

PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMITTEE

JANUARY 27, 2021

The meeting was called to order at 6:35 p.m. by Chairman Jonathan Smith. Committee members present were Jan Materni, Jonathan Smith, and Barry VanHoozen. 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 December 10, 2020 meeting were approved.

SEWER CREDIT FOR 1103 VILLAGE SQUARE

Ms. Godsey stated that the Perrysburg Medical Arts building at 1103 Village Square had unusually high consumption in the summer of 2018, and the customer was notified about the high consumption. The high consumption continued in the summer of 2019 and 2020. In 2020, a leak was found in the irrigation system, and it was repaired. The property manager has requested a sewer credit for all three years. Ms. Godsey said that she is recommending a credit only for 2020 in the amount of \$18,203.44. Mr. Smith asked how far back we can go. Ms. Sandretto said that nothing in the Code limits it, but she would recommend only going back one year because you don't want to set a precedent. The Committee agreed that since the customer was notified about the leak in 2018 that the City is being generous, and that we don't want to set a precedent by going back more than a year. The Committee agreed 3-0 to recommend approval of the credit in the amount of \$18,203.44. Ms. Godsey said that since it has already been paid, if approved, this amount will need to be refunded to the customer.

SEWER CREDIT – W. INDIANA AVENUE

Ms. Godsey requested approval of a sewer credit in the amount of \$2,726.01 for the property at 429 West Indiana Avenue. She said that it is an older home and the meter is out in the yard. They had a water leak between the meter and the house. It was repaired in mid-December, and crews saw that it was draining to the yard so no dye test was required. The Committee agreed 3-0 to recommend approval of the credit.

SEWER CREDITS TABULATION

Ms. Godsey provided the committee with the sewer credits she approved since the last committee meeting.

AUTHORIZE DIXON ENGINEERING & INSPECTION SERVICES AGREEMENT

Ms. Sandretto stated that as required by the Ohio EPA, we had the water tank on SR199 inspected, and it was found that the interior and exterior need to be painted. She stated that this is a specialty field and requested approval of a contract with Dixon Engineering & Inspection Services in the amount of \$56,700. Ms. Kabat said that Dixon will create the bid specifications, we will bid out the work, and Dixon will provide inspection services

during the construction. The Committee agreed 3-0 to recommend approval of this agreement as an emergency measure.

TURNPIKE ACCESS – ENDORSEMENT OF EAST RIVER ROAD WATER CONNECTION PROJECT

Ms. Sandretto stated that in order to get an easement from the Ohio Turnpike Commission regarding the East River Road Connection project, an endorsement is needed from City Council that they want this done. Mr. Smith said it definitely makes sense since this project will save us \$700,000 a year. Ms. Materni asked if the fee is a one-time fee. Ms. Kabat said that there is a fee every ten years. Ms. Sandretto stated that the application fee is \$1,500 and then \$3,000 every ten years. Ms. Kabat stated that in order for the Ohio Turnpike Commission to review our design plan, we need this endorsement. Mr. VanHoozen asked what the cost of the project is. Ms. Kabat said it is estimated at \$3.5 million. The Committee agreed 3-0 to recommend approval of the legislation.

FORT MEIGS ROAD MUP UPDATE

Ms. Kabat stated that she has been in discussions with Ms. Godsey regarding the committee's request for a multi-use path alongside the Fort Meigs Road ditch. This request is outside the scope of the ditch design engineer, so a different firm, Bergmann, will take a look and see what will fit relative to a multi-use path. Mr. VanHoozen asked if this information would be available before the budget amendment is approved. Ms. Kabat said that it should be, although there might be a need for a special committee meeting. She said that a placeholder could be put in the budget amendment. Mr. Smith said that it is really important that we do this right.

OTHER BUSINESS

Mr. Smith asked how it has been going with the changes made regarding the late fees and if there have been any other issues. Ms. Godsey said that there have been positive remarks about the grace period and the once-a-year penalty waiver.

Mr. Smith said that letters were sent out regarding backflow devices. Ms. Kabat said that it is an EPA requirement to send the letters. She said their goal for this year is to come up with a back-flow program. Mr. Smith said that he would encourage them to determine the type of device required based on the severity of the use.

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 7:08 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Jonathan Smith, Chairman
Public Utilities Committee

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