CITY OF PLYMOUTH
AGENDA
SPECIAL COUNCILMEETING
MARCH 10, 2015, 5:30 p.m.
MEDICINE LAKE CONFERENCE ROOM

1. CALL TO ORDER

2. TOPICS

A. Underground power and median improvements on Vicksburg Lane

3. ADJOURN

City of Plymouth
Adding Quality to Life

Agenda Number: 2.A

SPECIAL COUNCIL MEETING

March 10, 2015

To: Dave Callister, City Manager

Prepared by: Doran Cote, Public Works Director

Reviewed by:

Item: **Vicksburg Lane Power Line Undergrounding (15001)**

The Public Utilities Commission has long held that a community requesting undergrounding of existing overhead Xcel Energy power lines must pay the differential cost between simply relocating the power lines and the cost to bury them. The following email was sent by Xcel Energy on February 6, 2014:

Jim:
We now have a design estimate for the work on Vicksburg to replace the existing OH line with UG.
The total estimate is $814,855.00
The estimate to replace the OH line with OH is $ 220,000.00
We have the $5,000.00 for the engineering study.

*The cost difference between the estimated OH and actual UG is what the Plymouth residents would be responsible for, and will be determined after work has been completed and could be more or less that my estimate.

The OH to UG estimated cost ---------- $814,855.00
Minus the OH to OH estimated cost ------ $220,000.00
Credit for engineering charges ---------- $5,000.00

*Cost to Plymouth Rate Payers ---------- $598,855.00

I will prepare the official documents for dispersal when I receive your direction.

Len Jacobsen
Xcel Energy | Responsible By Nature
DESIGNER
8701 Monticello Lane, Maple Grove, MN 55369
P: 763.493.1876
E: leonard.j.jacobsen@xcelenergy.com

Staff believes it would be advantageous to bury the power lines for a host of reasons. First, simply relocating the power lines would require us to obtain a number of easements to locate the poles and the poles would be located very close to the proposed trail. Also, relocating the power lines would result in significant tree loss and trimming in order to accommodate the lines in the new easements. Third, burying the power lines would improve the overall aesthetics of the corridor and improve safety for bicyclists and pedestrians. Lastly, burying to power lines would be consistent with all of the other power in the area being located underground.

The cost of burying the overhead power can likely be accommodated within the existing budget of $19.7M for the project or be funded using the franchise fees currently being collected from Xcel Energy.

Xcel Energy has indicated that this undergrounding will have no impact on their proposed Hollydale Project and is not being done under the guise of the Hollydale Project. They did indicate that they may install one or two additional switching cabinets at this time should the future transmission needs come to a resolution but those costs are not included in the undergrounding costs.

Vicksburg Lane Xcel Energy Power Poles

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