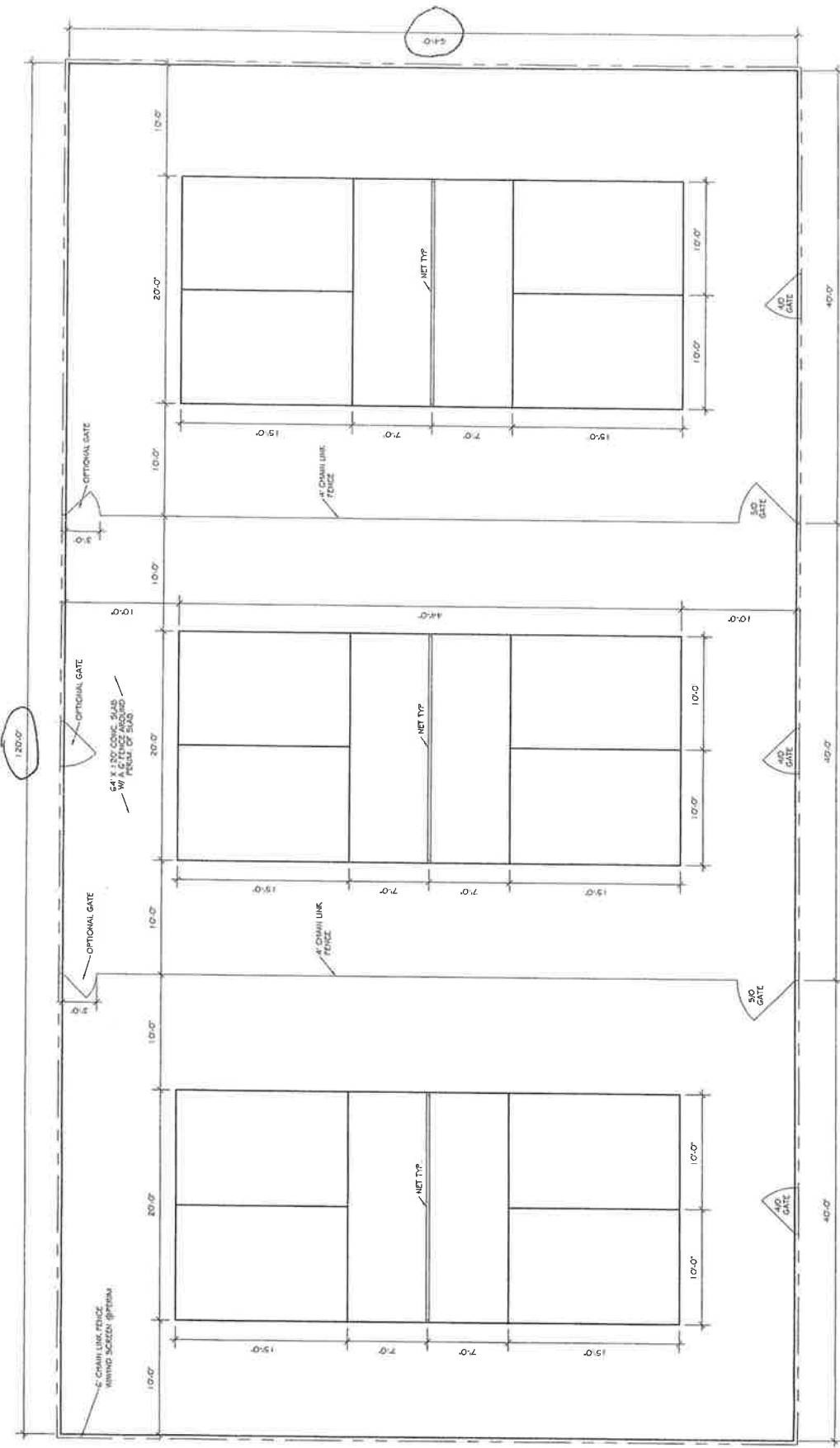
Mr. Schneider informed the board the pedestrian walk/bike trail on the east side of North Park and a pedestrian trail in the Country Estates subdivision was repaved this summer at a cost of \$41,400. Mr. Schneider also informed the board the fund balance to repave additional pedestrian trails in the future is \$17,000+/-.

Mr. Schneider presented to the board a revised 2023 Park budget in the amount of \$122,840. Mr. Schneider noted this is an increase of \$15,440 from the budget presented to the board at the August 15th meeting. Mr. Schneider informed the board the council, at their September 21st council meeting, agreed to increase the budget to include \$20,000 to construct future pickleball courts and other miscellaneous adjustments.

Councilor John R. Harlander appeared before the board to present a proposed pickleball court design (64'x 120') consisting of three (3) courts to be constructed east of the skateboard/basketball court in North Park. Mr. Harlander informed the board he and Mr. Schneider have been soliciting funds from local organizations, viewing potential sites in North Park, and visiting other communities to develop a cost-effective plan to construct pickleball courts. Chairman Ross Voit questioned what is the estimated cost to construct pickleball courts. Mr. Harlander informed the board the estimated cost is nearly \$130,000. Mr. Harlander noted he received bids to begin site preparation and tree removal this fall if the board would approve the proposed location. Mr. Harlander also noted he will obtain additional bids for concrete, fencing, nets, striping, and painting to complete the project by early summer. Mr. Schneider noted there is adequate funding to complete this project next year. Ms. Hoffarth noted she has no objection to the proposed design and location being adjacent to an existing parking lot and near the Jaycee shelter which has bathroom facilities. Chairman Ross Voit also noted due to topography challenges and lack of bathroom facilities and/or parking in other areas in the park, the proposed location seems to be the most economical. After due discussion, a motion was made by Grant Johnson and seconded by Sonya Hoffarth to recommend to the council to approve tree removal and site preparation for the construction of three (3) pickleball courts east of the skateboard/basketball court in North Park. All voted for the motion and it carried.

