

Minutes of Perrysburg Public Utilities Committee

Meeting Held April 26, 2023

CALL TO ORDER - 6:30 PM

The meeting was called to order at 6:34 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 03/22/2023 MEETING MINUTES

There being no objections, the minutes of the March 22, 2023 meeting were approved 3-0.

SEWER CREDITS TABULATION

Mr. Choma stated that there are nine sewer credits in total, since the last Public Utilities Committee meeting. Seven of the credits were for back up sump pumps, one was for a hose left on, and one was for a broken pipe/outdoor faucet running. These nine credits totaled \$1,712.66.

SEWER INFRASTRUCTURE COST RECOVERY (SICR) FEE REFUND

Mr. Choma explained that the Sewer Infrastructure Cost Recovery project is a concept of growth paying for growth. A developer will incur the costs upfront for a larger sewer and the City will reimburse them at a later date. Mr. Choma overcalculated the fees, so these are refunds, for Hawthorne Plat 7 and Canterbury Plat 3.

ENGAGE WITH THE COMMUNITY ON PROJECTS AND EVENTS TAKING PLACE IN THE CITY

Mr. Fuller stated that a resident on Seventh Street reached out because they were not aware of the Sanitary Sewer Improvements occurring on their street. He wants to know how we can communicate with and do outreach to residents better. Mr. Fuller mentioned Code Red Alert. Ms. Materni stated that it only works for people who enroll in it. Mr. Choma shared a letter was mailed to residents regarding the Sanitary Sewer Improvements on Elm Street and Seventh Street. Mr. Choma added that on smaller projects, in the past, mail has always been an effective enough tool. He added that this project went as well as one could expect. Mr. Fuller wants to get Marie Dunn, Public Information Officer, involved.

DRAFT OF THE 2023 DPU FEES

Mr. Choma shared the Department of Public Utilities' schedule of 2023 fees and 2022 for comparison. Mr. Choma stated that their department is now seeing the effects of inflation. Ms. Materni stated that this department has to be totally self-sufficient, so if they do not raise rates, they would operate at a deficit. Mr. Fuller appreciates Mr. Choma taking a look at these fees annually.

PROJECT UPDATES

Nutrient Removal Pilot Project at the WPC

Mr. Choma stated that they have done this on a smaller scale and will ramp it up. They had great effect and benefit from this, so they are taking a pause to clean the tanks and see what it will take to ramp up to the next step.

WPC Digester Imps

Mr. Choma stated that digester improvements is their next big task. They are supposed to clean out the digesters periodically and they have not been cleaned out in twelve years, which is too long. Improvements include new boilers, new heat exchangers, and new piping.

Elm Street CSO/7th Street Sanitary Sewer Replacement

The City has contracted with Kyle J Sherman Excavating for sanitary sewer improvements on Elm Street and Seventh Street. Mr. Choma explained that there was a blockage in the line, that was backing up flow, and causing CSO events to happen.

Integrate Plan/Amended LTCP

Mr. Choma stated that this is the project related to the tree streets and they are in the long stretch of data gathering right now.

Grassy Creek Interceptor Lining

This goes hand in hand with the Integrated Plan.

5th & 6th Street Watermain Replacement

This project has been in the planning phase since 2021. This is in the alleyways between Indiana and 5th and 6th. Mr. Choma noted that they have added in there to include replacement of any sanitary sewer laterals that they come across, so they are only in that area once. Ms. Materni asked if the property owners are assessed. Mr. Choma responded no, they are not assessed, just inconvenienced.

New DPU Campus

Mr. Choma explained that they have reached a layout that they are happy with from an operational standpoint, which maintains some of the existing buildings, plus allows for growth in the future. Mr. Smith asked about the property on the other side of the railroad tracks and if that could be used for a reservoir. Mr. Choma explained that would require pipes under the railroad tracks.

OTHER BUSINESS

Ms. Materni is concerned about the discussion of putting in a second access pipe for the water treatment in Toledo. Mr. Choma stated that it is a \$175 million project and will absolutely affect us. Ms. Materni wanted to make sure everyone is aware of it. Mr. Choma stated that there has to be a routine maintenance program at the very least. Mr. Fuller added that we should take a look at our rates and adjust them now, so there is not a sticker shock in five years.

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 7:20 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Kevin Fuller, Chairperson
Public Utilities Committee

Next meeting: Wednesday, May 24, 2023 at 6:30 p.m.