

Board of Municipal Utilities
Meeting Minutes
August 16, 2022
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, Facilities & Asset Manager Kimevski, Attorney Rinker, and Attorney Khawam of Mansour Gavin.

Approve Minutes

Mr. Dzwonczyk presented the Minutes of the July 5, 2022 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 August 16, 2022, for funds and amounts as follows, Mr. Abram moved, Mr. Rickey seconded, to approve the expenditures of July 1 through August 10, 2022:

Water Fund 701	\$	1,020,628.67
Wastewater Fund 721	\$	535,498.26
MOR ETL1 Fund 703	\$	561,923.23
MOR ETL2 Fund 762	\$	960,912.78
LORCO Fund 749	\$	32,505.38
Water Construction Fund 704	\$	109,885.32
Wastewater Construction Fund 724	\$	164,440.21
West Ridge Interconnect Fund 702	\$	47,597.17

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

Nays: None

Motion carried.

Power Plant Update

Mr. Munro said that Charah held a public meeting on July 19, 2022 at Avon Lake High School. The meeting was attended by Mr. Dzwonczyk, Mr. Yuronich, Mr. Kimevski, and several staff members. Staff spoke with members of the Charah team regarding their concerns related to the proper cleanup of the old power plant site.

Mr. Munro said that staff met with City of Avon Lake representatives to discuss the coordination of activities at the site and to share information. Avon Lake Regional Water is taking the lead role in regard to environmental aspects of the site cleanup.

Mr. Yuronich said that he has been in contact with Ohio EPA in regard to asbestos abatement activities that are taking place at the site. He said that he spoke directly with Kurt Princic, who is the District Chief for the Ohio EPA Northeast District Office, and they have made several inspection visits to the site and the results were favorable. Ohio EPA provided inspection reports from those visits to staff for their records.

Mr. Yuronich stated that he and other staff members toured the old power plant site and were able to view the asbestos removal activities that were taking place. Mr. Dzwonczyk asked to what extent staff was able to see the work being performed within the power plant. Mr. Yuronich said that they were provided a tour of the entire facility, inside and out. Mrs. Schnabel asked who was performing the asbestos abatement. Mr. Munro said that it was a sub-contractor hired by Charah. Mrs. Schnabel asked how does staff know what activities are happening when at the site. Mr. Kimevski said that he is visiting the site a couple times throughout the week to ensure that activities are consistent with what Charah staff are relaying to Avon Lake Regional Water staff. Mr. Dzwonczyk asked Mr. Munro if he could provide an estimate of how much asbestos abatement is complete. Mr. Munro said that he could not provide that estimate because he does not know how much asbestos is contained within the facility.

Mr. Kimevski said that Charah has implemented a color-coded system for drain covers at the site and that proper containment protocols are being followed at the site to control runoff. Once demolition begins at the site, Charah will be required to implement a Storm Water Prevention Plan.

Mr. Dzwonczyk said that he is in contact with site manager Mr. Wayne Woodruff and has received favorable reports from staff in regard to the activities Charah is performing at the site.

Mr. Dzwonczyk asked Mr. Kimevski where the asbestos was taken after removal. Mr. Kimevski said it was being taken to a landfill but he did not know which one. Mr. Rush asked staff if they have had any discussions regarding coal dust and/or PCBs in the plant. Mr. Munro and Mr. Yuronich both stated that they had not had specific discussions with Charah regarding PCB's and/or coal dust.

Mr. Munro closed out the discussion by stating that the number one priority is protecting Lake Erie for the health, safety, and welfare of the public.

Distribution Supplies Bid

Mr. Munro said that bids were opened on August 10, 2022 for the semi-annual distribution supplies. He said that some bid items went down in price from the previous year but that many of the bid items increased in price. He also stated that the best comparison was to compare the current pricing to the pricing in 2020. Three-quarter (3/4) inch copper has more than tripled in price from 2020 to 2022. This is an indication of the significant price increases that the utility is experiencing. Mr. Munro said that the items on the bid are estimated quantities and are plus or minus and there is no guarantee to a vendor of how many items will be purchased under this contract.

Mr. Rush stated that he counted twenty-one (21) items that received no bid from either bidder and asked how staff would handle those items. Mr. Munro said that staff has fulfilled the requirement of publicly bidding the items and that if they need to purchase any of these items they may do so after receiving the appropriate quotes.

Mr. Dzwonczyk said that with the high cost of these materials that staff should take exceptional care to ensure that the materials in inventory are secured appropriately.

