

Board of Municipal Utilities
Meeting Minutes
September 15, 2020
201 Miller Road
Avon Lake, Ohio

Call to Order – Roll Call

The meeting was called to order at 6:30 PM. As allowed by the Ohio Legislature during the Governor's declared emergency, the meeting was held using web-based video conferencing technology and streamed live over Facebook.

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

Also present: CUO Munro, Community Outreach Specialist Arnold, and Technical Support Specialist Collins.

Approve Minutes

Chairman Dzwonczyk presented the minutes of the September 1, 2020, 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 September 15, 2020, for funds and amounts as follows, Mr. Abram moved, Mr. Rush seconded, to approve the expenditures of September 15, 2020:

Water Fund 701	\$	157,338.55
Wastewater Fund 721	\$	135,048.57
MOR Fund 703	\$	290,968.33
MOR Fund 762	\$	462,265.31
LORCO Fund 749	\$	8,799.99
Wastewater Construction Fund 724	\$	42,820.00

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

Nays: None

Motion carried.

Summer Billing Adjustments

The CUO brought to the Board's attention the end of the Summer Billing Adjustment program for 2020. He said that as a reminder to Avon Lake residents that the Summer Billing Adjustment

program had ended August 31st. He also said the Summer Billing Adjustment program provides a credit to the 3rd Quarter wastewater charge for higher usage of water used in the summer months (June, July, and August) for such items as watering lawns, washing cars, and other outside tasks that account for higher water usage, but not necessarily higher wastewater usage. The CUO informed the Board that staff intends to include an amendment to the Avon Lake Regional Water Regulations that will allow for the use of deduct meters in lieu of the Summer Billing Adjustment.

Orthophosphate Project

The CUO told the Board that staff will be re-bidding the Orthophosphate Point-of-Application project in the next couple of weeks via the online bidding platform Bid Express. He said that this project will move the application point for Orthophosphate at the Water Filtration Plant. The current location of application is causing turbidity issues at the Water Filtration Plant, specifically inaccurate turbidity readings due to interference with metering equipment. He said the change in application point was submitted to Ohio EPA for Plan Approval and the modification was approved by Director Stevenson on August 19, 2020. Mr. Rush asked if staff reaches out to past bidders to make them aware of projects when using the new bidding platform of Bid Express. The CUO stated that the Technical Support Specialist and the Engineering Services Manager have worked to streamline the bidding process to make it more efficient and provide wider availability to more interested bidders. The Technical Support Specialist added that the plans are available for print online or through a blueprint company, and that any past bidders are informed of new projects on the bidding platform.

Sewer System Performance

The CUO informed the Board that per the Long Term Control Plan (LTCP), which was amended in 2019, Avon Lake Regional Water was granted additional time to study the effects that sewer separation has on the sewer system and treatment facilities. He said that as an update for Board members, the significant rainfall that was experienced recently only had a minor impact on the system. There were no reports of basement backups and the only issue that was experienced during the event was an overflow event at the Center Road Pump Station. He added that once the flow diversion project is completed at the outfall effluent pipe, staff will be able to increase pumping rates at the Center Road Pump Station, sending wet-weather flows to the treatment plant quicker and thus limiting the amount and duration of overflow events at the pump station.

Step Increase

The CUO told the Board that Heather Barnes was due for her annual step increase from Customer Service Representative Step 1A to Step 1B effective September 30, 2020.

Project Updates

Redundancy & Future Capacity Project: The CUO informed the Board that staff had received a proposal from Xylem Technologies to perform pipe condition assessment services on the 36" suction line that runs south to the Moore Rd. pump station and the 36" discharge pipe for ETL1 that runs east from the Moore Rd. pump station along the railroad tracks to Krebs Rd. He said that the proposal only included acoustical leak detection and not pipe condition assessment. Due to the price for this leak detection service, he said that staff is not recommending to move forward with this contingency item.

The CUO added that on October 1st a meeting is scheduled with Consortium members to provide them with an update to the project. He said this meeting will allow consortium members the opportunity to provide feedback on the project so far and also discuss capital planning for the future.

Board Room Renovation: The CUO said that renovation continues as scheduled with painting, trim work, electrical, and fire sprinkler work. He also said that the custom committee table is scheduled to ship on September 25th and will arrive the week of September 28th. He told the Board that a purchase order was issued to JW Hornyak Videoconferencing out of Independence, Ohio for the new audio/visual equipment for the Board Room. This is tentatively scheduled to be installed during the week of October 5th. The Chairman asked when the Board would be able to convene in person again. The CUO stated that there had not been an update from the Ohio Attorney General. He said the Board could meet in person, but it would require masks, social distancing, and following the recommended CDC guidelines.

CUO Reports & Action Items

The Technical Support Specialist shared with the Board updates on the outstanding Action Items from the last meeting. He said the delivery of unsatisfactory dry polymer to the Water Reclamation Facility was due to the chemicals over drying. This is a very rare event, and the chemical supplier, Polydyne, quickly worked with staff to rectify the situation. The Technical Support Specialist said that he reached out to the Columbia Gas Company at the request of the Board regarding issues with their pipes. He informed the Board that the gas company reported no issues but will be working with the Utility in the future to alert us of any problems they may have. The Technical Support Specialist added that staff has reached out to the remaining bulk customers regarding offering valve turning services. He said the remaining customers either already have valve turning machine or are satisfied hand-turning their valves to comply with EPA regulations.

Member Reports

Mr. Abram reported that in the Eaton Township project, Ryan Homes sold ten lots for homes to be built. He said this was good news because it would help reduce the financial strain on the Utility from LORCO. He also said he spoke with Mr. Toy who informed him that he is working on getting additional developments in the area.

Mr. Chairman reported that he and the CUO met with Mr. Waldecker of RLCWA and that it was a positive meeting.

Miscellaneous

None.

Public Speakers

None.

Executive Session

Mr. Rush moved, Mr. Abram seconded, to meet in Executive Session as allowed by ORC 121.22 G (3) to discuss legal matters and include the CUO, Community Outreach Specialist, and Technical Support Specialist.

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

Nays: None

Motion carried.

The Chairman resumed the regular meeting at 8:01 PM.

Adjourn

As there was no further business, Mr. Abram moved to adjourn, and Mr. Rush seconded. The meeting adjourned at 8:01 PM.

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

Nays: None

Motion carried.

Approved October 6, 2020.

John Dzwonczyk, Chairman

Rob Munro, Clerk