

Utility Committee Meeting
June 2, 2021 9:00 a.m. Newburgh Town Hall

Present: Leanna Hughes, Christy Powell, Susan Helms, Russell Powell, David Hynes, John Thomason for Chris Wischer, and Rebeka Kaufman. Absent: Steve Shoemaker. Also in attendance: Jeramy Elrod and Keith Bratton.

Utility Committee member Christy Powell called the meeting to order at 9:03 a.m. with a quorum present.

Consent Agenda

Monthly Tracking Report, Inspection Status Report, Sewer Repairs Report, Tap Report, Financial Report, Monthly Sewer Adjustment and approval of May 11, 2021 minutes.

Motion: Christy Powell moved to approve the consent agenda.

Motion seconded: Leanna Hughes

Discussion: None

Motion passed unanimously.

Committee Discussion Items

Wastewater Treatment Facility (WWTF) Superintendent, Russell Powell

1. Sequential Batch Reactor (SBR) Weir Gate Replacement

Russell Powell stated the WWTF received an estimate from Reynolds for the Sequential Batch Reactor (SBR) Weir Gate Replacement in the amount of \$99,298.00. This SBR is to replace three (3) reactor grates that were installed in 2010. The metal corroded as the manufacturer did not coat the Weir Gates causing them to fail earlier than expected.

Motion: Leanna Hughes moved to recommend to Council to approve the purchase of a Sequential Batch Reactor (SBR) Weir Gate from Reynolds in the amount of \$99,298.00.

Motion seconded: Christy Powell

Discussion: None

Motion passed unanimously.

Mr. Powell inquired about the American Rescue Plan (ARP) funds the Town is to receive. Mrs. Powell stated the ARP funds in the amount of \$618,000.00 have arrived with very specific spending requirements; the Town has four (4) years to spend the allotted amount. Additional guidance is expected this Friday. Mr. Hynes stated the Town will receive money via the State Water Infrastructure Project (SWIP) estimated at \$2.5 million. Mrs. Powell stated funds are also available through the Community Crossings Matching Grant (CCMG) at a 50/50 match. The ARP required survey is due by June 15, 2021. Projects being considered are the Great Ravine, Ellerbusch Road, Forest Park Phase II, and several sewer projects.

Engineer Report, David Hynes

Mr. Hynes stated he, Steve Shoemaker and Russell Powell met with Ragle regarding the Triple Crown project. The subcommittee suggested a \$450,000.00 change order for the project due to Geotech underground problems, county delays and subcontractor inefficiencies; all liquidated damages will be dismissed. The contractor will supply justifications for the change order amount.

1. Lift Station #2 Sub Basin Modeling: Assisting the Utility with Metering and Sub Basin System Modeling

Mr. Hynes stated a new flow study and recalibration on Lift Station #2 was requested at the last meeting to determine capacity and presented a contract in the amount of approximately \$50,000.00. The metering and sub basin modeling will require a tremendous amount of manpower and hours.

Motion: Leanna Hughes moved to recommend to Council to approve the CEI contract to conduct a new flow study and recalibration on Lift Station #2 in the amount of approximately \$50,000.00.

Motion seconded: Russell Powell

Discussion: None

Motion passed unanimously.

Petitions and Comments from Citizens Present

9:15: Jeramy Elrod, Morley, Inc. – Proposed New Subdivision at Oak Grove and Epworth

Mr. Elrod distributed copies of a proposed new subdivision at the southwest corner of Oak Grove and Epworth Roads near the county line. The property will be subdivided. The green area along the eastside of Epworth displays the existing sewer line. The purple area depicts the proposed design of the 8" sewer line inside the subdivision. The property will be designated as light industrial with 19 lots; however, the lot containing the creek will be listed as a non-buildable lot. The remaining 18 lots will be a 100-foot standard width. The laterals will not be allowed to cross Epworth Road to connect to the trunk line. The record drawings will be reviewed to determine the best connection points with Mr. Powell as the point of contact.

9:30 am: Keith Bratton – Proposed New Subdivision at Anderson and Jenner

Mr. Bratton displayed a map showing the area of a proposed new 11-acre subdivision at Anderson and Jenner. The lots will be smaller in size and designed for a 2,000 to 2,500 square foot home. Mr. Bratton inquired about capacity and stated he met with Jerry and Jordan Aigner regarding a sewer installation cost analysis. Mr. Bratton's sewer connection options included the possibility of the need to construct a new lift station as the nearby lift station at Anderson was constructed to serve only designated residents and will not be able to handle the capacity for this new subdivision. The Victoria Project will allow capacity but the project's completion date is not for another two (2) years. Mrs. Powell stated the committee has been assisting developers through the platting process. The next step is to determine a sewer connection point. Recoupment options and requirements were discussed. This particular area is served by both Chandler and Town of Newburgh sewer utilities. In the past, Chandler has issued a waiver allowing the Town of Newburgh to serve specific subdivisions where the dual ownership exists.

Utility Chair, Steve Shoemaker

No report.

Utility Committee Member, Leanna Hughes

No report.

Town Manager, Christy Powell

No report.

Town Attorney, John Thomason

No report.

Utility Manager, Susan Helms

1. Financial Report

Mrs. Helms stated the Sewer Operating Account balance is \$6,631,323.15. The 2016 Bond which will fund the Green Springs Valley project and finish the Triple Crown project contains \$3,489,999.38 million and the 2020 Bond contains \$21 million. Mr. Hynes expects two (2) additional change orders from Ragle on the Triple Crown project. Following payment, the retainage will be released. If the Green Springs Valley project exceeds the bond amount, the Improvement Fund contains over \$7 million and can be used to complete the project.

There will be an increase in sewer rates beginning July 1, 2021. Mrs. Kaufman stated the rate increase will affect customer's summer average. The gallons of use average will not change but the monthly dollar amount will increase. Proper customer notification will be made via the statements, website and newsletter. Summer average and irrigation adjustments were explained.

Mrs. Helms stated the office received a tap inquiry for a new building behind Donut Bank off Highway 66. Another possible expansion affects the Bell Road 10-building apartment complex. The addition of two (2) more apartment buildings is being considered, thus, the 10% Letter of Credit has been extended.

Motion: Leanna Hughes moved to adjourn the meeting.

Motion seconded: Christy Powell

Discussion: None

Motion passed unanimously.

Mrs. Powell adjourned the meeting at 9:53 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Marilyn Doyle