

Coraopolis Water & Sewer Authority  
Allegheny County, Pennsylvania  
Regular Meeting via teleconference  
December 20, 2022  
6:00 PM

The Meeting was called to order by the Authority President John Schombert.

A Roll Call of Members was then taken.

**PRESENT**

Robb Cardimen  
George Mihalyi  
Karl Groom  
John Schombert

**ABSENT**

Mike Harris

**ALSO, PRESENT**

Rich Deems – Superintendent  
Drew Null – Authority Engineer  
Devanté Miles – Authority Engineer  
Nate Boring – Solicitor  
Raymond McCutcheon – Manager

Mr. Schombert asked if there were any questions on the Agenda, being none, the meeting continued.

**Public Comments**

Mr. Schombert said we have a letter from Shirell Brown of 1607 State Avenue asking for the Excessive Use Policy due to a running toilet on the second floor.

Mr. Mihalyi made a motion to approve the Excessive Use Policy for Shirell Brown of 1607 State Avenue.  
Mr. Groom seconded the motion.

APPROVED UNANIMOUSLY BY VOICE VOTE.

Mr. Schombert said we received a letter from Lilantha Alawarregama regarding a running toilet at 607 Locust Street and she is asking for the Excessive Use Policy.

Mr. Cardimen made a motion to approve the Excessive Use Policy for Lilantha Alawarregama of 607 Locust Street. Mr. Groom seconded the motion.

APPROVED UNANIMOUSLY BY VOICE VOTE.

Mr. Schombert said Tom Toomey of 906 Kable Way had excessive usage, but this is the second event at this address so he is not eligible. We can offer him a payment plan.

Mr. Schombert said we have a letter from Julita Carpenter of 1038 Ridge Avenue stating that she had a leaking toilet and is asking for credit.

Mr. Mihalyi made a motion to approve the Excessive Use Policy for Julita Carpenter of 1038 Ridge Avenue. Mr. Cardimen seconded the motion.

APPROVED UNANIMOUSLY BY VOICE VOTE.

Mr. Schombert asked for made a motion to approve Resolution No. 22-106 setting the water rate effective 1/1/2023 at \$14.00 per 1,000 gallons and asked Mr. McCutcheon to explain.

Mr. McCutcheon said this is just a normal increase. We still plan on purchasing for part of the year and that rate went up so this is just needed. This is the first increase in five years and our expenses have gone up every year. A discussion pursued.

Mr. Cardimen made a motion to approve Resolution No. 22-106 setting the water rate effective 1/1/2023 at \$14.00 per 1,000 gallons. Mr. Mihalyi seconded the motion.

APPROVED UNANIMOUSLY BY VOICE VOTE.

Mr. Cardimen made a motion to approve the minutes from the November 22, 2022, Authority Meeting. Mr. Mihalyi seconded the motion.

APPROVED UNANIMOUSLY BY VOICE VOTE.

Mr. Cardimen made a motion to approve the Water Department Invoices for December, 2022 in the amount of \$58,657.60. Mr. Mihalyi seconded the motion.

APPROVED UNANIMOUSLY BY VOICE VOTE.

Mr. Cardimen made a motion to approve the Sewer Department invoices for December, 2022 in the amount of \$63,029.24 which includes the RSA charges of \$40,101.00. Mr. Mihalyi seconded the motion.

APPROVED UNANIMOUSLY BY VOICE VOTE.

Mr. Mihalyi made a motion to approve the Stormwater invoices for December 2022 in the amount of \$6,429.87. Mr. Cardimen seconded the motion.

APPROVED UNANIMOUSLY BY VOICE VOTE.

Mr. Cardimen made a motion to approve the 2023 Water Budget in the amount of \$1,758,500.00 with a 6.7% rate increase to \$14.00 per 1,000 gallons. Mr. Mihalyi seconded the motion.

APPROVED UNANIMOUSLY BY VOICE VOTE.

Mr. Cardimen made a motion to approve the 2023 Sewer Budget in the amount of \$1,197,500.00 with no rate increase. Mr. Mihalyi seconded the motion.

APPROVED UNANIMOUSLY BY VOICE VOTE.

Mr. Mihalyi made a motion to approve the 2023 Stormwater Budget in the amount of \$615,000.00 with no rate increase. Mr. Cardimen seconded the motion.

APPROVED UNANIMOUSLY BY VOICE VOTE.

Mr. Schombert asked for a motion to approve the McCabe Run Stream Restoration Project to Meadville Land Service, Inc. in the amount of \$375,775.00 for the Base Bid and Add Alternate No. 1 and asked Mr. Null to explain.

Mr. Drew Null directed everyone to Attachment A of his monthly report and said the base bid is 515 linear feet which is what's required for this five-year permit. We did an additional 385 linear feet which makes it what you can permit without having to go into the next tier of permitting and he continued to explain.

