

HEALTH, SANITATION AND PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMITTEE

JANUARY 12, 2017

The meeting was called to order at 5:30 p.m. by Chairman Jonathan Smith. Committee members present were Jonathan Smith, Barry VanHoozen and Becky Williams. Also present were Bridgette Kabat, City Administrator and Alice Godsey, Director of Public Utilities.

ESTABLISHMENT OF EQUALIZATION BOARD

Ms. Godsey requested approval of legislation creating an equalization board for Cherry Street Sewer Separation District 211 Phase 2. Fifteen objections have been received and will be heard by Equalization Board members Rodney Shultz, Steven Hegedus, Carol Shepard and alternate Lisa Richard on February 9. The Committee agreed 3-0 to recommend approval of the resolution establishing the Equalization Board.

UPDATE ON DRAFT NPDES PERMIT

Ms. Godsey reviewed a summary of significant provisions in the draft NPDES permit that was released on December 28, 2016 for public comment. The WWTP will be reclassified as a Class IV facility and the draft permit imposes a new minimum dissolved oxygen limit of 5 ppm. This was not included in any previous permit nor was it previewed or anticipated before or during the construction upgrades. We will probably need to install additional equipment to meet this new requirement. Mr. Smith asked where we are at now, and Ms. Godsey said that it is not consistent. Ms. Williams asked if we know when we will have to have the equipment installed by, and Ms. Godsey said that it appears this will have to be done by day one of the permit. Ms. Kabat said that we will be commenting on this requirement. The draft permit also requires completion of a phosphorous discharge optimization evaluation plan no later than twelve months after the effective date of the permit. Ms. Godsey said that this can be done in house and she believes that it is part of the Lake Erie Basin requirements. The draft permit requires more restrictive ammonia limits in summer and winter seasons. Plant personnel believe treatment protocols and equipment are in place to meet these stricter limits. The draft permit also calls for continuation of the mercury variance and the pollutant minimization plan associated with the variance. Ms. Godsey said that we have made progress in reducing this. The draft permit requires elimination of the Maple Street sanitary sewer overflow no later than five years after the effective date. The AECOM report, which is due March 1, 2017, will spell out alternatives for eliminating this overflow. The previous permit required post-sewer separation monitoring to document reduction to no more than four overflow events per typical year. The draft permit now indicates no overflows will be permitted by the end of this five year permit cycle. Ms. Kabat said that we will obviously be commenting on that requirement as well as the dissolved oxygen limit. Comments are due back by January 28, 2017. Mr. Smith asked how we will eliminate all overflows. Ms. Godsey said that the AECOM report will address how to get to four a year, but we'll need more engineering studies to get to zero. Ms. Kabat stated that they are saying we can no longer discharge out of CSO's. Mr. VanHoozen said that could wreak havoc. Mr. Smith said that he is

curious how many other municipalities have no CSO's in their permit and that he thinks the City has done a tremendous job in separating combined sewers. Ms. Kabat said that the Administration will check on the requirements of other communities and will provide that information at the next meeting.

RFP – DITCH MAINTENANCE

Ms. Godsey called attention to the draft request for proposals regarding a ditch maintenance plan that was distributed to Committee members. Ms. Williams asked if the contract regarding the Fort Meigs Road ditch cleaning said tree or vegetation removal. Ms. Kabat said that she does not recall, but she will send a copy of the purchase order to the committee. Ms. Godsey said that they are anticipating a three week turnaround for proposals and then they would be evaluated. Ms. Kabat stated that they anticipate that the proposals will come in under \$25,000 which falls within the Administration's scope, but if the committee prefers, legislation can go to full City Council. The Committee agreed that legislation should go to full Council and they agreed 3-0 to recommend approval of the Resolution authorizing the RFP. Mr. VanHoozen complimented the Administration on the RFP. He said that it is well written.

Scott Anderson, 1599 Watermill Lane, said that he found five other communities that are dealing with this same issue.

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 6:09 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Jonathan Smith, Chairman
Health, Sanitation & Public Utilities Committee

Next meeting: Wednesday, February 22, 2017 at 6:00 p.m.