

Minutes of Perrysburg Public Utilities Committee

Meeting Held August 24, 2022

CITIZEN'S CONCERNS

None.

The meeting was called to order at 6:39 p.m. by Chairperson Kevin Fuller. Committee Members present were Kevin Fuller and Jan Materni. Committee Member Jonathan Smith was not present. Also present were Bridgette Kabat, City Administrator, Alice Godsey, Director of Public Utilities, and Matt Choma, Director of Public Utilities.

APPROVAL OF 07/27/2022 MEETING MINUTES

There being no objections, the minutes of the July 27, 2022 meeting were approved 2-0.

STANDING WATER AND OVERFLOW IN THE GRASSY CREEK AREA

Kathleen Smith, of Hazen & Sawyer, presented the Grassy Creek Stormwater Master Plan follow up and refresh, via Zoom. She shared the alternative analysis report, updated costs from November 2019 to August 2022, and the Three Meadows Park option mentioned at July's Public Utilities Committee Meeting. Ms. Smith stated that more studies would need to be done on Little Grassy Creek because it was outside of the initial project area. Mr. Fuller asked if we alleviated the flow of Grassy Creek, that it would not do anything for backyard flooding. Ms. Smith confirmed that was correct, due to the backyard elevations.

Additionally, it was stated that it is more of a topography issue. If the Grassy Creek level is lowered, we may see reduced flooding in other areas. However, in this specific area, there would not be a reduction. Ms. Materni was curious what areas are affected by topography versus by Grassy Creek. The backyard and frontyard flooding prolonged issues are generally topography issues, where there is no storm infrastructure, as well as the type of soil. Mr. Fuller asked if the City has ever looked into lowering the grade of the streets in that area. Ms. Kabat stated that they have not and she is also not sure what infrastructure is under the streets such as other utilities like gas.

Ms. Smith explained one consideration is that all of the neighbors would need to agree and easements would need to be granted in their backyards. Fences or sheds near the property line could be an issue. Ms. Smith stated that the connection to the Maumee River is still the recommended option. Ms. Materni noted the elevations are quite a drop and that she is not surprised they are having flooding issues.

Collin Rudnick, 939 Maple Street, asked about the sanitary sewer and the EPA repercussions with that. Mr. Fuller stated that this is a whole other issue. Ms. Kabat added that a different firm did that but it is a good question because it is intertwined in

some ways.

Mr. Fuller asked about budget items for next year and if there are any recommendations for a plan to begin getting into this. Mr. Choma stated that will not approach this as three independent projects, as what they do in one area will have an impact on the other areas. Ms. Kabat stated that Utilities has just gone through the process of requesting RFQs for that integrated plan and at the next Committee meeting they will be coming forward to request awarding a contract to a consulting firm.

Carol Wymer, 845 Locust Street, lives on Grassy Creek and has never seen the City clean their part of the stream. Mr. Choma stated that they just cleared the flow line of it. Mr. Fuller added that is not easy to do something in a municipality because of private property rights. Ms. Kabat stated that the Law Director is researching what standing the City has to go onto private property to clean out the Creek.

Rita Fisher, 1032 Maple Street, asked if part of the property taxes go towards Grassy Creek maintenance. Ms. Kabat stated that it is to manage the divisionary channel, not Grassy Creek.

Collin Rudnick, 939 Maple Street, asked what things could be done without being invasive or if there could be any volunteer efforts. He suggested a volunteer group of people that get private permission or if machinery is needed. Mr. Fuller understands that it is mostly heavy machinery, where they wipe everything out.

Mr. Fuller asked about the EPA and where we are with the sanitary overflow. Ms. Kabat stated the renewal application was submitted a month or so ago to the EPA. She is not anticipating any problems at this point in time. Ms. Godsey added that the Ohio EPA encourages integrative planning for wet weather communities.

SEWER CREDITS TABULATION

Ms. Godsey stated that there was one hose left on accidentally at 26343 Catawba, for a \$75.26 sewer credit. She suggested we start sending the Sewer Credits Tabulation electronically to reduce paper, like the Mayor is encouraging. There being no objections, the Committee is recommending this 2-0 to City Council.

UPDATES ON FORT MEIGS DITCH

Mr. Fuller asked for any updates on the Fort Meigs Ditch. Ms. Kabat stated that they have received back the stage one plans from the design firm. Mr. Thomas will circulate those to any Department that typically reviews any construction drawings for subdivisions, including Planning & Zoning, Fire, Utilities, Storm Water, Service, and Engineering. He will resubmit those plans with any notes, issues, and concerns. The firm has until March 1, 2023 to provide the final stage three plans that the City has approved.

AWARD DIGESTER IMPROVEMENTS DESIGN CONTRACT

Ms. Godsey stated that the Law Director prepared documents for design phase four of the improvement project at the Waste Water Treatment Plant involving digesters. There are safety improvements, relocation of the gas flare, replacement of corroded piping, inspection of the electrical system, review and condition of the mixing pumps, and assist with preparing the bidding documents. Jones Henry was the highest ranked and selected. Ms. Materni asked if we got a grant for part of that. Ms. Godsey stated that we received a \$175,000 grant from OPWC, Ohio Public Works Commission. There being no objections, this is being recommended 2-0 to City Council.

OTHER BUSINESS

Mr. Fuller stated that he goes to construction projects often and that the City does a great job of upkeep. He thanked them for staying on top of this in the Department.

Mr. Fuller mentioned construction bidding, which he has shared some documents with the Law Director. He added that we need to go above and beyond when dealing with tax payer dollars.

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 7:47 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Kevin Fuller, Chairperson
Public Utilities Committee

Next meeting: Wednesday, September 28, 2022 at 6:30 p.m.