Mr. Null said that Meadville Land Service, Inc. came in as the low bidder for the Base Bid and Add Alternate No. 1 at \$307,775.00.

Mr. Mihalyi made a motion to approve the McCabe Run Stream Restoration Project to Meadville Land Service, Inc. in the amount of \$375,775.00 for the Base Bid and Add Alternate No. 1. Mr. Groom seconded the motion.

APPROVED UNANIMOUSLY BY VOICE VOTE.

Mr. Null said the original bid for this projected was not advertised so this is a rebid.

Mr. Nate Boring said there is no need to reject the previous bids since there was no administrative action on it.

Mr. Schombert asked for a motion to approve payment to Moody's for emergency well maintenance performed in February 2022 in the amount of \$11,526.00 and asked for Mr. Deems to explain.

Mr. Deems said this was an emergency repair from February of 2022 and we have been going back and forth with the DEP seeing if we needed a permit so we decided that the temporary pump is working and been in service for 11 months so we're just going to go forward at this point.

Mr. Cardimen made a motion to approve payment to Moody's for emergency well maintenance performed in February 2022 in the amount of \$11,526.00. Mr. Groom seconded the motion.

APPROVED UNANIMOUSLY BY VOICE VOTE.

Mr. Schombert asked for a motion to approve Resolution 22-107 to apply for a CFA PA Small Water and Sewer Grant for the 2023 Sanitary Sewer Repair Project requesting \$442,100.00 and CWSA committing to a 15% match of \$74,500.00 and asked Mr. Null to explain.

Mr. Null said this is for sewer lining and a combination of things for various areas throughout the Borough that Mr. Deems has televised and he continued to explain.

Mr. Cardimen made a motion to approve Resolution 22-107 to apply for a CFA PA Small Water and Sewer Grant for the 2023 Sanitary Sewer Repair Project requesting \$442,100.00 and CWSA committing to a 15% match of \$74,500.00. Mr. Mihalyi seconded the motion.

APPROVED UNANIMOUSLY BY VOICE VOTE.

Mr. Schombert asked for a motion to approve Resolution 22-108 to apply for a CFA H2O PA Water Supply, Sanitary Sewer and Storm Water Projects Program Grant for the Long-Term Control Plan Phase I improvements requesting \$1,500,00.00 and CWSA committing to a 50% match of \$1,500,000.00 or additional grant opportunities and asked Mr. Null to explain.

Mr. Null said this is about a \$3M project right now, so this would be helpful in chipping away at certain pieces. He continued to explain and a discussion pursued.

Mr. Cardimen made a motion to approve Resolution 22-108 to apply for a CFA H2O PA Water Supply, Sanitary Sewer and Storm Water Projects Program Grant for the Long-Term Control Plan Phase I improvements requesting \$1,500,00.00 and CWSA committing to a 50% match of \$1,500,000.00 or additional grant opportunities. Mr. Mihalyi seconded the motion.

APPROVED UNANIMOUSLY BY VOICE VOTE.

### **MANAGER'S REPORT**

Mr. McCutcheon said regarding water rentals, we're at \$1,349,000.00 which is about 91% of the budget and right in line with where expect to be this year. Mr. McCutcheon said the Pennvest reimbursement is a little over \$702,000.00 and total revenues were at \$2.1M and expenditures were also at \$2.1M and we have a very small deficit of about \$4,000.00, but are still waiting on another reimbursement from Pennvest.

Mr. McCutcheon said Sewer Rentals are 94% with total revenues of 1,284,000.00 and total expenditures of \$1,163,000.00.

Mr. McCutcheon said we did receive the \$104,000.00 from the Borough used to fix the sewer lining on Main Street.

Mr. McCutcheon said the Stormwater Fees are at \$430,000.00 which is over what we budgeted, but it's because Jordan has collected delinquent funds from prior years. Expenditures are \$193,000.00 and we still haven't done a lot with McCabe, but we should be spending here soon and he continued to explain.

Mr. McCutcheon said we have passed the budgets and are ready to go for 2023.

### **ENGINEER'S REPORT**

Mr. Drew Null directed everyone to the monthly report and said the 2021 Lead Joint Waterline Replacement Project: there isn't a pay request this month, there's still a punchlist so expect something next month.

Mr. Drew Null said the Water and Sewer System Needs Assessment; we received an update from Cyrus Rice and they started through their first 30-day period and there will be three thirty-day intervals. He continued to explain and a discussion pursued.

Mr. Drew Null said Wood Street; the road was redone and there are some minor punchlist items remaining.

Mr. Deems said I talked to them today and they said they have completed them all and he continued to explain.

Mr. Drew Null said Grants; we will get a letter of intent together for the USACE and send the other portion of the H2O PA request to the Army Corps.

