

WATER AND SEWER UTILITY COMMISSION
Minutes

February 15, 2021

Brillion City Center

6:00 PM

CALL TO ORDER:

Chairperson Jeff Wittmann called the meeting to order at 6:00 pm.

ROLL CALL:

Present: Jeff Wittmann, Mary Jo Krueger, Russ Boldt, Dave Schwahn, and Leonard Kopidlansky

Not Present: Joe Levash, Dan Farrell

Also present: City Administrator Peter Wills, Public Works Director Andy Geiger, Clerk-Treasurer Patty Schreiber, Mayor Mel Edinger, Pete Litersky with MCO.

GUESTS:

Tony Kappell, McMahon; Paul Much, MCO.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA:

Motion – Boldt moved to approve the agenda as presented. Seconded by Schwahn. Motion carried.

APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES-January 18, 2021 Water and Sewer Utility Meeting:

Motion: Schwahn moved to approve the January 18, 2021 minutes. Seconded by Boldt. Motion carried.

APPROVAL OF VOUCHERS:

Motion: Krueger moved to approve the operating vouchers as listed. Seconded by Kopidlansky. Motion carried.

CITIZEN INPUT:

None

INFLOW & INFILTRATION REDUCTION PROJECTS:

2021 Projects

No update until we can get down to bid portion.

MCO REPORT:

Monthly Superintendent Report/Update:

Sampling for zinc: 1 time a week for influent zinc, 2 times a month for effluent zinc. The spreadsheet with the results was sent to the DNR. Never really got a strong response to that from the DNR. We have made a request to the DNR to stop doing this because of financial situation.

DNR was open to the request and gave the okay to discontinue. Not a waste of money, just money that does not need to be spent. No commitment made as to how long we will discontinue testing. The DNR did mention periodic testing may be requested. PPI will have to continue testing on their end for their DNR requirements. Savings will be approximately \$60.00 per month.

Having issues at the Main St well with Softener air reliefs and waste valves. Lee's Welding was there last week. Waiting for price quotes for new valves and air reliefs. It will be expensive, possibly over \$10,000. Replacing 4 air valves, 2 check valves and 2 air reliefs. A major upgrade or replacement would cost millions of dollars. Until then, it will be cheaper to replace valves than to rebuild them. There are five valves per softener. Should get 50-60 years out of a vessel. New AquaMatic valve will last 10-15 years before needing to be rebuilt. In general, a lot of life left. Will have periodic maintenance.

Valve repair on Horn/S. Main/Fairway intersection explained.

Storm sewer is not in good condition. Soda Factory service needs to be capped. This will cost approximately \$1,200. A second valve needs to be removed and replaced with a pipe. Estimated cost \$2,600. Trying to get rid of old abandon services as we find them. This is in the budget under valves and mains.

Motion: Kopidlansky made a motion to complete repairs up to \$4,500.
Schwahn seconded. Motion carried.

One of the doors to the mechanical room was not latched at Achievement Apartments causing the service and fire protection to freeze. Shut the main water off. Made sure meter valves were not in operation. No fire protection for the night, Fire Department was notified. Water was turned back on after the inside piping was replaced.

Notices were given out to 8 residents that had frozen services in the past. Cheaper to let water run at a pencil lead stream. If the resident calls for a meter reading the resident does not get charged.

Lead and Copper Rule- Brillion needs to plan for the future. Lead/Copper sample over exceedance level of 15. Now there is going to be a new trigger level of 10. In the future, no matter what, we will have to replace lead services. EPA wants the lead out of the ground. This will involve rate increases. No time frame for when this will be implemented, changes are coming. The complete facts are unknown at this time.

There was a water main break at 722 Lee Ave on Sunday February 14th. There were 4 water main breaks since November. Expect another as things warm up. Frost was 3 ft. deep on Lee Avenue.

Schwahn questioned how Well 5 was doing for sand. Have not seen any sand.

Replaced 2 meters that were old, not tampered with. Completed a dry meter run. Contacted Midwest Meter regarding those meters with issues. Goal is to get billing down to 2 days.

Sewer Cleaning Bids

5 Bids

PLC was the low bidder. Bids sent out to Speedy, Great Lakes, National Power Rodding, Green Bay Pipe and TV and PLC. Advertised in Brillion News.

Motion: MaryJo made a motion to award the Sewer Cleaning bid to PLC, seconded by Schwahn. Motion carried.

ENGINEER'S REPORT:

Started to work on the faculty plan in January. First 4-5 chapters in draft form. Coming up with future projections for planning. Once we have our rational and some projections complete will schedule a meeting with Andy and Pete once data is in good form.

