

## **Board of Public Affairs Meeting Minutes – July 6, 2023**

There was a regular meeting of the Blanchester Board of Public Affairs held on Thursday July 6, 2023. The meeting was called to order at 7.03 pm by Chairman Bowling.

Attending were Chairman Bowling, Trustees Robert Haines, Director Ram Reddy, Donna Johnson clerk, Wayne Moore and John Hill.

Trustee Dennis Blocker and Clerk Regina Johnson were excused due to illness by consensus.

There was a motion/second by Chairman Bowling /Trustee Haines to approve the minutes. All in favor - All Yeas. Motion carried.

A motion/second by Chairman Bowling/Trustee Haines to approve the bills listed in Appendix-A. All in favor - All Yeas. Motion carried.

### **Clerk's Report:**

Reported SSI will work on New Software when Water Meters reach 80% (1394).

Informed the Board new phones for the Office has been installed and now operating correctly.

Approved New Policy 2023.001 for the Water Dept. "Replacement of Faulty Service Lines".

The Board discussed and approved by consensus charging only a 50% of the total Utility Bill for the Blanchester Senior Citizens Center on Middleboro Road. However, the Kilowatt Hour Tax will be charged for 100% of electric usage. This will be formalized with a resolution from our Legal Counsel. This may have to be discussed with the Village Council for their part of the Utility Bill before it becomes fully effective. This all is contingent upon review from our Legal Counsel.

A total of 1184 water meters have been installed to-date and getting closer to updating the eGov billing software to VIP through SSI.

### **Director:**

Justin Dickman our legal counsel is in contact with the ODNR's legal counsel.

Continued to attend the IMPA Board and Executive Committee Meetings on regular basis along with other meetings.

As an Executive Committee Member, will be part of the IMPA team to meet the Bond Rating Agencies Standard & Poor, Moody's, and Fitch groups in New York in the first week of August.

Procurement of substation construction site: Staff continued to work on Duke's property for Substation site. The BPA Solicitor Justin Dickman prepared the closing documents and Duke's officials are in process of reviewing.

Cherry Street water main replacement and street resurfacing Phase – 2 Project – Substantial completion is done and the contractor and staff going through the punch list for the final completion.

Staff continued to work with RCAP on the project to identify and map lead water service lines. Staff continued to meet and discuss with RCAP on this project.

Staff continued to meet and discuss with RCAP, EPA, and Jones & Henry on the Reservoir #3 project approvals and funding.

Finally, the ODNR completed their review on the last revised plans and approved the plans for construction.

With all these changes and the revisions, now the latest engineering estimate for the project has increased to about \$3.2 million dollars to address all the changes made by the ODNR.

The Jones & Henry Engineering Co. is finalizing the Emergency Action Plan (EAP) for Reservoir No 3, to be able to apply for the FEMA grant money for this project.

Applied for funding for Reservoir #3 project through Senator Brown's Office from Congressionally Directed Spending(CDS) funds – in contact with Senator's staff.

We are very happy to say that the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers have approved \$1.5 Million Dollars of Grant Money for the Reservoir #3 Project, and we will be having a Kick-off meeting on this project with them soon.

The OPWC has approved funding (\$736,000) for Orchard View water main, Storm and Sanitary Sewer, and Street Improvements Project – Phase 1.

Staff continued to work on potential funding from local, State and Federal funding agencies for the electric, water, street, and sewer projects.

Preparation of specifications and bid documents to bid for rehab work on Vine Street Elevated Storage Tank is in process.

JTM Smith Construction Inc., the contractor for East Fancy Street Water Main Replacement and Street Resurfacing project has started working on the construction. The water main installation is complete and working services. We expect this project to be completed by end of August or beginning of September.

BP Gas Station & convenience store is under construction.

Application has been submitted and the County Commissioners approved it and submitted to the State. Once the State approves the funding, we can start working on West Fancy Street Water Main and Storm & Sanitary Sewer, and Street Resurfacing phase-2 Improvements project.

