

PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMITTEE

FEBRUARY 28, 2018

The meeting was called to order at 6:03 p.m. by Chairman Jonathan Smith. Committee members present were Haraz N. Ghanbari, Jonathan Smith, and Barry VanHoozen. Also present were Bridgette Kabat, City Administrator, and Alice Godsey, Director of Public Utilities.

MODIFICATION OF 208 PLAN BOUNDARY

Ms. Godsey requested approval of a modification to the TMACOG 208 Areawide Water Quality Management Plan. The modification would be contingent on a proposed economic development project to be located at Buck and Glenwood Roads in Perrysburg Township. Wade Gottschalk of the Wood County Economic Development Commission said that this location is already in the City of Rossford so it could not be annexed to Perrysburg. He said that the project has a very large sewer need. Ms. Kabat said that the flow from this project would go to the Toledo plant. She said that if we took the flow, it would compound our problems with CSO's, and we physically can't accept it. If the project does not go through, the area would stay as ours. The Committee agreed 3-0 to recommend approval of the modification of the 208 plan boundary contingent upon the siting and construction of the proposed project.

CSSD 211 PHASE 1 SPECIAL ASSESSMENTS

Ms. Godsey reported that the construction of Cherry Street Sewer Separation District 211 Phase 1 was completed last year. She said that affected property owners were notified by certified mail prior to the work beginning and an Equalization Board was convened and heard from property owners on April 21, 2016. Since the work is complete, it is now time to levy the assessments. Once City Council approves levying the assessments certified letters will be sent to property owners. There are 87 parcels that are a part of the district and the total of the special assessments is \$513,381. The Committee agreed 3-0 to recommend approval of levying the assessments as a non-emergency.

UPDATE OF SANITARY INFRASTRUCTURE COST RECOVERY PLAN

Ms. Godsey reported that a purchase order for \$7,300 was issued to Arcadis in August of 2017 to update the City's Sanitary Infrastructure Cost Recovery Plan. The original master plan was adopted by Ordinance 193-2003 in November of 2003. It calls for periodic updates and is a planning document for developers and the City. It spells out acreage fees for new development and was last updated two years ago. Mr. Ghanbari asked if there is a contract with Arcadis, and Ms. Godsey said she believes there is a master contract and that she will send it to the committee. Mr. Smith asked how this would affect projects that have already begun, and Ms. Kabat said she believes it would only affect projects without final site plan approval. Mr. Smith asked about the increases, and Ms. Kabat said that they will write up a summary and send it out to the committee and will put this item on next month's agenda.

TOLEDO AREA WATER AUTHORITY MOU

Ms. Kabat said that there is no new information regarding the Toledo Area Water Authority Memorandum of Understanding other than the City of Toledo announced that they received a legal opinion that they need to go to the voters to lease or sell their water treatment plant. They plan on putting it on the November ballot. Ms. Kabat said that they will be meeting with our partners in other jurisdictions in a couple of weeks in an effort to keep it moving. Mr. Smith said that if Toledo voters vote this down, we are at square one. He asked how discussions about a connection with Bowling Green are going. Ms. Kabat said that Bowling Green is willing to be considered as an option and they are willing to share data with us, but they are still researching.

OTHER BUSINESS

Mr. Smith asked about the budget amendment and utility related items that were included. Ms. Kabat said that there are several carryover items that were not finalized before the end of the year. She said that one addition is \$100,000 for a new billing system. We have been trying to go through an upgrade with our current system for years and we are not even close so we are changing gears and are looking at other options.

Mr. VanHoozen asked about fencing for the Fort Meigs ditch. Ms. Kabat said that there is \$150,000 for ditch maintenance activities. She said that they are reviewing information from CT Consultants to see if they should move forward with engineering plans. The construction estimate with engineering plans is \$67,000. Mr. Smith asked if any consideration has been given to moving the sidewalk to the other side of the street. Ms. Kabat said that there is not enough right of way on the other side. Mr. Smith asked about the cost to cover the ditch. Ms. Kabat said that it would probably be at least ten times the cost of cleaning it, if we were permitted to do it. Ms. Godsey said that the construction estimate is very preliminary. Ms. Kabat said that the goal is clean out the silt to prevent back-ups and clean the outfalls. Jay Valasek, 1566 Watermill Lane, asked specifically where the outfalls are that need to be cleaned. Ms. Kabat said that the Department of Public Utilities can mark it on a map. She said that the genesis of this project was because of calls from residents complaining about back-ups in their basements. Mr. Smith asked for a map showing city owned ditches and privately owned ditches. There was discussion regarding the timing of this project moving forward. Ms. Kabat said no trees can be removed between March 31 and October 1 per the EPA because of Indiana bats. Ms. Godsey said that the window for this has closed and it will have to happen in the fall. Mr. VanHoozen said that he is struggling with the cost of an additional engineering plan. Mr. Ghanbari asked if this is going to happen with every ditch. Ms. Kabat said that we have cleaned other ditches with no problems. Mr. Ghanbari asked if there were any problems with not knowing the grade on those ditches. Ms. Kabat said there has not been any problems.

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 7:30 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Jonathan Smith, Chairman
Public Utilities Committee

Next meeting: Wednesday, March 28, 2018 at 6:00 p.m.