

Minutes of Perrysburg Public Utilities Committee

Meeting Held June 28, 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 were Matt Choma, Director of Public Utilities, and AJ Coleman, Deputy Director of Public Utilities.

CITIZEN'S CONCERNS

None.

APPROVAL OF 05/24/2023 MEETING MINUTES

There being no objections, the minutes of the May 24, 2023 meeting were approved 3-0.

SEWER CREDITS TABULATION

Mr. Choma explained that there are two sewer credits, totaling \$134.92. 810 Little Creek Drive had a leak in irrigation and 26448 Oak Meadows Drive left their hose on.

Mr. Smith asked about the downpours over the weekend and if there were any issues with overflow events. Mr. Choma responded that there was an overflow trigger, where the sensor indicated an instantaneous slug went through at 42 inches tall, so they are thinking it was a raccoon.

LEAK DETECTION EQUIPMENT PURCHASE

Mr. Choma explained that they received two quotes for leak detection equipment. Gutermann's quotes are for \$27,460.00 and \$14,105.00. Mr. Fuller asked how long this would last or if there are software upgrades to keep things current. Mr. Choma responded that he has used much less sophisticated equipment in the past and this equipment is rather robust and is designed to be handled in the field. Mr. Coleman noted that they applied for a grant for leak detection equipment, so that is why they are moving forward with the purchase. Mr. Choma does not have a Resolution attached to this, but will speak with the Law Director about that.

REQUEST OF QUALIFICATIONS FOR STORMWATER WATER UTILITY

Mr. Choma shared that they are requesting input from consultants on what it would take to build a stormwater utility.

SICR REFUNDS

Mr. Choma stated that this would authorize payment to Saba Home Builders LLC in the amount of \$50,014.92 for a sewer infrastructure cost recovery (SICR) refund. This is for Hawthorne - Plat 7 and Canterbury - Plat 3 subdivisions. There being no objections, this is being forwarded 3-0 to City Council.

DPU BUILDING UPDATE

Mr. Choma shared the final conceptual design for the Department of Public Utilities and Engineering complex. It would retain several of the existing buildings and add office, garage, and operations spaces to the east of the existing building. Mr. Choma noted that the design would also add vehicle storage and vehicle washing facilities. Mr. Smith asked about the property south of the railroad tracks as a potential reservoir for stormwater. Mr. Choma responded that it is part of a project that Arcadis is designing for them. Mr. Fuller thanked Mr. Choma for the update.

AMENDMENT TO RESOLUTION NO. 15-2023 9 (GRASSY CREEK INTERCEPTOR LINING PROJECT)

Mr. Choma explained that they have a services agreement with Jones & Henry and additional construction engineering services are necessary to complete the preliminary and detailed design for rehabilitating the Grassy Creek Interceptor. Mr. Coleman added that Engineering has decided they will take the brunt of the engineering responsibilities, so Jones & Henry will be kept on for more of a technical support role. There being no objections, this is being forwarded 3-0 to City Council.

NEW POOL FILL POLICY

Mr. Choma stated that the Department of Public Utilities is trying to accommodate residents that would like to fill pools. The options they were using required a lot of their staff's time and that they met as a group to create this Pool Filling Policy, which is the best option for residents as far as cost goes and helps keep their employees active in other areas where they are needed. The residents will have the option for a once-per-year "pool filling credit" upon request or the customer can use the services of a third party. Mr. Choma explained that the Clerk will calculate the winter average usage of the customer for the months of January, February, and March. Mr. Smith understands the idea of the winter average, but questioned if that average is true for summer months and is concerned that we may be giving too big of a credit.

APPROVAL OF 2023 FEES

Mr. Choma stated that they have had situations where a contractor will have a setup that is not compliant with City regulations and standards. They are adding in a fee as a penalty if they have to go out multiple times to address issues. The main increase in the costs are for materials and labor. Mr. Choma would like to present this on an annual basis every January, based on the costs in December. Mr. Fuller responded that it would be nice to review annually and not get behind. Ms. Materni noted that Public Utilities has to be entirely self-sufficient and they cannot operate in a deficit. There are no objections from the Committee and Mr. Choma will talk to the Law Director regarding this.

DEPARTMENTAL PROJECT UPDATES - AJ COLEMAN, DEPUTY DIRECTOR OF PUBLIC UTILITIES

Mr. Coleman highlighted the homeowners sanitary sewer grant program. He has completed six inspections this year and they have actually done four reimbursements. Mr. Fuller noted that this is more reactive when a plumber is doing work in a homeowner's home. Mr. Smith added that there could be reluctance from plumbers, since homeowners need to get two quotes.

Rita Fisher, 1032 Maple Street, stated that she has neighbors who have sump pumps and asked where the water goes if they unhook from the sanitary sewer. Mr. Coleman stated that the option would be to put it in her backyard and there are not very many close storm sewers. Mr. Smith will support any solution to those issues, even if it is the full dollar amount.

Mr. Coleman stated that they are updating their GIS System with Nathan Sommers in IT and the goal is to get their paper tracking in an electronic format.

Mr. Coleman shared good news that they applied for grants in 2021 for three different projects and did not initially get any funds. However, they are doing another round of grant awards, thanks to House Bill 45, and we may get those projects funded. One of the projects is the Grassy Creek Interceptor Lining.

OTHER BUSINESS

None.

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 7:42 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Kevin Fuller, Chairperson
Public Utilities Committee

Next meeting: Wednesday, July 26, 2023 at 6:30 p.m.