

Swanville Water Infrastructure Report

HF 2884 - Rep. Kresha

Swanville has pressing water infrastructure needs currently estimated at \$3.2 million to serve a community of 342 people, and cannot reasonably address the infrastructure needs on its own without suffering undue financial hardship. The City has not requested state bonding assistance in the past, but now faces substantial fiscal challenges with their infrastructure needs.



The City's only water tower was constructed in 1931. Now over 90 years old this tower is undersized, provides substandard pressure to parts of the community and has aged far beyond the point of rehabilitation. In February 2020, the MN Department of Health issued a letter to the City that required *Correction of Significant Deficiencies* which required costly emergency repairs to keep the reservoir in service. Despite the emergency repairs, this reservoir is in desperate need of replacement.

The City's water supply wells are also in critical need of replacement. The wellhead protection plan indicates Well #1 - also over 90 years old - is showing increased signs of salt contamination. A second well (approx. 60 years old) obtains water from a deeper aquifer but contains ammonia compounds that are not compatible with chlorination. Both wells are considered to be vulnerable to contamination. Replacement of Well #1 is ranked as priority #26 on the Project Priority List.

In addition to the above needs, the City is also seeking to address several dead-end and undersized watermains, replace aged high risk watermains, and upgrade the meter system.

The City initially applied for funding through the MN Public Facilities Authority and was referred to USDA Rural Development for funding assistance. At this time, the City has applied for funding through USDA Rural Development, SCDP for \$600,000 in grant assistance, and has submitted the requested work sheet for WIF (Water Infrastructure Fund) consideration from PFA.

Swanville G.O. Bonding Request Specifics:

Drinking Water - Water System Improvements - \$3.2 million

For more information, please contact:

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