

Board of Municipal Utilities
Meeting Minutes
March 3, 2020
201 Miller Road
Avon Lake, Ohio

Call to Order – Roll Call

The meeting was called to order at 6:30 PM.

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

Also present: CUE Danielson, CUO Munro, Technical Support Specialist Collins, Mayor Zilka, and Councilwoman Fenderbosch.

Approve Minutes

Chairman Dzwonczyk presented the minutes of the February 18, 2020, work session and regular meeting. With no changes, additions or corrections noted, he ordered that the minutes stand and be distributed as presented.

Public Speakers

None

Correspondence

None

Expenditures

Following review of expenses dated March 3, 2020, for funds and amounts as follows, Mr. Abram moved, Mr. Rush seconded, to approve the expenditures of March 3, 2020:

Water Fund 701	\$	303,927.10
Wastewater Fund 721	\$	207,613.46
MOR Fund 703	\$	58,884.95
MOR Fund 762	\$	33,573.14
LORCO Fund 749	\$	4,950.43
Lateral Loan Fund 765	\$	4,000.00
Water Construction Fund 704	\$	621,408.53

Ayes: Abram, Dzwonczyk, Rush, Phillips, and Schnabel.

Nays: None

Motion carried.

Flow Diversion Project

The CUE informed the Board that staff has been working with Ohio EPA to assure that the plans for the Flow Diversion Project are approved and submit all required prerequisite documents for loan approval. He said that at the last Sewer Committee meeting, staff presented the Flow

Diversion Project and requested Council approve legislation authorizing the Mayor to co-sign the loan documents. The CUE also said that once there is an understanding from the Ohio EPA that the plans are approved, staff intends to advertise the project for bidding. Mr. Abram asked if there was a cost estimate for the project. The CUE stated that there was no exact estimate at this point, but he believes it will be between \$400,000 and \$500,000. He did add that this would be at the hopeful 0%-interest rate.

The Chairman asked how the sewer performance has been since the finalization of the sewer overflow system. The CUO informed the Board that there have not been any overflows since the separation of sewers. He also said that there have been no complaints of basements flooding, and the wastewater plant has been able to handle all of the inflows. Mrs. Schnabel asked if there had been any overflows or issues since the implementation of the new system. The CUO stated to the Board that they have not had any issues. He said that they have been gathering data and will continue to do so for the next 2 years. He also said that for the Long-Term Control Plan Avon Lake Regional Water will need to perform sampling if there is an overflow event.

The Chairman asked when the Flow Diversion Project will be completed. The CUE stated that he is hoping to get the project awarded within the next two to three months. He would like to have the project finished before the end of the year.

Lake Erie Water Levels

The CUE presented to the Board several graphs and slides representing Lake Erie's water levels and related information. He said that Lake Erie broke the historical February high water level record by 6", and it is forecast by the Army Corps of Engineers to continue breaking monthly records for the next four months. The CUE stated that on February 7, 2020, the water level was measured at 9" above one month earlier, 14" above one year earlier, and 37" above the long-term February monthly average.

The CUE said that the biggest contributor to the increased lake levels is precipitation. He said that due to warmer temperatures, rain, rather than snow, has been falling. He also said that in the last 12 months, rainfall in the Lake Erie basin was 7% above average and in the entire Great Lakes basin was 5% above average. The CUE informed the Board that 80% to 90% of the water entering Lake Erie comes from the upper Great Lakes. He added that water leaves Lake Erie through the Niagara River and through evaporation but that the cloud cover in January limited evaporation. He said that this was a brief overview on the current water levels in Lake Erie and how it has affected the water source.

Project Updates

2019 Water Main Replacement Bundle: The CUO informed the Board that during the week of February 24th, the contractor finished installing the new water main on Jaycox. He said that for the week of March 2nd, the contractor will begin installing water service lines to homes. He said

that this work is expected to last approximately four weeks; and once water service work is complete, the contractor will begin road resurfacing and tree lawn restoration.

