



UTILITIES COMMITTEE MEETING JULY 29, 2010

Committee Members Present: Todd Bergstrom
Brenda Hlas
Ken Braman (Arrived at 9:20)
Scott Pelot
Mike Zita

Also Present: Rick Ryland
John Moss (Arrived at 9:20)
Pete Kostoff (Arrived at 9:20)
Karla Richards
Ann Campbell

The Utilities Committee convened on Thursday, July 29, 2010 at 9:05 AM in the Council Chambers of the Safety Administration Building. The meeting was called to order by Todd Bergstrom, Utilities Chairman.

General Topics of Discussion

Items accomplished:

Greenwich Road Sanitary Sewer

Mr. Ryland indicated the bids were opened this week and should have a full report out later this week. Mr. Ryland indicated it appeared that Lockhart Construction is the lowest and best bidder at \$648,000.00, with six (6) bidders overall. The bid was slightly lower than the Engineers estimate. Mr. Ryland indicated we could see construction begin in about ten (10) days once we find out the numbers in place. Mr. Ryland stated the schedule is set for the lines to be at Easton Road by October 1, 2010 and the balance of the project completed by sometime in November. Mr. Ryland indicated that we would be doing our own in house inspections for this project.

Oak Street Sanitary Sewer

Mr. Ryland indicated the construction is to begin this week with the delivery of the materials and that Wenger Construction is the contractor, which came in at less than \$300,000.00.

Other sewer and water projects

Mr. Ryland indicated that the Administration would be coming back to Council on August 16, 2010 asking for \$100,000.00 from the credit roll back to pay for the engineering of Nash Heights sanitary sewers, which begins the process of the Hudson

Run trunk lines. Mr. Ryland indicated he would like to have all of the engineering done by the end of this year. Mr. Ryland stated that 2011 would be the next round of water line projects, starting with Grenfall Road to Easton, which completes the loop into Brentwood Estates. This would also help with the water pressure in Brentwood. Mr. Ryland indicated that he may ask Council to authorize the purchase of Mr. Gilbert Chaney's property in order to build the water tower, then we could sell the rest of the parcel, which would include the residence. Mr. Ryland stated that he might be asking Council to adjust the tax credit rollback legislation to change it from a percentage basis to a set amount for all future projects.

Trash survey

Mr. Bergstrom indicated the survey is now completed and in addition the County did some field surveys and watched traffic and manually recorded behavior patterns. Mr. Bergstrom indicated the report would be presented at the Committee Work Session on August 16, 2010. Mr. Ryland noted that this item has been in committee more than 90 days and may already be a dead issue. There was discussion on the need for a proper motion to bring it back to full Council. Mr. Bergstrom indicated that he would like to go over the bid document one more time to make sure that he is 100 % satisfied with it. Mr. Pelot stated he is still against this and not sure what the big rush is here. Mr. Ryland stated the big rush is the fact the residents do not have a contract nor does city hall and we are now paying for trash services.

Items anticipated during next report period

Miscellaneous items

There was discussion on the city's share of the costs associated with water and sewer projects. Mr. Ryland stated that currently the city's share is approximately 20%-22%. Mr. Ryland stated the typical project costs for both water and sewer are engineering, legal fees, advertisement and construction. There was discussion that in the future Council could consider legislation stated that when it comes to assessment projects the residents would not pay any more than 80% of the total project costs. Mr. Ryland stated that Council would need to determine when to set a timeline to begin this formula, as you cannot go backwards and apply to existing projects. There was discussion on the master metering and all were in agreement this was the direction the city needs to take. Mr. Ryland stated that if this is eventually completed the city would no longer have separate surcharges to deal with, it would be included into the master metering rate. Mr. Ryland stated that the city has not received the final numbers from Summit County DOES or Barberton and that B & N is currently doing an audit on the sewer rates, which should be done soon. There was discussion about forming a Barberton-Norton Sewer District. A long term idea was discussed of having a new plant once the master metering was in effect and up and running, but this was too premature to discuss in detail at this time. Mr. Ryland noted that the EPA would probably never give us a permit for a new plant and that it would be cheaper to expand Barberton's plant. There was discussion on the stages of the various grants and Mr. Ryland stated we need to seriously consider budgeting for a lobbyist next year to go after grant money for us. Mr. Ryland stated we need someone to be in Columbus and Washington for us knocking on doors and looking for all of the grant money.

Project Completion

Mr. Ryland stated he has been talking to some residents where the Van Hyning and Hudson Run sewer trunk lines will be located for easements, noting this is a long process. Mr. Ryland stated he hoped to have this area completed with sewer within the next five years. Mr. Moss noted that in the next year' budget you will start to see more for professional services for things like surveys, appraisers, real estate, etc because of these easements.

Next Utilities Committee Meeting:

There was discussion as to the next meeting, tentatively set for Thursday September 2, 2010 @ 9:00 AM (Tentative) as not to conflict with the Administration Staff meeting. Mr. Braman noted he would not be available at the end of August.

Adjourn

There being no other business to come before the Committee Work Session, the meeting was adjourned at 10:15 AM.

Todd Bergstrom, Utilities Chairman

****NOTE: THESE MINUTES ARE NOT VERBATIM****

All Committee Meetings will be held at the Norton Safety Administration Building, unless otherwise noted.