

## CHAPTER 429

## LOCAL IMPROVEMENTS, SPECIAL ASSESSMENTS

429.041 Council procedure.

429.091 Financing.

**429.041 COUNCIL PROCEDURE.**

Subdivision 1. **Plans and specifications, advertisement for bids.** When the council determines to make any improvement, it shall let the contract for all or part of the work, or order all or part of the work done by day labor or otherwise as authorized by subdivision 2, no later than one year after the adoption of the resolution ordering such improvement, unless a different time limit is specifically stated in the resolution ordering the improvement. The council shall cause plans and specifications of the improvement to be made, or if previously made, to be modified, if necessary, and to be approved and filed with the clerk, and if the estimated cost exceeds \$35,000 for municipalities of less than 2,500 population, or \$50,000 for all others, shall advertise for bids for the improvement in the newspaper and such other papers and for such length of time as it may deem advisable. If the estimated cost exceeds \$100,000, publication shall be made no less than three weeks before the last day for submission of bids once in the newspaper and at least once in either a newspaper published in a city of the first class or a trade paper. To be eligible as such a trade paper, a publication shall have all the qualifications of a legal newspaper except that instead of the requirement that it shall contain general and local news, such trade paper shall contain building and construction news of interest to contractors in this state, among whom it shall have a general circulation. The advertisement shall specify the work to be done, shall state the time when the bids will be publicly opened for consideration by the council, which shall be not less than ten days after the first publication of the advertisement when the estimated cost is less than \$100,000 and not less than three weeks after such publication in other cases, and shall state that no bids will be considered unless sealed and filed with the clerk and accompanied by a cash deposit, cashier's check, bid bond, or certified check payable to the clerk, for such percentage of the amount of the bid as the council may specify. In providing for the advertisement for bids the council may direct that the bids shall be opened publicly by two or more designated officers or agents of the municipality and tabulated in advance of the meeting at which they are to be considered by the council. Nothing herein shall prevent the council from advertising separately for various portions of the work involved in an improvement, or from itself, supplying by such means as may be otherwise authorized by law, all or any part of the materials, supplies, or equipment to be used in the improvement or from combining two or more improvements in a single set of plans and specifications or a single contract.

Subd. 2. **Contracts; day labor.** In contracting for an improvement, the council shall require the execution of one or more written contracts and bonds, conditioned as required by law. The council shall award the contract to the lowest responsible bidder or it may reject all bids. If any bidder to whom a contract is awarded fails to enter promptly into a written contract and to furnish the required bond, the defaulting bidder shall forfeit to the municipality the amount of the defaulter's cash deposit, cashier's check, bid bond, or certified check, and the council may thereupon award the contract to the next lowest responsible bidder. When it appears to the council that the cost of the entire work projected will be less than \$35,000 for municipalities of less than 2,500 population, or \$50,000 for all others, or whenever no bid is submitted after proper advertisement or the only bids submitted are higher than the engineer's estimate, the council may advertise for new bids or, without advertising for bids, directly purchase the materials for the work and do it by the employment of day labor or in any other manner the council considers proper. The council may have the work supervised by the city engineer or other qualified person but shall have the work supervised by a

registered engineer if done by day labor and it appears to the council that the entire cost of all work and materials for the improvement will be more than \$25,000. In case of improper construction or unreasonable delay in the prosecution of the work by the contractor, the council may order and cause the suspension of the work at any time and relet the contract, or order a reconstruction of any portion of the work improperly done, and where the cost of completion or reconstruction necessary will be less than \$35,000 for municipalities of less than 2,500 population, or \$50,000 for all others, the council may do it by the employment of day labor.

*[For text of subs 3 to 7, see M.S.2000]*

**History:** 2001 c 5 s 1,2

#### 429.091 FINANCING.

*[For text of subs 1 to 7, see M.S.2000]*

Subd. 7a. **Revolving fund bonds.** The council may by resolution establish a revolving fund for the payment of the costs of any improvement or any waterworks systems, sewer systems, or storm sewer systems described in section 444.075, the costs of facilities to maintain streets and water, sewer, and storm sewer systems and for the payment of any obligations issued to pay the costs of the facilities and systems referred to in this subdivision or to refund obligations issued for those purposes. The council may create within the revolving fund a separate construction account into which the municipality may deposit the proceeds of any obligations payable from the fund, the proceeds of any special assessments collected with respect to any improvement, any net revenues of a waterworks, sewer system, or storm sewer system described in section 444.075 or any other available funds of the municipality appropriated to it. Amounts on deposit in the construction account may be used to pay the costs of any improvement or any waterworks, sewer system, or storm sewer system described in section 444.075 or any street or water, sewer, or storm sewer maintenance facilities. No funds may be expended for an improvement unless at least 20 percent of the costs of each such improvement is to be assessed against benefited property. No funds may be expended for a waterworks, sewer system, or storm sewer system, other than a sewer system described in section 115.46, or maintenance facilities unless the council estimates that the costs will be recovered from the net revenues of the system or any combined waterworks, sewer systems, or storm sewer systems operated by the municipality. The council may also create a separate debt service account within the revolving fund for the payment of principal of and interest on any obligations payable therefrom. Notwithstanding subdivision 4, the council is not required to pledge any particular assessments or other revenues to the payment of the obligations. Collections of special assessments or net revenues may be deposited in either the construction account or the debt service account as the council or an officer designated by the council may determine, having due regard for anticipated collections of special assessments and net revenues from improvements or waterworks, sewer systems, or storm sewer systems financed in whole or in part from the construction account, and taxes levied for the payment of the obligations. The council may issue obligations that are payable primarily from the debt service account for the purpose of providing funds to defray in whole or in part any expenses incurred or estimated to be incurred in making the improvement or improvements or in constructing the waterworks, sewer system, or storm sewer system, including every item of cost of the kinds authorized by section 475.65, and street and water, sewer, and storm sewer maintenance facilities or to refund obligations previously issued under this section or section 115.46 or 444.075. The obligations may be general obligations to which the full faith and credit of the municipality are pledged. If the special assessments to be levied and net revenues estimated to be available for their payment are estimated to be at least 20 percent of the principal amount of the obligations, the obligations may be issued without an election and shall not be included in determining the net indebtedness of the

municipality under the provisions of any law limiting net indebtedness. The cost of a maintenance facility that may be financed under this subdivision is limited only to the portion of the facility that is fairly allocable to the maintenance of streets and water, sewer, and storm sewer systems.

*[For text of subd 8, see M.S.2000]*

**History:** 2001 c 214 s 11