

PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMITTEE

FEBRUARY 24, 2021

The meeting was called to order at 6:31 p.m. by Chairman Jonathan Smith. Committee members present were Jan Materni, Jonathan Smith, and Barry VanHoozen. Also present were Kate Sandretto, Law Director, and Alice Godsey, Director of Public Utilities.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

There being no objections, the minutes of the January 27, 2021 meeting were approved.

SEWER CREDITS TABULATION

Ms. Godsey provided the committee with the sewer credits that fell un her approval, and that she approved since the last committee meeting. She said that several were due to a back-up sump pump and there were a couple of hoses left on. She reported that year to date, the approved credits are \$1,962.00.

Mr. Smith stated that the Staff has done a good job handling the late billing issues, and asked for an update. Ms. Godsey said that Front Street residents just received their February bills this week, and the Staff has reviewed the options for receiving and paying their bill with them.

AUTHORIZE PURCHASE OF TAPPING EQUIPMENT

Ms. Sandretto presented a request to purchase tapping equipment from Pow-R Mole Sales LLC in the amount of \$34,171.75. She said that approximately 350 taps are done each year, and the current equipment is beyond its ten-year life span. Ms. Sandretto stated that the new equipment is automated which will create efficiency and decrease wear and tear on the equipment and employees. She asked that the legislation be approved as an emergency because the current tap machine is breaking down more frequently, and the last time it took ten days to get parts to fix it. Mr. Smith asked if these were done solely on the new homes, and as there is only so much space left to build new homes, how many more years we will be doing that many taps. Ms. Sandretto said that she believes the Land Use Plan shows that at the current rate of building, we will reach our borders in ten years. Ms Godsey also mention that this equipment is also used to for connections when water lines are replaced in older sections of the city. The Committee agreed 3-0 to recommend approval of the equipment purchase.

REVIEW 2021 BUDGET AMENDMENT

Ms. Sandretto stated that in the budget amendment there are two water line projects that were carried over. In the 402 (sewer) fund, several items were added: Replace Third Street sanitary sewer from Locust to Maple, Integrated Planning for Wet Weather Projects, Sewer Rehab I & I reduction, additional CSO modeling, and SCADA hardware. Mr. Smith asked when they would be reviewing water rates. Ms. Godsey stated that a progress meeting with the consultant is scheduled for the following day. Mr. Smith brought up a recent incident in Florida regarding a cyber security issue withthe water supply and asked if there had been any discussion with the Regional Board about cyber security. Ms. Godsey stated that the City of Toledo has had cyber security events in the past and many

of the regional water partners participated. Mr. Smith said that he recalls from his tour of the plant that it takes at least a day for the water from Toledo to reach Perrysburg. Ms. Godsey added that we also have more than a day's supply in our elevated tanks. Mr. Smith said that he heard there are some issues with additional costs regarding the boring for the East River Road connection. Ms. Godsey said that she does not have a new estimate, and they will be having a public meeting with Township residents so they can see the plans.

Mr. VanHoozen asked why the water line replacement for 5th and 6th Street alleys was not done last year. Ms. Godsey said it was a budgetary decision. Mr. VanHoozen also asked about the \$300,000 budgeted for meters. He asked if we have a meter replacement program. Ms. Godsey said we do not have a fixed schedule for meter replacement. She said that meters do need to be replaced occasionally. She added that meters for commercial development can be costly, and although they are paid for by the customer, we need to budget the money to pay for the meters. Mr. VanHoozen asked if the family on the SR199 water tank will be staying when it gets painted. Ms. Sandretto said that it does have to be painted over, and she is not sure what will go up there. Mr. Smith said that he would like City Council to have input on the design.

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 6:53 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Jonathan Smith, Chairman
Public Utilities Committee

Next meeting: Wednesday, March 24, 2021 at 6:30 p.m.