

Patron peppers council with Questions about Lake Helen project

Written by Elizabeth Barrett
Friday, 13 September 2013 14:06 -



Nancy Fischer is ready for the Lake Helen rehabilitation project to move ahead.

Although one plan called for the lake to be dug out in August, the city is still waiting on a permit from the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers and the Department of Natural Resources.

Fischer, who lives across the street from Lake Helen, asked if contacting politicians might help get the process moving.

City administrator Bruce Clymer said he's been in touch with Nebraska Department of Environmental Quality officials.

"Maybe since we're so small, we have to be noisier," Fischer quipped.

Fischer also asked if the \$1.5 million project would affect the dam and the spending of more money to shore it up.

Clymer said "no."

After finding a dead bird in her yard, she asked if the lake had been sprayed for mosquitoes since there's still standing water in the lake which was drained last winter.

Fischer noted that West Nile, a disease that can be spread by mosquitoes, is a dangerous health risk.

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“And the lake is a breeding ground,” she said.

Clymer said the area around the lake had been sprayed and will be treated again.

On Thursday, he said the city engineer will attend the Sept. 17 city council meeting to talk about the permit process.

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