

## **Board of Public Affairs Meeting Minutes – January 6, 2022**

There was a regular meeting of the Blanchester Board of Public Affairs held on Thursday, January 6, 2022. The meeting was called to order at 7:02p.m. by Chairman Bowling. Attending were Trustees James Bowling, Robert Haines, Dennis Blocker, Director Ram Reddy, and Mayor John Carman, Councilman Reilly Hopkins and Donna Johnson, clerk.

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

A motion/second Trustee Blocker/Chairman Bowling to approve the bills listed in Appendix-A of December 2021. All in favor - All Yeas. Motion carried.

### **Public Comment**

Reilly Hopkins wanted to discuss the lights at Dewey Park. It was suggested that we get a more recent quote on the Street Lights in question along with the complete cost for installation. Further discussion once quotes are received. Parks Board rescinded their approval of \$5,000 to support this project.

There was also a General Discussion on Earnings Tax.

### **Clerk Report:**

Clerk asked the question of raising the postage received from the Village from 10 cents to 20 cents to help cover cost of postage. There was a discussion between Board members, staff, Mayor and Councilman Reilly Hopkins. A Motion/Second to approve the increase to 20 cents with immediate effect. There was motion/second Chairman Bowling/Trustee Haines. All Yea. Motion Carried.

Reported 2069 AMI meters are now installed and training with Mike Gentry from Tantalus will begin the week of January 10, 2022.

### **Director's Report:**

Council approved the increase in sewer rates as recommended by the Board by passing an Ordinance, and there is a potential for referendum to go to vote.

Council delegated the power back to the Board by passing a new Ordinance and rescinding the previous Ordinance which allows the Board to adjust the BPA employees' wages by giving them step raises.

The Board decided to cancel the trip to APPA Rally after discussing with AMP and IMPA. The Board had some concerns due to COVID related restrictions and access to visit the congressional leaders in person on the Capital Hill.

Staff informed the Board that one of the employees from water department will be retiring and an existing part time employee will be moved into that position at this time.

Staff continued to work on potential funding from ARP and OPWC for potential water and sewer projects that we have applied for.

Staff continued to look into the funding resources from local, State and Federal funding agencies for the electric, water, and sewer projects.

Staff continued to work with ODOT and Choice One Engineering on SRTS project changes and status, and utility relocations.

Staff continued to follow the CDC guidelines related to COVID-19.

Staff working with the Mayor on the proposed TACO Bell restaurant construction.

Blanchester/IMPA News Letter in mail to BPA customers.

Discussed potential use of ARP funding as a local match to help AMI, Cherry Street Phase – 2, East Fancy Street, and Vine Street Water Tower Rehab projects, and avoid burden on water, sewer and street departments.

### **Electric System:**

Electric Distribution system operation – Continued to be normal with minor problems here and there. There was an outage due to incoming power failure from the grid.

Staff continued to work on primary electric overhead line upgrade on Wright Street.

AMI Project: Staff continued to work on the installation of AMI Meters in coordination with the vendors and ISC.

Staff continued to work on non-pay disconnects.

Dedicated Metering equipment for Kroger had an issue and currently using the metering at the delivery point for Kroger.

Staff continued to work with Duke and land owners to acquire land for new substation.

Staff continued to work on system improvements.

#### **Water System:**

Water Treatment Plant and Distribution Systems operation – continued to be normal and meets the Ohio EPA Regulations.

Discussed with the Board on the increased costs for the chemicals used for the water treatment which will be resulting in the increased cost of finished/potable water.

Informed the Board that the staff discovered couple of major water leaks in the system after various ways to find them for long time and fixed them. This resulted in reducing the plant operation time significantly and will help in reducing the operation and production costs.

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. Requested an additional information to complete the process to present it to the Board.

Meanwhile, staff is planning to hire Suez to work on few potential issues with these water towers to stay in compliance with the Ohio EPA.

Reservoir water storage levels: We have about 219 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 maintenance.

Staff helping the meter reading.

Staff repaired the water main break at Bourbon and Leonard Drive.

Staff repaired the service line on East Cherry Street.

Staff started installing AMI water meters.

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

- Cherry Street Phase -1 – Complete other than minor work on fixing a sewer lateral or basement drainage pipe for the Mun. Building which was damaged during the construction. Staff working on this with the contractor and will be a change order.
- Cherry Street Phase - 2 – in process of bidding. Bids are due and will be opened on January 11, 2022.
- Reservoir Number- 3 Improvements – Had a meeting on the final submittal and waiting for the approval by the ODNR.

Staff worked on grounds maintenance.

#### **Sewer System:**

Sewer Treatment Plant and Collection System operations are continued to be 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.

Secondary clarifier had some electrical issues and had been taken care by ICS.

Received the parts to repair the Magna Rotor on the Oxidation Ditch, and Hired Kirk Brothers and completed repair work and the unit is back in service.

