

CITY OF ANTIGO
AD HOC WEATHER WARNING SYSTEM COMMITTEE
MINUTES OF MEETING HELD
JULY 19, 2023

Ad Hoc Weather Warning System of the City of Antigo met in Regular Meeting on the above date at 4:30 PM in the Multi-Purpose Room, City Hall, Chairperson Glenn Bugni presiding.

| Attendee Name | Title | Status | Arrived |
|----------------------|--------------|---------------|----------------|
| Glenn Bugni | Chairperson | Present | |
| Barb Rebstock | Ward 1 | Present | |
| Joel Wagner | Ward 6 | Present | |
| AJ Jansen | Member | Present | |
| Terry Brand | Mayor | Present | |
| Jeff Geiger | Member | Present | |
| Hank Bie | Member | Present | |

Others in attendance: Travis Krueger, Langlade County Emergency Management Director (LCEMD); Kaye Matucheski, Clerk-Treasurer/Finance Director; Destiny Geiger; Barb Bie; Kirk Packard, Street Commissioner; Corey Smith, Fire Chief; Daniel Duley, Police Chief; Sandy Fischer, Ward 2 Alderperson; Mark Desotell, Director of Administrative Services; and Cheryl Barta, Administrative Assistant.

Review Cost Projections of New Siren System

Alderperson Bugni reported Mr. Desotell has done a lot of legwork getting information regarding the weather warning sirens and estimated costs. Alderperson Bugni noted it was thought that only three sirens would be needed but he showed a proposed map with five sirens to cover the City of Antigo. He also noted that the estimate for the five sirens, additional costs of installation and software is \$142,388.40.

Upon Alderperson Bugni's inquiry of what the committee thought of raising the money, Alderperson Wagner reported he did not think it would be hard, Alderperson Bugni agreed and stated he could think of four foundations to approach.

Mr. Desotell stated that the foundations have committed annual donations and noted concern for those organizations having limited funds where the annual donations may be depleted.

Upon Alderperson Rebstock's inquiry if a public meeting should be held prior to approaching the money, Mr. Bugni noted he wanted to see what the Committee's thought was on being able to raise the money. Ms. Rebstock also inquired she thought the public meeting was to find out if the community wanted the sirens, Mr. Bugni reported that is what the survey is for.

Upon Alderperson Bugni's thoughts of determining if the money could be raised and then conducting a survey of the residents, Ms. Matucheski inquired logistically how the survey would be conducted? Mr. Bugni reported it would be too expensive to mail a survey, that a survey could be put on the City's website and advertised. Ms. Matucheski then asked how it would be determined that City residents were the ones voting, Mr. Bugni stated that would be a problem.

Mr. Desotell provided information on the coverage of a tone siren versus a voice siren and noted that if a voice system were purchased there would be a requirement of more than five sirens as they cover only one-third of the distance that a tone siren would cover.

There was a discussion of who would be responsible to set off the warning and the liability if the button was not pushed and basic protocols for setting off the weather warning system.

There was a discussion of additional costs of electricity, maintenance and parts, as well as insurance.

Upon Mayor Brand's inquiry of what the process was for the system, Police Chief Duley believed the National Weather Service is where the warning came from.

LCEMD Krueger recommended finding out all costs, funding, and getting all the information addressed and in place prior to taking the information to the community.

Mayor Brand recommended assigning tasks to get all questions answered before investing the money.

Mayor Brand also brought up different questions as to using ASC Mass Notification Solutions as a resource for answering some questions pertaining to the system in case of not going off when the button is pressed and if they certify the system is working or if that is on the City to test the system, as well as other liability questions.

Ms. Matucheski noted that if the system is purchased by the City, the County would probably not want any responsibility and the City would be responsible for all liability including covering the County. Ms. Matucheski also noted, in her opinion, there would be more liability with having the system versus no system.

Ms. Matucheski will reach out to the City's insurance company, the City attorney, and email municipalities to see what they use for warning systems and procedures; and Police Chief Duley will check on the procedure for the old warning system and check with other municipalities on their procedures.

Aldersperson Bugni stated the Committee has to determine if the benefits will outweigh the liability.

The next meeting was scheduled for Monday, August 21, 2023 at 4:30 PM. (Note - meeting was changed to August 28, 2023.)

Review the Statistics of Everbridge Use

Mayor Brand reported that he, Mr. Desotell, and Mr. Krueger had met with Ms. Beck from the Langlade County Economic Development Corporation (LCEDC) as she keeps a lot of statistics on the Everbridge usage. He reported the promotion of Everbridge was high when the program first started but became less after the first year or two. Ms. Beck reported the different efforts that they can do to get more people in the community to use the program. He reported there are only about 1,000 active users. He reported the EDC is going to hold sessions at the Antigo Library and the Senior Center as an ongoing effort to educate the community on the benefits of using the Everbridge program.

Upon Aldersperson Bugni's inquiry of what the Everbridge program costs the City, Mr. Krueger reported the current contract costs the City and the County \$3,810 each.

Mayor Brand presented a brochure that he reported Ms. Beck was going to update and Mr. Krueger added that Ms. Beck had updated the brochure and the brochures have been distributed to multiple locations and informational posters have been posted about the Everbridge program.

Discuss possible Recommendations coming from Committee

The Committee felt that getting more community members involved in the Everbridge program with education and promoting the benefits of having the program is important.

Adjournment

1. **Motion to:** Adjourn at 5:34 PM.

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| RESULT: | CARRIED [UNANIMOUS] |
| MOVER: | Joel Wagner, Ward 6 |
| SECONDER: | Barb Rebstock, Ward 1 |
| AYES: | Bugni, Rebstock, Wagner, Jansen, Brand, Geiger, Bie |

Glenn Bugni
Glenn Bugni, Chairperson

8/9/23
Date