

Minutes of Perrysburg Public Utilities Committee

Meeting Held February 22, 2023

CALL TO ORDER - 6:30 PM

The meeting was called to order at 6:30 p.m. by Chairperson Kevin Fuller.

ROLL CALL

Committee Members present were Kevin Fuller, Jan Materni, and Jonathan Smith. Also present was Matt Choma, Director of Public Utilities.

CITIZEN'S CONCERNS

None.

APPROVAL OF 01/31/2023 MEETING MINUTES

There being no objections, the minutes of the January 31, 2023 meeting were approved 3-0.

SEWER CREDITS TABULATION

Mr. Choma stated that there are five sewer credits, totaling \$1,660.14. One is for a hose left on, two are for broken or burst pipes, one is for a leak outside, and one is for backup sump pump.

GRASSY CREEK INTERCEPTOR REHABILITATION PROJECT - APPROVAL OF TASK ORDER #2

Mr. Choma explained that this is for an agreement with Jones & Henry Engineers, LTD. that will allow them to evaluate over 3,700 feet of sanitary sewer running along Grassy Creek. This will also allow them to develop recommendations for construction coordination and sequencing, and to prepare contract documents including design plans and specifications for public bidding. Mr. Choma added that this project is one of many that they have committed to implementing with OEPA. Ms. Materni asked if this is the area that Mr. Weber is concerned about, with it being so close to the road, which Mr. Choma confirmed yes it is. Mr. Smith asked about the size of the sewer. Mr. Choma responded that it varies from twelve inches to twenty-one inches. Mr. Smith asked about the legality of having to go onto the properties to fix a break somewhere along the line. There being no objections, this is being recommended 3-0 to City Council.

AMENDING CODIFIED ORDINANCE 1050.10

Mr. Choma stated that they need to update the Ordinance with new terminology, practice and recommendations from the city's consultant, Fishbeck, regarding the fees associated with the disposal of waste activated sludge. This is noted in their Wastewater Treatment Plan Capital Project Planning Report on May 27, 2021. Mr. Choma added that the rate charged will increase from \$0.04 to \$0.08 per gallon. Mr.

Fuller asked about the maximum. Mr. Choma stated that Fishbeck recommended they go up to \$0.12 per gallon, but wants to see how well this operates first. Mr. Smith suggested it goes up one penny each year on April 1st, until \$0.12 a gallon is reached, effective on April 1, 2023. There being no objections, this is being recommended 3-0 to City Council.

DITCH MAINTENANCE FUNDING AND ANY UPCOMING DITCH PROJECTS

Mr. Choma has color coded all of the ditches in the City, including ditches maintained only by the City, private ditches, operated and maintained by the County, and those operated by ODOT. There are three ditches scheduled to have some cleaning work done in the future which are along 199, behind Mr. Freeze playground area, and the Fort Meigs ditch project. Mr. Choma stated in the past it has all been funded through the sewer fund and there is a need to create a new funding mechanism for this. Mr. Choma added that the ditch cleaning has not been the focus of the department, but it should be, moving forward. Mr. Smith noted that ditch cleaning was not done much at all until about five to seven years ago, when they had issues with Fort Meigs.

Ms. Materni stated the majority of these ditches run along roads, so it is only proper that some of the money comes out of Service. Mr. Choma stated that there are private property issues. Mr. Fuller asked if it is more appropriate to take money from the general fund, in regards to paying out the scope of the project, such as paving and brush cleaning. Mr. Choma stated that anything related to ditch reconstruction is coming from the Utilities department and improvements for the multiuse paths and roadways come from Service or the general fund. Mr. Smith stated that it is something that should be on the radar, but that we do not need to jump onto it right away. Mr. Fuller added that we need buy-in from residents and that the Public Information Officer could do some initial outreach.

AMENDED BUDGET

Mr. Choma stated that some equipment has been moved forward or back, and some projects have been axed completely to do a few smaller projects moving forward. Mr. Choma noted the Emergency Response SSO and the importance of what it represents. Mr. Smith asked about the operator training. Mr. Choma responded that the employees are required to keep their certification hours up and this is to bring in someone, certified by the Ohio EPA, to do training. Mr. Smith asked about the 5th Street and 6th Street water main replacement, as well as the digester cleaning and improvement. Mr. Choma responded that the design will occur this year, for 5th and 6th Streets, but the construction will occur in the second quarter of 2024. He added that the digesters have not been cleaned in twelve years, but this will occur in 2024 because they need to wait for equipment to show up. Mr. Fuller emphasized looking at the general fund for some of the ditch work. Mr. Smith commended Public Utilities for how hard they work with what they've got.

INTEGRATED PLAN UPDATE

Mr. Choma stated that they submitted a workplan to the Ohio EPA to provide a

roadmap on how to solve the issues. Mr. Choma stated that they are concerned about the stormwater issue, where residents have flooding in their backyards, and clean water is getting into the sanitary sewer system. Mr. Fuller thanked Mr. Choma for the update and noted that we are moving in the right direction. Mr. Choma stated that the EPA has money available, in the form of low interest loans, versus grants. Ms. Materni added that because of our population size, it puts us out of a lot of agricultural funding.

BACKFLOW PREVENTION

MAUMEE RIVER TMDL UPDATE

OEPA DIVISION OF DRINKING AND GROUNDWATER TRIANNUAL SANITARY SURVEY

PROPOSAL OF A SANITARY SEWER EXTENSION TO ELIMINATE THE BROOKHAVEN PUMP STATION

WPC PILOT PROJECT UPDATE

UPDATING DEPARTMENTAL FEES FOR 2023

Mr. Choma stated that they are in the process of updating departmental fees. The goal is not to make money and not to lose money. Mr. Choma noted that he has a great staff. Mr. Smith stated that if they need anything, come talk to City Council. Mr. Fuller appreciates Mr. Choma's communication. Mr. Choma would like to bring in AJ, Mickey, and Lauren every four months or so to talk about projects they are involved in.

LEAD SERVICE IDENTIFICATION PROGRAM WITH OTHER WOOD COUNTY MUNICIPALITIES

GETTING SPECS ON EQUIPMENT PURCHASES - FIRST UP FOR 2023 IS A NEW EXCAVATOR

OTHER BUSINESS

None.

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 7:35 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Kevin Fuller, Chairperson
Public Utilities Committee

Next meeting: Wednesday, March 22, 2023 at 6:30 p.m.