

Board of Municipal Utilities
Work Session Minutes
October 16, 2018
201 Miller Road
Avon Lake, Ohio

Call to Order – Roll Call

The meeting was called to order at 6:04 PM.

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

Also present: Council Member Zuber, CUE Danielson, CUO Munro, and Community Outreach Specialist Arnold (arrived at 6:15 PM).

Sewer Lateral Path Forward

The Chairman asked members to review the revised (dated 10/16/18) Sewer Lateral Path Forward and confirm it aligned with preferences stated at the last meeting. Members asked if the Avon Lake Police Department would assist Avon Lake Regional Water when staff needed to inspect properties using an administrative search warrant, indicating a fallback plan may be to work with off-duty officers or the Lorain County Sheriff.

CUO Munro noted that in the last week, Member Phillips worked with the CUO to draft and send an additional certified letter, the Chairman helped reach out to one individual, and staff continued efforts to contact property owners who have not yet had an inspection. With these efforts, the list outstanding has shrunk from 14 to 8. The Chairman expressed that these efforts are paying off and he requested of Council Member Zuber that the Board would appreciate help and support to achieve compliance with the inspection and separation deadlines.

Community Outreach Specialist Arnold stated that staff would start knocking on doors and placing door hangers for the 166 properties that have work to do by the Group A deadline. Additionally, staff will update the website, speak with the local press, and provide talking points for Customer Service and Distribution & Collection staff. Additionally, the CUO indicated staff will meet with contractors to both better understand their scheduling and help them know the revised deadlines.

The CUO also indicated that staff is currently advertising for camera investigation services to assist with determining whether clean water may be entering a number of laterals that staff was unable to determine whether those homes were in compliance. There was a discussion regarding Avon Lake Regional Water paying for those inspection services, and that some residents have already paid for similar services on their own. It was also stated that staff should consider providing bill credits for any person who had previously paid a contractor for those inspection services and not had the contractor waive the fee because the contractor then did the subsequent work.

WEFTEC

The CUE then made a brief presentation about staff attending the Water Environment Federation's annual conference. Following the presentation, the Chairman indicated that it is good for staff to be exposed to the thinking and products at these national conferences. He also indicated a desire for staff to limit the amount of trips through 2019 and concentrate on completing the Sanitary Sewer Separation Project. The Chairman also indicated that when possible, rotate which staff attend the annual conferences in order to assure that staff is exposed to the knowledge and that expenditures are properly monitored.

Adjourn

Mr. Dzwonczyk adjourned the meeting at 6:40 PM.

Approved November 6, 2018

John Dzwonczyk, Chairman

Todd Danielson, Clerk