Staff continued to work on grounds maintenance.

#### **Other Business**

Motion/Second to close the meeting at 9:20 pm, Trustee Blocker/Trustee Haines.



James Bowling - Chairman



Donna Johnson – Clerk

Board of Public Affairs Meeting January 6, 2022  
Appendix A

BILLS FOR MONTH OF December 2021

VENDOR	AMOUNT	VENDOR	AMOUNT
TREASURER, STATE OF OHIO	\$ 1,788.00	FRONTIER	\$ 1,754.03
IMPA	\$ 312,912.92	DUKE ENERGY	\$ 1,604.47
VILLAGE OF BLANCHESTER	\$ 13,830.33	LOWE'S	\$ 29.53
PEELLE LAW OFFICE	\$ 1,633.33	TREASURER, STATE OF OHIO	\$ 3,323.52
AUSTIN SETTY	\$ 150.00	LYKINS OIL CO.	\$ 2,852.33
JARED HORNER	\$ 139.99	VISA	\$ 874.21
MASI	\$ 1,070.30	ADVANCE AUTO PARTS	\$ 512.10
KOI ENTERPRISES	\$ 407.41	BPA CASH DRAWER	\$ 50.41
CAPLINGER SALES & SERVICE	\$ 22.69	ANIXTER INC	\$ 54,250.95
MICRO CENTER	\$ 183.93	BUCKEYE STATE PIPE & SUPP	\$ 185.10
CLERMONT COUNTY TREASURER,	\$ 280.00	WALT'S HOME MAINT	\$ 400.00
LAKESIDE EQUIP CORP	\$ 6,893.00	NOTICE OF INTENT/PESTICID	\$ 200.00
USIC LOCATING SERVICES	\$ 744.00	FISHER SCIENTIFIC CO., LLC	\$ 175.05
BKD FEED AND SUPPLY	\$ 222.29	STANLEY J BOLKA	\$ 780.00
EJ PRESCOTT	\$ 1,094.58	USA BLUEBOOK	\$ 125.91
BILL MARTIN AUTO CENTER	\$ 86.92	HACH CO.	\$ 394.51
CLINTON ELEC & PLUMBING SUPPLY	\$ 161.00	EJ PRESCOTT	\$ 201.00
AMERICAN MUNICIPAL POWER, INC.	\$ 4,064.85	SAM'S CLUB	\$ 1.82
MIAMI PRODUCTS & CHEMICAL CO.	\$ 367.00	TOTAL	\$ 416,771.56
ARAMARK	\$ 2,724.08		
ALLOWAY	\$ 280.00		

BILLS FOR MONTH OF JANUARY 2022

VENDOR	AMOUNT	VENDOR	AMOUNT
IMPA	\$ 388,167.32	STAPLES	\$ 538.73
VILLAGE OF BLANCHESTER	\$ 14,275.90	SAM'S	\$ 47.41
TREASURER, STATE OF OHIO	\$ 2,029.00	ARAMARK	\$ 1,849.90
FRONTIER	\$ 1,780.34	ARAMARK	\$ 1,555.20
CLERMONT TREASURER	\$ 227.00	BDK FEED & SUPPLY	\$ 371.93
USIC LOCATING SERVICES	\$ 345.78	CAPLINGER SALES & SERVICE	\$ 51.98
ANIXTER, INC	\$ 24,191.78	ADVANCE AUTO PARTS	\$ 28.46
RUSSEL HAMPTON	\$ 150.00	LYKINS OIL	\$ 2,676.94
WALT'S HOME MAINT.	\$ 819.00	OHIO ASPHALTIC LIMESTONE	\$ 1,730.06
WALTER SOLUTIONS UNLIMITED	\$ 579.50	MASI	\$ 243.50
PEELLE LAW OFFICE	\$ 1,633.33	KOI	\$ 108.37
MIAMI PRODUCTS & CHEMICAL	\$ 432.00	BRETT LAY	\$ 142.98
ISC ELECTRICAL SERVICES	\$ 3,905.53	MAGULAC'S TIRE SERVICE INC.	\$ 1,137.00
THERMODYNE	\$ 7,177.50	STANLEY J BOLKA	\$ 975.00
THERMODYNE	\$ 17,453.00	DUKE ENERGY	\$ 1,712.88
BONDED CHEMICALS	\$ 2,476.00	VISA	\$ 490.13
DUNROBIN ASSOC. LLC	\$ 3,000.00	CLERMONT COUNTY TREASURER	\$ 236.50
CURLESS PRINTING	\$ 290.00	CDM SMITH INC	\$ 1,159.26
BUCKEYE STATE PIPE & SUPPLY	\$ 520.44	TOTAL	\$ 486,928.20
EASYPERMIT POSTAGE	\$ 821.79		
PITNEY BOWES	\$ 1,596.76		