

WATER & SEWER COMMITTEE MEETING

September 28, 2023

The Water and Sewer Committee of Chardon City Council met on Thursday, September 28, 2023 at 4:30 p.m. in Conference Room A of the Chardon Municipal Center.

Deborah Chuha, Chairman of the Water and Sewer Committee presiding.

Members of the Water and Sewer Committee present: Deborah Chuha, Daniel Meleski.

Others present: Public Service Director Paul Hornyak, City Engineer Doug Courtney, Clerk of Council Amy Day, Finance Director Mark Iacofano, City Manager Randy Sharpe.

Mrs. Chuha called the meeting to order.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Mr. Meleski moved and Mrs. Chuha seconded to approve the minutes of the April 11, 2023 meeting as presented. Upon voice vote the motion passed unanimously.

Regarding the 2024-2028 Capital Improvement Plan, Mr. Hornyak reviewed the capital projects planned for 2024 including: Hidden Glen Water Line Loop, Water Treatment Plant Residing, a new phosphate analyzer, new influent and effluent sampling devices for wastewater testing, aerator replacement in the EQ Basin, replacement lift station pump, new trash pump and TKN burner for the laboratory.

Mr. Hornyak began reviewing the remaining water capital projects between 2025-2028.

Finance Director Mark Iacofano, began reviewing ending balances in each year for the water capital improvement fund, noting that the City tries to keep a 10% reserve in the fund's ending balance. It is projected that this will be achieved through 2026, and in 2027, a negative balance is projected. He noted that the Clearwell water tank construction in 2027 is dependent on the City receiving a grant or loan, and the water tower planned for construction in 2028 does not have any grants, loans or bonds planned for at this time.

Mr. Hornyak and City Engineer Doug Courtney, continued reviewing remaining projects in future years.

Mr. Hornyak reviewed projects on the unfunded project list.

General questions were asked by Committee members about projects on the unfunded list.

Mr. Sharpe asked if there were any questions about the funds.

Mr. Meleski stated that because alternative funding sources need to be looked at, grant opportunities and impact fees from open projects should be investigated.

Mr. Sharpe stated that the system development fees go back to repay the General Fund, but for sewer projects, the City could decide to stop repaying the General fund and use the funds for sanitary sewer work.

Regarding an update on remote-read water meters, Mr. Hornyak stated that there are approximately 80 meters remaining to be converted from manual-read to remote-read. He explained that at the time of the remote read water meter mandate, an opt-out policy was implemented which only one family is currently taking advantage of. A \$20 monthly fee was established for anyone wanting to remain as a manual-read customer. He stated that the next time the Committee meets, all 80 meters are expected to be installed, and asked the Committee to consider eliminating the opt-out policy.

Mr. Sharpe stated that when the opt-out policy was put in place, residents were told that they would need to return to remote-read meters when the remote-read installation was complete.

Committee members did not object to discussing the policy at their next meeting.

EXECUTIVE SESSION - none.

ANY OTHER BUSINESS - none.

ADJOURN

Mr. Meleski moved and Mrs. Chuha seconded to adjourn the meeting. Upon voice vote the motion passed unanimously.

The meeting adjourned at 5:16 p.m.

Attest:

AMY DAY
Clerk of Council