

PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMITTEE

OCTOBER 23, 2019

The meeting was called to order at 6:16 p.m. by Chairman Jonathan Smith. Committee members present were Jonathan Smith, Barry VanHoozen, and Mark Weber. Also present were Bridgette Kabat, City Administrator, and Alice Godsey, Director of Public Utilities.

CITIZENS' CONCERNS

Teresa Sozeri, 2099 Lexington Road, stated that the City's insurance company denied her claim for clean-up when sewage backed up into her basement, and she would like to know what the next step is. Ms. Kabat said that Ms. Godsey received an email from the insurance company saying that the claim was denied because there was no negligence on the City's part, but they are waiting to get the letter from the insurance company. She said that she will discuss it with the Finance Director and the Law Director.

MOTION ON SEWER APPEAL – 5182 BOSTWICK ROAD

Ms. Godsey requested approval of a motion granting a sewer credit to the resident at 5182 Bostwick Road in the amount of \$1,159.04 due to a faulty sump pump. Ms. Godsey said that they verified the water drained to the storm sewer and both sump pumps have been replaced. The Committee agreed 3-0 to recommend approval of the credit.

MOTION ON SEWER APPEAL – 26772 GREEN VILLE DRIVE

Ms. Godsey requested approval of a motion granting a sewer credit to the resident at 26772 Green Ville Drive in the amount of \$1,047.11 due to a water back-up sump pump. The resident has decided to cap the sump pump, and the Department of Public Utilities verified that the water went to the storm sewer. The Committee agreed 3-0 to recommend approval of the credit.

AWARD WWTP SCADA PROPOSAL FOR SOFTWARE AND AUTHORIZE HARDWARE PURCHASE

Ms. Godsey requested approval of an agreement with PAC Engineering for the upgrade of the SCADA system for the Wastewater Treatment Plant. Ms. Godsey said that they did an RFQ and received qualified statements from four firms. The cost is \$86,700 plus \$2,500 in options and a 10% contingency for a total agreement cost of \$98,120. Ms. Godsey also requested authorization to direct purchase the hardware for \$34,925 with a 10% contingency. She said that the purchase is included in the 2020 budget, but there is a sufficient balance in the 2019 budget to cover the purchase. Mr. Smith said that he understands the contingency in construction contracts but questioned it for this type of work. Ms. Kabat said that the implementation could require more hours for data conversion, and they can report what was spent to the committee at the end of the project. The Committee agreed 3-0 to recommend approval.

AWARD BID FOR BIOSOLIDS MANAGEMENT SERVICES

Ms. Godsey requested approval of awarding the bid for biosolids management services to Synagro. She stated that they went out to bid, but only one bid was received. Synagro is our current operator and hauler. The bid price is higher than our current rate but is in line. Ms. Godsey said that the unit price for land application is \$28.00 per cubic yard and \$25.00 per cubic yard for transport to the landfill. Since our current contract expires December 1, 2019, Ms. Godsey requested that this be passed as an emergency. The Committee agreed 3-0 to recommend approval of the agreement with Synagro.

2020 BUDGET

Mr. VanHoozen asked if the amount budgeted for miscellaneous repairs includes ditch work. Ms. Kabat said that \$150,000 was budgeted in 2019 and in 2020 in line item 332.1815.52263. Ms. Godsey said that the report from Bowser Morner about the Fort Meigs Road ditch is due back next week. Mr. VanHoozen asked when they will be rolling out paperless billing. Ms. Godsey said that they are testing it now. Mr. Smith asked about the number of customers paying minimum bills. Ms. Kabat said that they can get that information.

STAFFING UPDATE

Ms. Kabat stated that Matt Choma, the new Commissioner of Public Utilities will be starting on November 4, 2019.

OTHER BUSINESS

There was a brief discussion about a letter sent to developers and contractors regarding water taps and reminding them that they need to follow OSHA requirements.

Mr. VanHoozen asked if there had been any correspondence with the Township trustees. Mr. Smith said that he invited Mr. Mack to the meeting. Mr. VanHoozen said that this is bigger than just the rates, and he questioned whether the entire agreement needs to be reopened.

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 7:06 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Jonathan Smith, Chairman
Public Utilities Committee

Next meeting: Wednesday, November 27, 2019 at 6:00 p.m.