

## City of Nokomis

### City of Nokomis Council PUBLIC HEARING MINUTES

**Monday January 9, 2023**

The City of Nokomis, County of Montgomery, Illinois held a public hearing for the lift station improvement project at the Nokomis City Hall on Monday, January 9, 2023 to provide interested parties an opportunity to express their views on the proposed federal funded Community Development Block Grant project. Mayor Holliday called the Public Hearing to order at 6:45 p.m. The deputy Clerk called Roll. Those present were Commissioners Stauder, Nash, and Durbin; and Mayor Holliday. Commissioner Glenn was absent. Visitors present were City Clerk Hill, Deputy Clerk Smith, City attorney Chris Scherer, Chief Burton, David Hays & Cameron Jones (Benton & Associates) Ellen Christener (Pana News) Ben Schwarm (Journal News) Cynthia Crowe, Sabrina Jones, Ralph Jones, Keith Hancock, Ed Hassebrock, Allen Hard, Tobi Siminton, and John Beach.

Mayor Holliday gave the floor to David Hays from Benton and Associates, David will be the grant writer for this grant application. David began by stating that there is certain criteria that the Department of Commerce and Economic Opportunity require the City of Nokomis to do. David continued by stating first, was the low to moderate income which has to be met by at least fifty percent, the City of Nokomis met it with 51.23%. David continued by stating that the City has to have a health threat, to which the City has asked for letters from the residents and businesses that have had sewer backup issues, and must document the seriousness of the health threat and safety of the population. This project would rehab six lift stations, to pump the wastewater to the wastewater plant to be properly treated. David continued by stating that the City has to prove the readiness of the project, in this case the City is ready to proceed if the funds are received, as there are no easements required as the lift stations are on City property. David stated that you have to demonstrate financial need and with the City needing to use funds to operate the wastewater plant and collection facility therefor the City is in need of the grant funds. David stated that he has to go over the funding availability, how much is available, for 2022 the state community block grant allocations is \$29,798,562.00 and \$3,000,000 of that going to economic development, \$1,304,606 going to disaster response grants, \$17,500,000 will go to public infrastructure grants, and \$7,000,000 to housing rehabilitation grants, the grant ceiling for the public infrastructure, which what the City lift station project would be under, is \$1,500,000 in grant funding. David continued with the citizen participation is a step that is needed, with proving two public hearing, the first one being this meeting, if the City receives the grant another public meeting will need to be set. David went on to project funding by stating, this project is \$1,505,000 to which the grant application would be for 1.5 million which is the grant ceiling, that would leave the City's portion at \$5,000. The City is providing \$366,000 of local fund for legal, design, engineering services, and attorney fees, which will not be paid for with CDBG funds. CDBG funds proposed to be used for activities to benefit low to moderate income residence is \$768,450 which is 51.23% of the 1.5 million. David went on to state that the City has evaluated the project and came to the conclusion that the implementation of this project will not cause displacement of any persons, or loss of any housing sites, and the project would benefit

the entire City of Nokomis by reducing the threat of possible sewer backups, flooding, surcharge of wastewater collection systems, etc. David asked the City Council, wastewater improvements, that have to be priority one, with the top three priorities being water treatment plant and wastewater treatment plant, and asked if the Council agreed with that statement. Commissioner Stauder agreed those are the top three. David concluded by opening up to any question to the floor, Cynthia Crowe asked about the letters need, to which David stated, that one of the ways we show a health threat is to ask residence and business owners to provide letters stating that someone within the community has had sewer backup. A brief discussion was had on what the process was on getting the letters back in. With no other questions asked David turned it back over to Mayor Holliday to close the meeting at 6:57 P.M.

Commissioner Stauder made a motion to adjourn the public meeting at 6:57 P.M. Commissioner Durbin seconded the motion. Voting yes, Commissioners Stauder, Nash, and Durbin; and Mayor Holliday. Nays, none. The motion carried.

Respectfully Submitted,

Karri Smith  
Nokomis City Deputy Clerk