With no further discussion, Mrs. Schnabel moved, Mr. Rush seconded, that the semi-annual Distribution Supplies bids be awarded, effective September 1 through December 31, 2022, in accordance with the following:

Supplier: **Core & Main**
Bid Items: 1A-1D, 2A-2D, 3A-3D, 4A-4V, 5A, 5B, 6A-6E, 7A, 7B, 8, 9A-9E, 10A-10K, 11A-11M, 12A-12C, 14-14H, 15A-15C, 16A-16E, 17A-17J, 18A-18H, 19A-19D, 20A-20D, 21A-21C, 22A-22L, 23A-23I, 24A-24S, 25A, 25B, 26A-26C, 29-29E, 30-30I, 31-31C, 32-32B, 33, 34, 35-35B, 36-36B, 37-37K, 38-38C, 38E, 39-39B, 39F, 39H, 40, 41, 42-42D.

Total Contract: **\$2,061,159.55**

Supplier: **Pipelines, INC**
Bid Items: 12D, 12E, 13A-13C

Total Contract: **\$13,250.50**

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

Nays: None

Motion carried.

Project Updates

ETL Design Services: Mr. Yuronich said that there were some elevation changes to the suction line design that required additional review by staff. Staff has reviewed those changes and provided comments to HDR. Mr. Yuronich said that easement acquisition work continues and currently Attorney Schrader is focusing his efforts with First Energy as they own the most parcels where easements are needed. The CUE is currently reviewing a proposed agreement from the Stream & Wetlands Foundation for the purchase of wetland credits to be used for wetland mitigation on this project. Once this agreement is executed, and credits are secured, the permit with the US Army Corps of Engineers can be submitted for approval.

WFP Improvements: Mr. Yuronich said the application was submitted to Ohio EPA for approval of the design and comments should be received sometime in September. Staff and HDR are investigating options for both the onsite sodium hypochlorite generating station as well as the feasibility of purchasing chemical storage silos from the power plant before they are scrapped. Mr. Munro said that there is other equipment at the power plant that staff is interested in procuring before it is scrapped. He said that this could be a significant cost savings compared to purchasing new equipment.

2022 Water Line Bundle Project: Mr. Yuronich said that UUI is finishing up the waterline work on Redwood Blvd. west of State Route 83 during the week of August 18, 2022 prior to students and teachers returning for the new school year. Roadway work continues on Avon Point and Armour Rd. and storm sewer work will begin on Coveland during the week of August 22, 2022.

Mr. Dzwonczyk asked about the work on Coveland and what was being done there. Mr. Munro said that it was storm sewer work that is being completed under the bundle project and that the City of Avon Lake is paying for this work. The current storm drains are undersized and are susceptible to clogging and this work will install a new storm sewer and the appropriately sized catch basins.

CUE Report

Mr. Munro informed the Board that staff received one of the Ford F550 trucks that was ordered in July of 2021. He also stated that the second truck that was ordered at the same time should arrive this month.

Mr. Munro reported that staff is currently working with HDR on the scope of services for the onsite sodium hypochlorite generating station. He said he anticipates that staff will have a recommended motion for approval at the September 6, 2022 meeting.

Mr. Munro reported that the Engineering Services group is working on cost estimates for the 2023 Water Line Bundle Project. Currently there are ten (10) streets that are being considered for waterline replacement. The waterline on these streets is over seventy (70) years old and staff is experiencing more frequent repairs due to its age.

Miscellaneous & Member Reports

Mr. Abram said that he was reviewing City Council ordinances that were on the agenda for passage and there was reference to Avon Lake Regional Water comments for the Legacy Isle Subdivision Phase 2. He asked if Mr. Munro would explain what the comments were and if they had been addressed. Mr. Munro said he did not know what the specific comments were but that the Engineering Services group reviews all subdivision plans to ensure that specifications are met for water and sanitary sewers. It is common that approval of subdivisions by Council will include conditions that address staff comments. As long as the comments are addressed to satisfaction of staff then the subdivision is approved by Council.

Public Speakers

None.

Executive Session

Mr. Rush stated that the Board may choose to take action after the Executive Session.

Mr. Rush moved, and Mr. Abram seconded, to meet in executive session as allowed by ORC §121.22 G (1), ORC §121.22 G (2) and ORC §121.22 G (3) to consider personnel, the purchase and/or sale of property, and pending legal matters and to include the CUE, the CUO, the Facilities & Asset Manager, and representatives from Mansour Gavin.

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

Nays: None

Motion carried.

The Board reconvened at 8:26 PM.

Water and Sewer District

Attorney Rinker and Attorney Khawam presented information to the Board regarding the formation of a water and sewer district as allowed by O.R.C. §6119. There was discussion regarding the pros and cons of forming this type of district and what necessary steps are required to form such a district. Attorney Rinker stated that it would require a change to the Avon Lake Charter and that staff and the Board would need to engage City Council and the Mayor to facilitate the process from a legislative standpoint so the change could be placed on the ballot for voters.

Adjourn

As there was no further business, Mr. Abram moved to adjourn, and Mr. Rush seconded. The meeting adjourned at 9:24 PM.

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

Nays: None

Motion carried.

Approved September 6, 2022.

John Dzwonczyk, Chairman

Robert Munro, Clerk