The CUO also informed the Board that the Lake Road waterline replacement work was completed during the week of February 24th. He said some final spot repairs for road restoration is the only outstanding item and will take place when the weather allows.

Redundancy & Future Capacity Project: The CUO also stated that on February 26th, HDR spent the day at the WFP, reviewing the plant for Task 2 – Water Treatment Facility Assessment. Areas of focus included water quality challenges, redundancy limitations and single points of failure, operational challenges, and infrastructure. On March 13th, the next risk and resiliency assessment workshop is scheduled in order to begin discussing the draft report and implementation plan.

Water Filtration Plant Operator

The CUO informed the Board that staff interviewed Water Filtration Plant Operator candidates from the approved Civil Service list in January and unanimously selected Greg Kushner to fill the position. He said that Mr. Kushner had successfully passed the physical, drug screening, and background checks and began employment as a Water Filtration Plant Operator, Step 1B on February 27, 2020.

Intern

The CUE brought to the Board's attention that the engineering intern, Jarod Larson, was receiving a raise to his hourly pay. He said that Mr. Larson, who assists the Engineering Services Manager, would be increasing to the rate of \$14/hour from \$13/hour. He also said that Mr. Larson has been working at Avon Lake Regional Water since September of 2017, and during that time he has provided excellent assistance on a variety of issues. The CUE stated that he usually works about 10 hours a week while school is in session and 40 hours a week during school breaks. He said that the increase will take place on March 2, 2020.

CUE and CUO Reports

The CUO informed the Board that he had gathered more information regarding the UV bulbs that are used for disinfection at the water reclamation facility. He said that the bulbs that they use now are much more powerful, require fewer bulbs, and are a significant reduction in maintenance.

The CUO also stated that he had been in discussions with our network integrators regarding the network security of Avon Lake Regional Water. He informed the Board that the system runs on two different networks, and he said that this was done intentionally. He said that he plans on updating the Board on the developments regarding the security system firewall update, and he will bring plans to the next Board meeting.

The CUE informed the Board that on February 25th he attended the quarterly OAWWA Technology Committee meeting in Columbus. He said that while he was there, he met with officials from Columbus and a law firm that manages the Association of Ohio Municipal Wastewater Agencies, of which Avon Lake Regional Water is a member. He said that during the meeting they began discussing options for representation in Columbus tracking legislation and advocating on behalf of water utilities. Currently AOMWA tracks legislation and advocates on

behalf of wastewater utilities. On the drinking water side, there is currently no professional representation. OAWWA Water Utility Council members such as the CUE do what they can on an ad hoc basis as time allows. There are a number of ways for eventual representation of water utilities in Columbus, including an expansion of services by OAWWA or AOMWA or, possibly, a new organization. The CUE may again be in Columbus on March 6th to explore with OAWWA whether this may be something that they want to fall under their purview or if it should be a separate organization.

The CUE mentioned to the Board that the Environmental Affairs Advisory Board Tour of the Water Filtration Plant is Wednesday, March 4th at 6PM.

Member Reports

Mr. Rush said that he spoke with Mr. Abram regarding the comments he had on the Columbia Township agreement for LORCO. He and Mr. Abram have asked the Technical Support Specialist to redline the comments to make the changes more distinct and clear for the Board members. The Chairman asked that the members hand back the original, and the amended version will be distributed by the Technical Support Specialist.

Miscellaneous

None

Public Speakers

None

Executive Session

Mr. Rush moved, and Mr. Abram seconded, to meet in executive session as allowed by ORC 121.22 G. (3) to discuss property and pending legal matters to include the CUE, CUO, and Technical Support Specialist.

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

Nays: None

Motion carried.

Adjourn

As there was no further business, Mr. Abram moved to adjourn, and Mr. Rush seconded. The meeting adjourned at 7:34 PM.

Ayes: Abram, Dzwonczyk, Rush, Phillips, and Schnabel.

Nays: None

Motion carried.

Approved _____ 2020.

John Dzwonczyk, Chairman

Todd Danielson, Clerk