

Board of Public Affairs Meeting Minutes – June 6, 2024

There was a regular meeting of the Blanchester Board of Public Affairs Thursday June 6, 2024. This meeting was held at the Wastewater Treatment Plant. The meeting was called to order at 5:30 PM by Chairman James Bowling.

Attending were Chairman James Bowling, Trustee Robert Haines, Trustee Dennis Blocker, Director Ram Reddy, Mayor John Carman, John Hill Council Member, Lynn Lewis Council Member, Don Gephart Council Member, Rieley Hopkins Council Member, Regina Johnson Fiscal Officer, Matt Johnson Wastewater Supervisor, Marie Brooker and Donna Johnson Business Manager/Clerk.

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.

Clerk's Report:

Mentioned to Board Members that we are working on the New Software for the New VIP Billing System and we need to have a meeting to discuss how to breakdown the Electric Charges to be presented on the Newly Formatted Bills to provide the rate payers more details. This is to be discussed at the next Board Meeting including the outsourcing of billing.

Received 3 proposals to replace the non-working AC unit in the conference room. It was suggested by the Board to get a couple of proposals from someone local.

A motion was made to allow the staff to spend a not to exceed amount of \$10 K for the AC replacement. All in favor- Motion carried.

Asked for approval for the Sludge tanker.

Motion/Second by Chairman Bowling/Trustee Blocker, not to exceed \$80 K. All in favor – All Yeas. Motion Carried.

Called Infotech to inquire about adding charge of \$3.25 for Credit Card use. Staff has to investigate further on this.

Will not proceed with I-Cloud until we can implement both charges for Credit Card Machine and Online at the same time.

Motion for Recess to Tour the Wastewater Treatment Plant facilities.

Motion/Second by Chairman Bowling/Trustee Blocker to Recess at 6:00 PM

Motion/Second by Chairman Bowling/Trustee Blocker to re-enter the meeting at 7:29 PM

All in Favor – All Yeas. Motion Carried

Staff and the Board Chairman Bowling presented the financial information prepared by the BPA Clerk and the Village's Fiscal Officer. There was a detailed discussion on financial status, funds needed for the improvements, and why the BPA Board is recommending the Council to approve the sewer rate increase.

Director:

Staff attending IMPA Board and Executive Committee and other meetings.

Staff updated the Board on funding and status of all the projects currently in process.

Applied for OPWC grant funding for Lazenby Street Water Main Replacement and Street Resurfacing project to procure rest of the funding for Engineering and Construction of this project. This project has scored well in District 10 and been sent to OPWC for funding;

OPWC has approved the funding. With the Board's and Council's approval, work on design and engineering plans to be started in July or August of 20024.

The Board approved and recommended the Council to approve and enter into the Agreement with Choice One Engineering to start the design and develop engineering plans and specifications for the Lazenby

Street project. Initial engineering cost to be shared 50/50 between water and street departments. However, projected potential local match for this project is to be \$0.00; Motion/Second by Chairman Bowling/Trustee Blocker to approve as presented above All in favor – All Yeas. Motion Carried.

Orchard View water, storm sewer, sanitary sewer, and street resurfacing phase – 2 project - procured most of the required funding for construction and engineering and applied for the rest from OPWC. Total estimated project cost is \$800,500.00 (applied for OPWC Grant \$300,000.00, Has approved funds of \$500,500.00 from ODOD, and potentially the local match for this project is \$0.00). This project has scored well in District 10 and been sent to OPWC for funding; **OPWC has approved the funding. With the Board's and Council's approval, work on design and engineering plans to be started in July or August of 20024.**

The Board approved and recommended the Council to approve and enter into the Agreement with Choice One Engineering to start the design and develop engineering plans and specifications for the Orchard View phase – 2 Project. Initial engineering cost to be shared 40/50 between water and street departments respectively. However, projected potential local match for this project is to be \$0.00 Motion/Second by Chairman Bowling/Trustee Blocker to approve as presented All in favor. All Yeas. Motion Carried.

Orchard View water, storm sewer, sanitary sewer, and street resurfacing phase – 1 project -procured required funding. Total estimated project Cost is \$735,940.00 (OPWC Grant \$500,000.00, OPWC Loan \$235,940.00 at 0% interest for 20 years term, ODOD Grant funds \$204,590.00, and Local match \$25,460.00 which is shared by water and street departments at 40%/60% respectively).

The BPA/Village Awarded the contract to Panetta Excavating, Inc. for the construction. Had a pre-construction meeting on 5/31/2024 and the work to start soon. With the Base bid coming under budget, we may not need any local match for this project – contractor plans to start construction work in August or September.

Substation Construction Project:

- Procurement of land for substation construction is complete.
- Continued to work on construction plans, design, and funding for the project.
- We have applied for DOE grant funding for a projected cost of \$9,000,000 for this project

Waiting for the DOE approval.

Distribution System Upgrade and System Conversion (4.16 KV to 12.47 KV):

- We have applied for DOE grant funding for a projected cost of \$10,000,000 for this project

Waiting for the DOE approval.

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. RCAP staff and the BPA staff are finishing up the field work – **Work is in process.**

Staff continued to meet and discuss with RCAP, EPA, USACE, ODNR, FEMA, and Jones & Henry Engineers on the Reservoir #3 project approvals and funding. Current cost estimation to complete this project is about 3.6 million dollars. So far, we have acquired about 2.2 million dollars through OPWC and USACE for this project.