Update on WWTP upgrade

Facility Plan moving along nicely. In year 3 of phosphorous compliance schedule.

Compliance schedule for phosphorus that goes through this entire permit term and into the permit plan term should the City chose to go through treatment plant upgrades to meet future phosphorous limits.

Treatment plan upgrades for improvements for phosphorus need to be in construction by 2024.

2022-year 4, final compliance approval plan, 2 years after, we need to be in construction.

Only deals with phosphorous; not capacity or aging equipment. Will have numbers by the end of June.

Not only looking at treatment alternatives but non-treatment as well.

Horn Park-Future Softener location/flood plain

Did find a map with potential future locations. Contacted Ron to see if location is in the floodplain. We have not heard back. DNR Surface Grant was supposed to have been started by October 2020 and completed by October this year. Looking into a delay or extension on that grant. City funds needed.

Does not see in City Budget. Please submit as much documentation as you can to the City Administrator so that it can be in the files and part of this discussion.

2021 Budget

Need 55,000 for facility upgrade study. Needs to be earmarked so we know where it is coming from.

We can hold off one more year on the van replacement. The van is starting to rot but think it can make it one more year. Able to take remainder from Reed bed cleaning. We do not have a need for effluent discharge cleaning in the near future.

Wittman questioned if we have looked at a used van? The municipal deal we receive on new vehicles hardly make it worth looking at used. Current van came with the racking. They do not make that an E Series van anymore. Recommendation is to split between accounts, so some is left in van replacement reserves in case something happens. Need to move \$1,500 into vehicle repairs account. This has been passed back with the General Budget.

Motion: Krueger made a motion to approve budget as amended: re-allocate money from van replacement, reed bed cleaning, effluent discharge to cover the \$55,000 for McMahon engineering cost. Add \$1,500 for vehicle maintenance. Boldt seconded. Motion carried.

CHAIRMAN:

No report

PUBLIC WORKS DIRECTOR:

Reviewed report handed out

Street Projects Bid:

A Portion of Street Project Bid - MCC is the low bid at \$156,344. Letter of recommendation from Ron Wolff, McMahan to go with low bidder.

Motion: Schwahn recommend to council to go with MCC at \$156,344. Seconded by Krueger. This is part of the grant money. Completion needs to happen by June 19, 2021. Pricing is approximately \$10,000 grant under projection. No water, sewer is not a huge job. Bulk of job is surface work. Anticipate there will be some special assessments. Edinger reminded apartments will be done by June 15th. Move in will start on June 16th. Geiger did speak with the principal of Holy Family. State Bank will always have access to the drive through. Verve has access off Custer Street. Randy's has limited hours. Their patrons will be able to get in. Items A 3. 4. 5. and 6. are of the water and sewer utility. All in favor. Motion carried.

CITY ADMINISTRATOR/CITY CLERK/TREASURER:

Wills thanked everyone for participating in last work session. Need to start looking at a rate increase discussion. Will be in touch with Amber, possibly June. Need to look into how our debt is structured. Looking to add to the 2022 Budget a special assessment module in Workhorse to track assessments. Split billing for the costs. Need to talk with lawyer regarding town residents' assessments. Making sure we use the current process; public hearing, etc. Wills will be bringing to Committee of the Whole and Council for discussion and recommendations as to what is to be enforced. Auditor raised a few flags with regard to unread meters and Industrial water usage. Conference call with Drewieske, Litersky, Geiger and Schreiber. Need to get a handle on items Drewieske brought up before we can move forward with rate increase. Krueger would like us to apply for a simplified rate increase process. We need to get Drewieske's input. CLA was looking for a full rate increase through CLA. Ehlers in the past, requested 80% of the information needed for CLA. Need to check with CLA to see if we are going to fail the simplified, or are we better off going with the full rate study. Simplified does carry a limit.

OLD BUSINESS:

Kopidlansky inquired how the water mixing system installed last year was working. Have not had an issue so far. Keeps ice from forming inside. Nothing new on Well 6.

NEW BUSINESS:

Krueger was wondering if anyone else took the DNR training at MPTC. Krueger and Kopidlansky took the first session. Thought there was something in the beginning of the training indicating half the commission needs to take the class and pass for funding or grants in the future. Suggested everyone take the class.

Course is paid for by the DNR so we should be taking advantage. There are two courses now and two upcoming. Krueger shared pages acquired from the training session listing links for funding options. Krueger will forward to Wills who will look into it. McMahon does keep an eye on that list.

ADJOURNMENT:

7:31 pm

Patricia A Schreiber
Clerk-Treasurer