

Board of Public Affairs Meeting Minutes – June 1, 2023

There was a regular meeting of the Blanchester Board of Public Affairs held on Thursday June 1, 2023. The meeting was called to order at 7:00 pm by Chairman Bowling. Attending were Chairman Bowling, Trustees Robert Haines, Dennis Blocker, Director Ram Reddy, Donna Johnson clerk and Regina Johnson clerk.

Special Guest was Justin Dickman, Solicitor

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

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

Public Comments:

Solicitor Dickman reviewed with board members when to call police over employee threats from customers.

Motion/second by Trustee Blocker/Trustee Haines to move into Executive Session prior to Clerks report. All in favor – All Yeas. Motion carried.

Motion/second by Chairman Bowling/Trustee Haines to move into executive session per Ohio Revised Code 121.122 G3 and Revised Code Employee Wage Discussion 121.122 G1 at 7:10 PM. All in favor – All Yeas. Motion Carried.

Attending were Chairman Bowling, Trustees Robert Haines, Dennis Blocker, Director Ram Reddy, Solicitor Justin Dickman, Donna Johnson, clerk and Regina Johnson, clerk.

Motion/second to end Executive Session at 7:50 PM by Chairman Bowling/Trustee Haines All in favor – All Yeas. Motion Carried.

The Board discussed and approved the proposed/revised wage scale for electric department employees and agreed to recommend it the Council for their approval to make it official Wage Scale.

Motion/second to approve revise electric wage scale and recommend to counsel for approval by Trustee Blocker/Chairman Bowling.

All in favor – All Yeas. Motion Carried.

The Board approved and authorized the staff to hire Robert Morris for water department.

Clerk's Report:

Board Discussion on giving free electric to the Senior Citizen Building. They would need to pay the KW taxes. Still investigating request.

Taco Bell: closing on the UDF property scheduled to be on June 6th. Schedule wise, they are looking at June for tear down the existing building and then July/August for construction start date.

A total of 1150 water meters have been installed to-date and getting closer to updating the eGov billing software to VIP through SSI.

Director:

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 the 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. The Jones & Henry Engineering Co. submitted the revised plans making all the changes per the

ODNR and waiting for their review and approval. The latest engineering estimate for the project has increased to about \$3.2 million dollars to address all changes made by the ODNR. The Jones & Henry Engineering Co. is finalizing the Emergency Action Plan (EAP) for Reservoir No 3.

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

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.

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.

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.

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

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 224 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. 1150 AMI meters have been installed to-date and 1150 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.

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.

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

Discussion about when the BPA should pay for Counsel Members for travel expenses.

Motion/Second to close the Board meeting at 8:45 pm by Trustee Blocker/Trustee Haines.

All in favor. All Yeas. Motion Carried



James Bowling - Chairman



Regina Johnson, Clerk

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Appendix A

VENDOR	TOTAL	VENDOR	TOTAL
IMPA	\$ 358,239.68	THERMODYNE ENGINEERING	\$ 9,401.00
STAPLES	\$ 75.64	STANLEY J BOLKA	\$ 975.00
LOWES BUSINESS ACCOUNT	\$ 850.53	MASI ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES	\$ 174.15
ADVANCE AUTO PARTS	\$ 57.80	BDK FEED & SUPPLY	\$ 147.95
CINTAS	\$ 240.00	PERFECTION PRINT MEDIA	\$ 583.50
CINTAS	\$ 1,289.81	PITNEY BOWES	\$ 782.21
TREASURER, STATE OF OHIO	\$ 1,271.00	VISA	\$ 3,305.76
VILLAGE OF BLANCHESTER	\$ 18,374.00	MASI ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES	\$ 914.15
PITNEY BOWES	\$ 300.00	COOKS ELECTRIC	\$ 450.00
U. S. POSTAL SERVICE	\$ 178.00	BRENCO	\$ 2,589.27
DUKE ENERGY	\$ 492.97	USA BLUEBOOK	\$ 899.44
BILL MARTIN AUTO CENTER	\$ 759.29	KOI ENTERPRISE	\$ 442.88
AMERICAN WATER WORKS ASSOC.	\$ 348.00	PROSOURCE WATER PRODUCTS	\$ 2,975.00
ANIXTER	\$ 3,558.00	ADVANCE AUTO PARTS	\$ 526.88
SMITHS AUTOMOTIVE WATER SOLUTIONS	\$ 349.98	KOI ENTERPRISE	\$ 366.61
ULIMITED	\$ 2,852.00	CLINTON ELEC	\$ 51.33
VERIZON WIRELESS	\$ 802.39	FRONTIER	\$ 2,110.72
CAPLINGER SALES AND SERVICE	\$ 133.31	KILEY TREE SE3RVICE	\$ 10,395.00
CSX TRANSPORTATION	\$ 273.00	CAPLINGER SALES AND SERVICE	\$ 999.99
BRENCO	\$ 2,589.21	MIAMI PRODUCTS & CHEMICALS	\$ 675.00
ANIXTER	\$ 5,666.50	ANIXTER INC	\$ 352.00
DUKE ENERGY	\$ 515.60	BDK FEED & SUPPLY	\$ 215.53
TREASURER, STATE OF OHIO	\$ 3,204.68	MONTHLY TOTAL	\$ 453,961.87
SERVICES	\$ 6,778.55		
PEELLE LAW	\$ 1,633.33		
LYKINS OIL CO	\$ 3,040.23		
MIAMI PRODUCTS & CHEMICALS	\$ 755.00		