

PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMITTEE

SEPTEMBER 22, 2021

The meeting was called to order at 6:30 p.m. by Chairperson Jonathan Smith. Committee members present were Jan Materni, Barry VanHoozen, and Jonathan Smith. Also present were Bridgette Kabat, City Administrator, Kate Sandretto, Law Director, and Alice Godsey, Director of Public Utilities.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

There being no objections, the minutes of the August 25, 2021 meeting were approved.

SEWER CREDIT APPEAL 26693 GREENVILLE

William Schultz, 26693 Greenville Drive, is looking to get an appeal for a sewer bill in the amount of \$1,604.94 stated Mr. Smith. Ms. Godsey explained that it was a sump pump failure and confirmed with a dye test that the water goes to the storm sewer. The Committee agreed 3-0 to recommend approval of the sewer adjustment.

SEWER CREDITS TABULATION

There were no questions or concerns about the credits.

WATER & SEWAGE RATE STUDY DRAFT

Presentation by Michael Maker, Executive Consultant with NewGen Strategies and Solutions LLC. The water and sewer systems must each be financially self-supporting, water should not subsidize sewer and vice versa. Water and sewer rates should be kept as low as possible overtime. The recommendation is to adopt the recommended alternative charges and rates for the planning period. Mr. Smith asked about the rates for City of Toledo water and stated that the difference is what it costs each community to deliver the water into their homes. Mr. Smith also stated that he was under the impression that rates were supposed to be relatively equal amongst the different communities. Ms. Godsey stated that the end rate is being shown and that we are still in the rate transition period until 2027. Our cost will go up eleven percent and is incorporated into the rate.

Mr. VanHoozen asked how much reserve for capital is mandated or recommended. Mr. Maker stated that an average years' worth of capital was a good measure for reserve. Mr. VanHoozen asked about water usage and the gross amount. Mr. Maker explained that people have low flow fixtures, smaller household sizes, and conservation is being education to contribute to usage not increasing. Ms. Materni asked if the cost of water has built into it the cost of treating the water. Mr. Smith asked about the EPA Agreement that we have about the overflows and that there are still some unknowns that we have out there and what contingencies do we have in place if something significant comes in. Ms. Godsey stated that they have some CSO abatement costs factored into the capital improvement program for the five years. Mr. Smith

asked about the \$1.6 million for water line replacements for the central City. Ms. Godsey stated that water main replacements in the capital improvement program on the water side and that it will not quite finish it in the five years.

Mr. VanHoozen asked about inside versus outside Perrysburg. Ms. Sandretto stated that the City charges a different rate for individuals that live outside of the city but have City of Perrysburg water and/or sewer. Mr. Smith asked about revenue savings. Ms. Kabat said that it is designed and ready to bid. Ms. Godsey stated that the report would be presented for the October meeting. Ms. Sandretto asked Mr. Maker if he is contracted to present this to City Council and he said yes. Ms. Sandretto stated that there is a bill issue, contract was not to exceed \$44,300 and they would like to add \$9,900 to the contract. Ms. Kabat stated that we had some technical issues and caused us to spend more hours on this. Ms. Godsey stated that some of the work had to be duplicated with the new information provided. Mr. VanHoozen thinks that it is important for Council to see this. The Committee agreed 3-0 to recommend this to City Council.

OTHER BUSINESS

Mr. Smith asked about fire hydrants and why the tops are painted white because they could be hard to find during a snow storm. Ms. Kabat stated that sometimes a yellow top versus a white top tells people the size of the pipe underneath, but was not sure if this was applied throughout the City.

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 7:13 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Jonathan Smith, Chairperson

Public Utilities Committee

Next meeting: Wednesday, October 27, 2021 at 6:30 p.m.