

UTILITY COMMISSION COMMITTEE MEETING

May 15, 2023

Brillion City Center

5:30 PM

CALL TO ORDER by Jeff Wittman at 5:30pm

ROLL CALL

Present: Chairperson Jeff Wittman, Vice Chair Dave Schwahn, Russ Boldt, Dan Farrell, Leonard Kopidlansky, Mary Jo Krueger, Joe Levash

Absent:

Staff: Patty Schreiber

Guests: Pete Litersky-MCO, Paul Much-MCO, Tony Kappell-McMahon

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Motion: Farrell moved to approve the agenda. Second by Levash. All in favor. Motion carried.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Motion: Levash moved to approve the minutes of the April 17, 2023, Water and Sewer Utility Meeting. Second by Schwahn. All in favor. Motion carried.

APPROVAL OF VOUCHERS

Motion: Krueger moved to approve the Utility Vouchers as listed. Second by Boldt. All in favor. Motion carried.

CITIZEN INPUT - None

PROJECTS

Pine & Oak Project

Was discussed at the last Committee of the Whole meeting.

PUBLIC WORKS DIRECTOR

Replace Van/truck

Wittman discussed with Litersky. Litersky spoke with the police department for contact information. A plain work truck is approximately \$39,000. Litersky did stop at Horn Ford to see if they do state bid trucks.

Krueger inquired if the mayor was consulted as the Finance Committee may have another thought.

Electric vehicle grant did fall through.

Litersky explained he would like to see the City move away from the van as it has wasted space. Service boxes are not cheap and if we go with a service box may need a heavier truck. If we wait until later in the year we could possibly use the 2024 budget for the service box.

Farrell asked that we confirm the program we fall under with the state bid trucks and to pin down best option for outfitting.

160,000 funds for Lead Out work

Monies are in the General Fund.

Litersky brought up the DNR funding for private side lead replacement. Kappell will check with Ron Wolf to see if he has been involved with any applications. Can we even make the June 30 deadline?

MCO REPORT

Monthly Report

Wittman and Farrell were present for the DNR inspection. The inspection lasted approximately 2 ½ hours. Have not heard a response yet. Did receive an answer as to why we need to report the filter bypass. Rerouting inside the plant does not follow the way the plant was designed.

The swamp devil was discussed with the DNR rep. It has been sold. Looking into other options for replacement. It was suggested the swamp devil may not work well for what we are looking to do. Peter's Concrete is coming back June 5, 2023, to complete the Reed Bed project. Calumet County received a grant for spraying phragmites. The beds are overloaded with water currently. No capacity left. Trying to dry out the remaining beds that need to be cleaned. After June 5 will give them a break. PFA's were not detected in the water. DNR plans to cancel future PFA's testing.

Well #2 project will be starting June 12, 2023.

Hydrant flushing has been completed. Did receive a couple water complaints.

Main lift VFD was replaced.

Sewer cleaning was completed.

Ryan Street Lift will not be completed until mid/late October. Waiting on the necessary parts.

Tentative date for hydrant replacement on Hwy 10 is September 30. A hydrant on Grand and Parkway broke during the flushing process. Once all the parts are here will contact Ariens Plant 3 to arrange a date to replace them.

RAS check Valves

Able to replace two of the check valves for the RAS. Two valves broke in the process of shutting down. Will need to take down the clarifier so no water comes through while changing out the valves. The Crane quote is included in the packet. Was Crane's job.

Motion: Farrell moved to approve the Crane quote for \$7,698 for the check valve repair. Second by Krueger. All in favor. Motion carried.

ENGINEERS REPORT

Facility Plan Acknowledgment of Receipt from DNR

USDA – RD Funding

Received the acknowledgement in early May. This is standard procedure.

DNR did question funding; possibly principal forgiveness in 2024. Questioned with regard to needed approval date. If applying for principal forgiveness in 2024 the plan would need to be approved by the end of September. Currently a backlog of project approvals can take up to a year.

Principal forgiveness guidelines for 2024 are not in the City's favor. It is known there is a flaw in the system. Looking to revise the scoring for the 2025 cycle. 2024 would likely be minimal for principal forgiveness. Looking like will need to submit this year for 2025 funding. USDA Rural Development has different criteria for grant funding.

Clean Water is a State DNR program. This would be a 20-year loan at 55% prevailing interest rate.

USDA is Rural Development is a 40-year loan with a low interest rate.

Application for the USDA is typically started by the municipality. McMahon can jump in and assist the City with engineering data. If going with McMahon's assistance the fee would be included in the construction admin cost in order to cover the process. If going with Clean Water McMahon submits the ITA and Perf for the City at no cost. If the City chooses to go that route an agreement can be entered into. Kappell recommends looking at both paths. Recommend appointing someone from the City to initiate. Have the discussion with Rural Development to find out what is available grant dollars to better aid in the decision process. Kappell will get USDA contact information to Schreiber to initiate the contact.

CHAIRMAN - None

CITY ADMINISTRATOR - None

CLERK TREASURER

PSC Rate Increase nothing new to report

PSC Report

The PSC Report was completed by CLA and submitted at the end of April.

A copy was included in the packet. A question was raised as to why MCO is not listed as our operators.

OLD BUSINESS

Farrell discussed the 2023 budget.

NEW BUSINESS - None

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 6:46 p.m.

Patty Schreiber
Clerk/Treasurer