Commission receives update on sewer flow study

(KNZA)--The Hiawatha City Commission received an update this week on a sewer flow study undertaken earlier this year.

Mike Milius with the engineering firm Olsson Associates provided the update and discussed options moving forward.

Due to the lack of significant rainfall events, Milius said they were not able to get solid data. As a result, he said they don't have the information necessary to recommend what lines are most in need of rehabilitation.

It was the consensus of the Commission to have the firm proceed with additional flow monitoring in the spring of 2021 at an additional cost of around \$51,000.

The Commission also agreed to have the firm move forward with some smoke testing at a cost of about \$12,000.

An amendment will be prepared to Olsson's contract with an updated schedule for Commission approval.

The Commission approved a contract with the engineering firm last December to perform the study at a cost of around \$309,000.

Despite the completion of previous sewer projects, city officials say there are still parts of the city's sewer collection system that experience high amounts of inflow and infiltration during wet weather events. The study is the first step in figuring out where the problems are in the system.

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