We are in process of applying for grant funding for Lazenby and Orchard Circle projects.

Taco Bell: The old UDF building has been demolished, property closing is complete, and the construction has started.

**The Ohio Department of Development approved a grant of \$350,955 dollars for the Lazenby Street project.**

#### Electric System:

Electric Distribution system operation – Continued to be normal with some storm related outages due to Duke's incoming power.

Staff continued to work on relocating the primary line on Main Street.

Staff continued to work on upgrading the primary line on Center Street.

Staff continued to work on non-pay disconnections every month. All or most of the non-paid accounts are disconnected remotely using the AMI system.

Staff continued to work on system improvements.

#### Water System:

Water Treatment and Distribution systems operation – continued to be normal and meets the Ohio EPA Rules & Regs.

The Calgon Carbon replaced the GAC filter media. The Board has approved \$28,200 previously for this project.

Water usage has increased due to dry weather and pool filling, and hydrant flushing.

Staff looking into applying for a grant to procure an additional emergency generator for water plant.

There was a motion/second by Chairman Bowling/Trustee Haines to replace Data Sonde for the water department which may cost about \$4,000. The Board approved it by Consensus.

Staff continued to work with vendors on the cost information for potential repairs and maintenance of water towers on Vine and Fancy Streets, and is in process of review.

Part of the funding required for Vine Street Water Tower Rehab is approved by OPWC through funding allocation for Small Governments. Applied for rest of the funding from Ohio EPA.

Staff helping sewer department on plant and other equipment repairs.

Reservoir water storage levels: We have about 210 million gallons of storage available to treat and supply for about 18 months at the current flow rate to our residents and neighboring water haulers.

Staff continued to work on various field and treatment plant equipment, and pickup trucks maintenance.

Staff continued to help water and electric meter reading.

Staff continued to work with the Ohio EPA on source water protection plan: work in process.

Staff continued to install AMI Water Meters with some continued delays and issues in getting the material delivered by the vendors. 1184 AMI meters have been installed to-date and 1182 are in service to-date.

Staff continued to work with engineers, contractors, and funding and plan approval agencies on:

- Reservoir Number- 3 Improvements – Staff continued to work with ODNR and Jones & Henry on final submittal of plans, and potential cost over runs for construction and engineering and potential help from Ohio EPA for additional funding which is on their list of projects to be approved for funding in 2023. Staff continually following up with the engineers and the ODNR. Revised plans have been submitted for review and approval – Now they are approved by the ODNR for construction.

Staff continue to work on grounds maintenance.

**Sewer System:**

Sewer Treatment Plant and Collection System operations are continued to be normal and in compliance with the Ohio EPA Rules & Regulations.

Staff continued to work on repair and maintenance of various equipment at the WWTP and collection system.

Staff worked on several cleanouts for customers.

Board approved to purchase the pre-treatment equipment Bar Screen/Rake Assembly at a cost of \$122,748 and Grit Screw Conveyor and Grit Classifier at a cost of \$56,062 plus the installation costs for the both. The equipment is about 29 years old and way surpassed its life expectancy of about 15 years, and having ongoing expensive repairs – The equipment has been ordered and trying to get more quotes for installation – Continued.

Chlorine blower has been sent for repairs.

Magna Rotor Gear Box locked up and beyond repairable condition. Getting a new Gear Box to replace it. This will be taken care by using the inhouse staff – Continued.

Staff continued to work on grounds maintenance.

**Other Business**

Motion/Second by Chairman Bowling/Trustee Haines to move into Executive Session per Ohio Revised Code 121.22 at 8:20 PM.

All in favor – All Yeas. Motion Carried.

Motion/second to end Executive Session at 8:34 PM by Chairman Bowling/Trustee Haines

All in favor – All Yeas. Motion Carried.

