

UTILITIES COMMITTEE MINUTES APRIL 5, 2016

The Utilities Committee meeting was held on April 5, 2016 at North Royalton City Hall, 14600 State Road. The meeting was called to order at 7:22 p.m.

PRESENT: Committee Members: Chair Paul Marnecheck, Vice Chair John Nickell, Dan Kasaris; Council: Larry Antoskiewicz, Gary Petrusky, Dan Langshaw, Steve Muller; Administration: Mayor Robert Stefanik, Law Director Thomas Kelly, Wastewater Supt. Tim Tigue, City Engineer Mark Schmitzer, Service Director Nick Cinquepalmi; Other: Lou Krzepina, Julie Prock, Don Harris, Pat Harris, Sean Elsey, Paul Elsey, James Rymut.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Moved by Mr. Kasaris, seconded by Mr. Nickell to **approve the March 1, 2016 Utilities Committee minutes.**

Yeas: 3. Nays: 0. **Motion carried.**

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

1. **Inflow/Infiltration of storm water**

Mr. Tigue said that they have not yet started dye testing due to the weather. Cold temperatures are not conducive to performing dye testing. He said once the weather breaks they will begin. Mr. Kasaris asked which subdivisions will be done this year in the event we finish with Ward 1. Mr. Tigue said that three have been selected. The first will be Hunter's Creek. This area has around 450 homes and that lift station runs around the clock whether it rains or not. This means that there are issues here. Pine Stream is second on the list, and then Devonshire will be third. This will be discussed further as time goes on. He said out of the 11 lift stations we have with developments attached to them, he feels that we will eventually have to do 8 or 9 of them. Mr. Kasaris asked how many homes are in Devonshire. Mr. Tigue said he believes there are 83. He said that Devonshire also pumps Timberlane, and Pinestream takes in Pine Hills. He said that with 450 homes, Hunter's Creek will take years to complete. He said that they can do a house in 2 hours if there are no problems. If there are problems it can take 3-4 hours. Mr. Kasaris said that this will be a 3 year project. Mr. Tigue said possibly. It all depends on when they can start testing and how long they can do it. He said they try to run from April through November but this does not always work out as this year has proven. He said that it also depends on what other projects need to be done that they will have to break away to do. He said that they have not increased their workforce since 2007 and these employees may not always be available for dye testing; they may be needed to work in the plants and on the collection system. Mr. Kasaris asked if they will also test Pine Hill when they test Pine Stream. Mr. Tigue said he does not believe so because Pine Hill is brand new and does not appear to be having any issues.

2. **WWTP "A" Standby Generator Replacement Project**

Mr. Tigue said that the project is moving along; the generator is in but there are some pieces and parts still missing. He said that they are pressing to get the parts and he estimates that we will be a week or two beyond the scheduled completion date of the week of April 25, 2016. He felt that it should be completed in early May.

NEW BUSINESS

1. **Wastewater Superintendent appointment**

Mayor Stefanik said that he believes that Mr. McNeeley's resume speaks for itself. He said that Mr. Tigue also recommends this candidate as his first and top choice in the field in this region. Mr. Marnecheck asked if Mr. Tigue has worked with Mr. McNeeley in the past. Mr. Tigue said that he worked with Mr. McNelley for many decades. He said that Mr. McNeeley's thinking is very strategic and predictive and this is what you need when running a utility. He said that if you don't treat wastewater like a regular utility you fall into the problem of always falling behind and the revenues won't be there, the equipment will breakdown and the EPA will be on your back. He said that they are just as regulated as any other utility, if not more. He said that our employees who work in wastewater are very knowledgeable, very skilled, but more importantly they really care. He said that if he can say anything about the employees he has worked with for the past 8 years it is that they really care about the environment, they care about the residents and businesses that are their customers. He said that Mr. McNeeley will follow through with this environment very strategically and he is very pleased that the Mayor has selected Mr. McNeeley as his appointment. He hopes that Council will approve this appointment.

Moved by Mr. Marnecheck, seconded by Mr. Kasaris to **remove this item from committee with a recommendation for approval**. Yeas: 3. Nays: 0. **Motion carried.**

ADJOURNMENT

Moved by Mr. Kasaris, seconded by Mr. Nickell **to adjourn the April 5, 2016 meeting**. Yeas: 3. Nays: 0. **Motion carried.**

Meeting adjourned at 7:33 p.m.