

Board of Municipal Utilities
Work Session Minutes
June 18, 2019
201 Miller Road
Avon Lake, Ohio

Call to Order – Roll Call

The meeting was called to order at 6:00 PM.

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

Also present: CUE Danielson, CUO Munro, Technical Support Specialist Collins, Mayor Zilka, and Community Outreach Specialist Arnold (arrived partway through the meeting).

Amendment to CDM Smith Agreement

The CUE presented to the Board that upon receipt of the draft NPDES permit modifications, staff has finalized the scope of work and budget for CDM Smith to prepare the basis of design for the flow diversion structure. He explained that the attached scope of work will prepare a basis of design for two separate configurations for the flow diversion structure. The CUE told the Board that staff needs to work with CDM to explore a few options to help minimize design costs, long-term operation costs, and provide the most flexibility for future possibilities.

The CUE informed the Board that staff will bring the final design and construction services to the Board for their approval once the basis of design is completed. He stated that the intention is to award the construction of the work during the fall so that it may qualify for a 0%-interest loan, the offer for which expires at the end of this year.

The CUE explained that there is a bottleneck in the effluent piping that affects how quickly water can leave the plant. The CUO informed the Board that the current choke point is limiting how much can be discharged from the Water Reclamation Facility. He stated that the plant has the capacity to discharge more than 20 million gallons per day; and, with a new design, the plant will be able to avoid backing up at the bottleneck. He also said that the plant is currently able to discharge about 13 million gallons per day and diverting effluent flow through the storm sewer would bypass the choke point. Mrs. Schnabel asked where the storm sewer would discharge. The CUE informed the Board that it is located at Miller Beach storm pipe. The Chairman asked if there is a backflow due to the bottleneck. The CUE informed the Board that during rain events there is a backup.

Mr. Rush asked if there was any reason in particular that the discharge pipe that is used goes from a size 30 inch pipe down to a 24 inch pipe. The CUE stated that staff has not been able to determine why past plans installed a pipe decreasing in size. Mrs. Schnabel asked if the 20 million gallons discharged per day is possible. The CUO informed the Board that Avon Lake Regional Water has the ability to discharge 20 million gallons per day, but the Water Reclamation Facility would require additional work.

Mr. Rush asked if the new design for flow diversion will allow the blending of effluent with discharge. The CUE told the Board that the new design would include preparations to

allow it if federal/state law was modified and that the UV system would need to be upgraded if that path was followed. Mr. Phillips asked if Avon Lake Regional Water would still need to install wet weather storage if blending was allowed. The CUE explained that the current federal-level discussion regarding blending could potentially save Avon Lake Regional Water and its customers millions of dollars by possibly preventing the need for wet weather storage and that it is staff's hope to get the bypass facilities installed quickly and the sewer models updated in order to determine whether blending may be a long-term option to prevent sewer overflows.

Mrs. Schnabel asked if the proposed plan will fix the overflow problem, or if there will be phases to implement the design. The CUE stated that the flow diversion is a first step. Mr. Rush asked if the staff saved on expenses by using the engineering firm CDM Smith. The CUE informed the Board that CDM Smith is aware of all the details, are familiar with the facility, and they understand the project very well. Mr. Phillips asked with approving the design expenditures if the project would require a new bid. The CUE said that the design plans would not require a new proposal but the construction project would necessitate a new bid. Mr. Rush asked if the rate charged by CDM Smith was reasonable compared to in-house design. The CUE stated that the in-house design would be less expensive, but the engineering department is already working on a number of projects.

The Chairman asked how much of the storm-related bacteria in the lake is from sewage overflows. The CUE stated that a high amount of bacteria is due to the runoff from wildlife and that during the remainder of the year, a number of combined sewer overflows would be closed off. He looked forward to seeing how much that impacts water quality. Mr. Rush asked if there was a preliminary price from CDM Smith for the construction. The CUE informed the Board that CDM Smith will provide a construction cost estimate with the basis of design.

Adjourn

With no other business, Mr. Abram moved to adjourn, Mr. Rush seconded. The Chairman concluded the work session at 6:40 PM.

Approved _____ 2019

John Dzwonczyk, Chairman

Todd Danielson, Clerk