Chairman Ross Voit adjourned the meeting at 6:45 PM.

Tom Schneider
Clerk/Adm.



PROPOSED PICKLE BALL COURTS

64' x 120'





ADMINISTRATION OFFICE ASSISTANT
City of Albany

Position: Administration Office Assistant
Type: Appointed Employee
Status: Regular Part Time
FLSA Status: Non-Exempt – NO benefits
Drug & Alcohol: Subject to pre-employment drug and alcohol screening, not subject to random drug and alcohol screening during employment.
Appointed by: City Council Approval

DESCRIPTION OF WORK

General Statement of Duties and Responsibilities: Provides clerical, administrative, and other support to the city Administrator/Clerk and Administration Assistant, including reception and secretarial activities. Work is performed under the moderate supervision of the city Administrator/Clerk.

TYPICAL DUTIES PERFORMED

The listed examples may not include all duties performed by the positions in this class, nor do the listed examples include all duties that may be found in positions of this class. Duties may vary somewhat from position to position within a class.

- Collect, input, and deposit water & sewer payments.
- Produce and mail out bi-monthly water & sewer bill for current customers.
- Answer questions from the public regarding water & sewer bills.
- Inform Public Works Supervisor and/or Public Works Assistant when problems arise with water meters or individual accounts.
- General Receptionist duties, which includes greeting people as they enter, providing general information, and directing them to the appropriate person or department.
- Answer telephone, respond to questions from public regarding a variety of topics, and forward callers/questions to Clerk-Administrator or appropriate person.
- Answer questions from the public in person, and direct to the proper person / department or forward questions, comments, or complaints to the proper person / department.
- Takes Park shelters and community garden reservations and collect reservation fees.
- Perform secretarial duties in support of the Administrator/Clerk including typing, word processing, filing, and related matters.
- Perform research on matters and issues as requested by the Administrator/Clerk and Administration Assistant.
- Coordinate purchase of office supplies.
- Compile information, produce, print, and mail city newsletters, notices, mailings, and update city website.
- Order supplies for city hall, parks, and other departments. (Garbage bags, paper towels, & cleaning supplies)
- Charge the public fees as adopted on the City Fee Schedule for various tasks as directed.
- Assist other departments as needed.
- Perform other related work as required.

KNOWLEDGE SKILLS AND ABILITIES

- Knowledge of standard office procedures.
- Knowledge of office equipment (copy machine, scanners, credit card machine)
- Good knowledge of computer and Microsoft programs.
- Working knowledge of city programs, operations and procedures.
- Working knowledge of basic bookkeeping, cash control, and accounting procedures.
- Ability to communicate effectively and tactfully with the public, city staff and elected officials.
- Ability to perform standard office tasks, including but not limited to typing and word processing, and operation of a business telephone.
- Ability to understand working knowledge of Civic System software.
- Have basic knowledge of cleaning supplies and their uses.
- Knowledge of city forms and fees.

MINIMUM QUALIFICATIONS

High School graduate, GED or equivalent.

ESSENTIAL JOB FUNCTIONS:

Communications

Must be able to read, write, hear and speak English sufficiently to understand information and direction; and to communicate effectively verbally and in writing. Must also possess the ability to establish and maintain effective working relationships with superiors, other employees and the general public.

Physical

Ability to perform standard office activities, including being seated for lengthy periods of time, standing, speaking, hearing, using hands to finger, repetitive motions, stooping, and/or lifting up to 10+/- pounds.

Environmental

The vast majority of work is performed indoors in a heated and air-conditioned office.

Vision

Employee needs adequate vision, corrected or uncorrected, to perform the duties of this position.

Intellectual

Must be capable of reasonable judgment and possess sound reasoning skills; must have the ability to learn, work independently, and apply new information, policies, and practices and apply this knowledge to the tasks and responsibilities set out for this position.

Employee

Date



320.845.4244
P. O. Box 370
Albany, Minnesota 56307



Chloride In Wastewater

The state is starting to focus on chloride in water softener discharge. Much of Minnesota has hard water, prompting people to use water softeners. These softeners require salt to operate. These softeners discharge to the municipal wastewater treatment plant. These plants are not designed to remove chloride in the wastewater and it ends up discharging to the receiving water.

Chloride in water is a tough problem to solve. It takes only a small amount — 1 teaspoon per 5 gallons of water — to pollute water permanently. But there's no easy and affordable way to remove chloride in wastewater. It would require reverse osmosis, the same process used to produce water for laboratory use, which is technically difficult as well as costly.

In an effort to help the City of Albany try to control this, we are asking that residents keep an eye on their water softeners. Please make sure they do not regenerate more than needed.