Board approved by consensus step raises to the following employees:

Brett Lay from step E-2-G to E-2-H

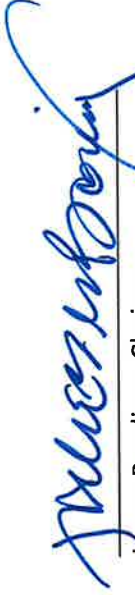
Scott Hoffman from step E-2-G to E-2-H


Effective from the first full pay period in August of 2023, and recommended the Council by a Memorandum to the Mayor and the Council for their approval.

All in favor - All Yeas. Motion Carried

Motion/Second to close the Board meeting at 8:35 pm by Chairman Bowling /Trustee Haines.

All in favor - All Yeas. Motion Carried

  
James Bowling - Chairman

  
Regina Johnson, Clerk

Board of Public Affairs Meeting July, 2023  
Appendix A

VENDOR	TOTAL		
IMPA	\$359,992.80	MAGULACS TIRE SERVICE	\$1,316.00
CINTAS	\$722.35	WATER SOLUTIONS UNLIMITED	\$7,675.00
TREASURER, STATE OF OHIO	\$884.00	CALGON CARBAN CORPORATION	\$28,200.00
VILLAGE OF BLANCHESTER	\$14,646.14	RAWDON MYERS	\$1,470.00
LOWES	\$85.93	DUKE ENERGY	\$1,168.57
VERIZON WIRELESS	\$1,843.00	CLINTON ELECTRIC PLUMBING	\$167.94
CINTAS	\$430.97	BOARD OF PUBLIC AFFAIRS	\$73.76
PITNEY BOWES	\$1,596.75	VISA	\$2,883.35
CINTAS	\$1,424.86	ALLOWAY	\$140.00
LYKINS OIL CO	\$2,451.57	CORE & MAIN	\$403.75
UTILITY TRUCK EQUIPMENT	\$4,828.15	BUCKEYE STATE PIPE & SUPPLY	\$1,371.36
PEELE MCCOY LAW OFFICES	\$1,633.33	WATER SOLUTIONS UNLIMITED	\$9,918.47
MIAMI PRODUCTS & CHEMICAL	\$595.00	PITNEY BOWES	\$844.75
HACH CO	\$391.00	WALTS HOME IMPROVEMENT	\$200.00
UNITED SYSTEMS & SOFTWARE	\$1,656.85	ALTEC INDUSTRIES	\$66.50
OHIO ASPHALTIC LIMESTONE	\$3,083.99	KOI ENTERPRISES	\$28.79
CITY OF WILMINGTON LABORATORY	\$1,240.00	ADVANCE AUTO PARTS	\$93.78
CAPLINGER SALES & SERVICE	\$84.99	CLINTON ELECTRIC PLUMBING	\$92.50
MASI ENVIRONMENTAL	\$1,606.55	LYKINS OIL CO	\$2,444.18
STANLEY J BOLKA	\$780.00	BDK FEED & SUPPLY	\$329.38
WALTS HOME IMPROVEMENT	\$200.00	FRONTIER	\$1,575.36
THERMODYNE	\$18,503.00	BOARD OF PUBLIC AFFAIRS	\$436.40
MAGULAC'S TIRE SERVICE	\$578.00	THERMODYNE	\$8,293.77
LASERLINE	\$138.95	PANETTA EXCAVATING	\$400.00
DEFRIES COPP ANIXTER	\$653.85	USIC LOCATING SERVICES	\$3,632.74
KOI ENTERPRISES ANIXTER	\$3,125.04		
	\$112.19		
	\$88.00		
CLINTON ELECTRIC PLUMBING	\$342.96		
			\$496,946.57
			\$1,316.00
			\$7,675.00
			\$28,200.00
			\$1,470.00
			\$1,168.57
			\$167.94
			\$73.76
			\$2,883.35
			\$140.00
			\$403.75
			\$1,371.36
			\$9,918.47
			\$844.75
			\$200.00
			\$66.50
			\$28.79
			\$93.78
			\$92.50
			\$2,444.18
			\$329.38
			\$1,575.36
			\$436.40
			\$8,293.77
			\$400.00
			\$3,632.74