

CITY OF GENESEE

Location: 140 E Walnut Street, Genesee, ID 83832

MINUTES

WATER WORKSHOP

APRIL 16, 2024

WATER UPDATE:

MERRICK AND COMPANY, Ryan Rehder

The City has until May 9, 2024 to accept or reject the bid for Well 9 drilling. The two options for the new well location are at the Well 8 site or at the NE Reservoir site on Laurel. East site has been planned and will provide the additional level of redundancy required by the State.

Pros for drilling at site 8: Using the existing building and pipes that were laid there will save the City approximately \$500,000. There is also a cost savings from most likely drilling about 100 feet less than the other site.

Cons for drilling at site 8: Drilling that close to the new well could potentially cause damage to the existing well by causing some amount of collapse. The risk is minimal, but still must be considered. Having the two wells so close together and on the same water main line, electricity, and general vicinity could cause widespread damage if something happened to any one of those. Spreading the wells out, provides some extra protection to the City's water supply in case of emergency. The City would need to buy another plot of land.

Pros for drilling at the NE Reservoir site: This location is on the other side of town and is on a different power supply and feeds into a different water main, so will be better in case of an emergency that affects the Well 8 location. The site is already fenced and graded, and the City already owns the property.

Cons for drilling at the NE Reservoir site: The cost will be about \$620,000 higher total than using the Well 8 location. There is a risk of not hitting water. The well will probably have to be about 100 feet deeper just because of the elevation difference between the two sites.

Questions were raised about why the well house construction is so costly. Ryan stated some of the higher costs from it being a federally funded contract which requires contractors to have extra bonds and take more steps to complete the project. There is also a lot of electrical and plumbing that goes into the wellhouse to make it complete. More discussion about possible ways to save cost, but also complete the project. Discussion about having a generator that could service both wells if needed for backup power. Another question was raised about the actual necessity of drilling another well. At this point, Genesee does not meet DEQ's redundancy requirements without it, so it must be done sooner than later.

Mayor Hermann asked each of the council members which location they think would be best suited to meet the City's needs after hearing all of the pros and cons. The general consensus was that drilling at the NE Reservoir site seems to make the most sense, but they are still wanting to think everything through before making a decision.



John Hermann, Mayor



Nikki Pew, City Clerk/Treasurer

Water Workshop
City of Genesee
Sign in Sheet

Date of Meeting 4/16/24

Name	Address	Email	Male/Female M or F	Disabled Y/N	Do you wish to Speak? Y/N
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1.	Josilyn Watson	208-553-5779			jmwatson@uidaho.edu
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