

Board of Municipal Utilities
Meeting Minutes
February 7, 2023
201 Miller Road
Avon Lake, Ohio

Call to Order – Roll Call

The meeting was called to order at 6:30 PM. The meeting was held in-person using web-based video conferencing technology and streamed live over Facebook.

Present: Mr. Abram, Mr. Dzwonczyk, Mr. Rickey, Mr. Rush, and Mrs. Schnabel

Also present: CUE Munro, CUO Yuronich, and Attorney Rinker of Mansour Gavin.

Approve Minutes

Mr. Dzwonczyk presented the Minutes of the January 17, 2023 regular meeting. With no additional changes, additions or corrections noted, he ordered that the minutes stand and be distributed as presented.

Public Speakers

Ms. Patty Nussle of 117 Ashwood in Avon Lake did not have any specific topic to speak about but wanted to attend the meeting because she is a user of water and is interested in what is going on with the utility.

Correspondence

No correspondence.

Expenditures

Following review of expenses dated February 7, 2023, for funds and amounts as follows, Mr. Abram moved, Mr. Rickey seconded, to approve the expenditures of January 13, 2023 through February 1, 2023:

Water Fund 701	\$	661,735.46
Wastewater Fund 721	\$	426,597.96
ETL1 Fund 703	\$	208,337.85
ETL2 Fund 762	\$	350,875.90
LORCO Fund 749	\$	23,269.75
Water Construction Fund 704	\$	667,328.15
Wastewater Construction Fund 724	\$	107,454.74
West Ridge Fund 702	\$	1,093.22

Ayes (per voice vote): Abram, Dzwonczyk, Rickey, Rush, and Schnabel

Nays: None

Motion carried.

Water Filtration Plant Manager

Mr. Dzwonczyk introduced Mr. Jason Gibboney as the new Water Filtration Plant Manager and asked him to say a few words. Mr. Gibboney introduced himself to the Board and thanked them for the opportunity to serve the customers of Avon Lake Regional Water. He is looking forward to beginning his work on Monday February 13, 2023. Mr. Dzwonczyk thanked Mr. Gibboney for introducing himself and welcomed him to the team.

Employee Promotion

Mr. Munro informed the Board that Mr. Adam Schultz will be promoted from Laborer Step 3 to Line Maintenance Technician Step 1 effective February 3, 2023. Mr. Munro said that based on the recommendation of Mr. Schultz's immediate supervisor he is receiving this promotion. Mr. Munro also said that Mr. Schultz has a very strong work ethic and positive attitude and looks forward to many years of dedicated service to Avon Lake Regional Water.

Project Updates

ETL Design Services: No update.

WFP Improvements: Mr. Yuronich said that HDR has submitted a response letter to the Ohio EPA addressing their comments on the plan submittal. Staff will be asking Ohio EPA to grant a waiver regarding their comments pertaining to additional corrosion control requirements. Mr. Yuronich said that staff is of the opinion that with the change from chlorine gas to liquid sodium hypochlorite, orthophosphate used for corrosion control will continue to be fed in the system. Since orthophosphate will continuously be fed in the system it is not necessary to start from the beginning of the corrosion control requirements and is unnecessary.

Mr. Rickey asked if the plant improvements included any modifications to the orthophosphate system. Mr. Yuronich said there is not any work that will be performed on the orthophosphate system, but Ohio EPA felt that because there will be a change in the treatment process, we must begin the corrosion control testing requirements from the beginning.

2022 Water Line Bundle Project: Mr. Yuronich said all work on the bundle project is complete and that all remaining restoration work in project areas will take place in the Spring.

Additional Storage Building: Mr. Yuronich said that the subcontractor, Foundation Steel, is primarily finished with the erection of the building. There are a few punch list items that remain, and Foundation Steel will complete those items when they receive the materials they are waiting on. Mr. Yuronich said that there is a bid opening on Friday February 10, 2023 for the garage doors on the building. Once the garage doors are installed, the demising concrete block wall will be constructed. Engineering staff is finishing up the bid specifications for the HVAC and fire sprinkler systems. An electrical engineer is designing the electrical demands for the building. Once the electrical design plans are received from the electrical engineer a bid solicitation will be issued for HVAC, fire sprinkler, and electrical services.

CUE Report

Mr. Munro reported that he attended the Charter Review committee meeting on February 1, 2023 with Mr. Rickey. The committee relayed an invitation for the Board to attend a meeting on March 15, 2023 to discuss any charter amendments that the Board of Municipal Utilities would like to put forth. Mr. Rush asked if all Board members attended the Charter Review meeting was it necessary to advertise the meeting to satisfy Sunshine Law requirements. Mr. Munro said that the schedule of Charter Review meeting dates and times are published by the Clerk of Council, and they are public meetings. If there is a quorum of Board members at the meeting, the necessary requirements under the Sunshine Law are met.

Miscellaneous & Member Reports

Mr. Rickey reiterated that he attended the Charter Review committee meeting with Mr. Munro on February 1, 2023. He said that in reviewing the Charter there is an entire section specific to Utilities and the Board of Municipal Utilities. Mr. Rickey said that he feels that the Board should have representation on the committee as well.

Mr. Rickey also reported that he attended a tour of the Water Filtration Plant with the Rotary Club group. He thanked Mr. Yuronich and Mr. Kimevski for their time and for providing a nice tour for the group.

Mr. Abram provided a recent news article to Board members relating to the ban of asbestos material by the US EPA in the production of chlorine gas and said this could affect utilities across the United States.

Mr. Dzwonczyk reported that he and Mr. Munro attended two meetings over the past couple weeks with new Lorain County Commissioner Jeff Riddell and Mayor Bradley from the City of Lorain.

Public Speakers

None.

Executive Session

Mr. Rush moved, Mr. Abram seconded, to meet in executive session as allowed by ORC §121.22 (G)(1) and (G)(3) to discuss the employment of a public employee and pending legal matters and to include the CUE, the CUO, and a representative from Mansour Gavin.

Ayes (per roll-call vote): Abram, Dzwonczyk, Rickey, Rush, and Schnabel

Nays: None

Motion carried.

The Board entered Executive Session at 7:05 PM

The Board reconvened at 8:38 PM

Adjourn

As there was no further business, Mr. Abram moved to adjourn, and Mr. Rickey seconded. The meeting adjourned at 8:38 PM.

Ayes (per voice vote): Abram, Dzwonczyk, Rickey, Rush, Schnabel

Nays: None

Motion carried.

Approved February 21, 2023.

John Dzwonczyk, Chairman

Robert Munro, Clerk