Submitted a preliminary application through ODNR to FEMA (HHPD Grants) for procuring rest of the funding -- **Waiting for response from FEMA/ODNR.**

Current Status on the Project:

- Specifications and construction plans have been approved by the ODNR for construction.
- Submitted plans to Ohio EPA and paid the fee for their review and approval for construction – review in process.
- Submitted plans to USACE review and approvals
- Entered into PMP agreement with USACE
- Emergency Action Plan has been submitted and approved by the ODNR.
- FEMA has released the NOFA and the ODNR applied for funding on behalf of the Village/BPA for rest of the funding for construction.
- Staff submitted a 2024 project nomination for EPA funding for Reservoir #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, and

- Also trying for the same through Congressman Wenstrup's office.

Part of the funding required for Vine Street Water Tower Rehab is approved by OPWC (\$500,000) through funding allocation for Small Governments. Applied for rest of the funding from Ohio EPA and; Also, reapplied for replacement of the water tower with a new one - grant of \$1.737 million from ODOD – **Waiting for response from ODOD.**

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

Staff submitted a 2024 project nomination for EPA funding for Vine Street Elevated Storage Tank.

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

West Fancy Street Phase – 2 water main replacement and street resurfacing project - Total cost \$515,825.00 (CDBG Grant \$500,000.00 (Local match \$45,825.00). Completed survey, established right-of-way, and design is in process, and getting ready to bid the project in next few weeks.

Electric System:

Electric Distribution system operation – Continued to be normal with minor outages due to Duke's incoming wholesale 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.

Staff continued to look for procuring grant moneys for an additional emergency generator for water plant.

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.

Staff will be flushing the Fire Hydrants from May 6, 2024 to May 10, 2024.

Catholic protection unit in Fancy Street Water Tower is damaged due to icing and staff is looking into repair or replace it - staff continued to work on it.

Staff helping sewer department on plant and other equipment repairs.

Reservoir water storage levels: We have about 230 million gallons of storage available to treat and supply for about 12 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 install AMI Water Meters with continued delays and issues in getting the material delivered by the vendors. 1700 AMI meters have been installed to-date and 1698 are in service to-date.

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.

A new water pump has been ordered for the backup generator – waiting for parts.

Staff working on Secondary Clarifier #1. Ordered parts for repairs – waiting for parts.

Staff getting everything ready to haul sludge.

Staff continued to work on grounds maintenance.

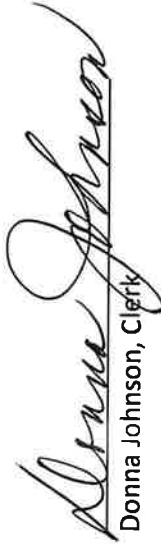
Other Business

There was no other business to discuss.

There was a Motion/Second by Trustee Blocker/Chairman Bowling to close the Board meeting at 8:50 PM
All in favor - All Yeas. Motion Carried.



James Bowling - Chairman



Donna Johnson, Clerk

Board of Public Affairs Meeting Minutes Appendix A

Bills for June 2024

VENDOR	TOTAL	VENDOR	TOTAL
TREASURER STATE OF OHIO	\$ 1,170.00	USIC LOCATING SERVICES	\$ 965.65
IMPA	\$ 376,684.78	MASI LABORATORIES	\$ 382.30
VILLAGE OF BLANCHESTER	\$ 16,638.70	JUSTIN DICKMAN LAW OFFICE	\$ 1,633.33
WORLD KINNECT ENERGY SOLUTIONS	\$ 4,409.23	DUKE ENERGY	\$ 73.37
MIAMI PRODUCTS & CHEMICAL	\$ 617.75	DUKE ENERGY	\$ 400.82
USA BLUEBOOK	\$ 849.78	KOI AUTO PARTS	\$ 832.64
BDK	\$ 913.09	CHOICE ONE ENGINEERING	\$ 546.25
TELE VAV ENVIORNMENTAL	\$ 2,762.50	MIAMI PRODUCTS & CHEMICAL	\$ 701.00
THERMODYNE	\$ 18,503.00	ZACHS TOWING & RECOVERY LLC	\$ 500.00
S & H CONSULTING CO	\$ 1,796.00	GREAT LAKES COMMUNITY ACTION	\$ 19,800.00
QUALITY CONTROLS, INC.	\$ 581.25	UNITES STATES POSTAL SERVICE	\$ 320.00
DUKE ENERGY	\$ 183.21	IMPA SERVICE CORP	\$ 297.15
IMAGINE THAT TOOL RENTAL	\$ 50.00	USIC LOCATING SERVICES	\$ 1,331.95
FRONTIER	\$ 1,545.23	MILLER HEATING AND COOLING	\$ 140.00
VERIZON WIRELESS	\$ 805.88	MAGULAC'S	\$ 843.00
ANIXTER	\$ 5,074.88	CORE & MAIN	\$ 1,760.96
STANLEY J. BOLKA	\$ 975.00	PERFECTION PRINT MEDIA	\$ 239.00
MASI LABORATORIES	\$ 1,438.40	INVOICE CLOUD	\$ 1,683.45
USA BLUEBOOK	\$ 1,731.20	TOTAL	\$ 474,237.73
CERTASITE	\$ 5,056.98		