Mr. Drew Null said Chestnut Street Roadway Vacation; we need to talk with Gaitens Tucceri because a portion of the right a way being vacated includes sewer and the Authority would have to prepare an easement agreement.

Mr. Drew Null said Developments; the engineer for O'Reilly has asked for an extension, but nothing new as far as water and sewer connections.

Mr. Drew Null said Water System Items; the Well 2 invoices were on the Agenda for this evening. The DEP looks to have that permit issued for the meter replacement by the holiday or shortly after.

Mr. Drew Null said Sanitary Sewer System Items, Long Term Control Plan; we've talked about projecting that LTCP number from 2014 forward and we did review the sites with Mr. Deems and added in pump replacement and looking for a bigger ask in terms of loans and grant funding and he continued to explain.

## **SUPERINTENDENT REPORT**

Mr. Deems said the total water produced for November 2022 was 6.9M gallons and 2.7M gallons was purchased from MTMA to get us through Thanksgiving week. The average daily system demand was 321,000 gallons per day and that did include some flushing. The water purchased for Euclid Ave. and Grace St. was 108,500 gallons for the month.

### **Water System**

Mr. Deems said we repaired a leaking 4" main on Wood Street above 6<sup>th</sup> Avenue which is about 10-12 feet below the last repair. During the repair we encountered a sanitary lateral that was in very poor condition. We attempted to repair the lateral, but you could see that the wye was cracked so we decided to plate the hole and secure it until we could have Jet Jack do that work. They replaced two wyes and the pipe that was spanning the ditch. They also did a lead service line replacement for 748 6<sup>th</sup> Avenue and the restoration does remain outstanding.

Mr. Deems said we replaced 3.5 feet of a ruptured 4-inch water main near 853 Neely Heights Avenue. We did have a precautionary boil water advisory because it was a very large hole and dirt did get into the line and all of the tests came back good. We were notified by the Fleming Street alarm dialer of the leak.

Mr. Deems said we are done hydrant flushing for the year. There is a little area east of Vine Street that we didn't get to flush, but did flush in that area with the lead joint line replacement project.

Mr. Deems said we repaired a leaking 6" main on Riverview Avenue near house 717.

Mr. Deems said we had to abandon a leaking service near 917 2<sup>nd</sup> Avenue. This was an unused service that has probably never been used.

Mr. Deems said we located a leaking service to 1042 State Avenue and after excavating the curb box we found the customer side is leaking. It is noted that it is lead on both sides so we will have to replace our side as well.

### **Sanitary Sewage System**

Mr. Deems said the control board for the flow meter a Montour Run went bad last month so we had DAS replace that board to get it back in operation.

Mr. Deems said we conducted two time of sale dye test in the Arch Street Ejector area. 1368 4<sup>th</sup> Avenue passed and 1308 5<sup>th</sup> Avenue failed due to downspouts and groundwater inflow. They did start working on 1308 5<sup>th</sup> Avenue today.

Mr. Schombert said are you holding back occupancy permits when they fail?

Mr. McCutcheon said yes, if it is in an area that requires it.

Mr. McCutcheon said I have noticed that the daily production has continuously dropped and that is due to the leaks that have been located and the new equipment and a discussion pursued.

### **SOLICITOR'S REPORT**

Mr. Nate Boring said do you have everything set up that you need if you hire an employee and get him in the 457=B Pension Plan?

Mr. McCutcheon said I need to get with Randy Rhodes to make sure that I have what I need. He continued to explain and a discussion pursued.

### **OLD BUSINESS**

Mr. Cardimen said I would like to thank our Authority Manager Mr. McCutcheon for keeping everything in line with budgets and he continued to explain.

Mr. Cardimen said this Authority needs a plan. I appreciate all of the work that Mr. Deems is doing with capturing water leaks and new equipment, but you are tearing up the town. Borough Council has spent millions of dollars in road infrastructure in the last 4-5 years and we as an Authority need a plan on how to fix and replace these roads and he continued to explain.

Mr. Cardimen said I understand the need to buy water from Moon Township, but we need a plan. If we are going to dump the Water Plant that is our only source of revenue for this Authority and he continued to explain.

Mr. Cardimen said we need to have some hard conversations in 2023 before we decided to shut that Plant down and a discussion pursued.

Mr. McCutcheon said we talked about the mixers for the tanks with the quantities being lower and Rod is off weekends can we push to get these in sooner than later?

Mr. Deems said I would prefer we did and he continued to explain.

Mr. Schombert said can you get us an estimate?

Mr. Deems said yes

### **NEW BUSINESS**

There was no New Business.

### **CORRESPONDENCE**

There was no Correspondence.

Mr. Boring said the rights or protections provided by this agreement I think that might mean they are not protected against termination. The only thing it will cost the Authority is 3% of

Mr. Cardimen made a motion to go into Executive Session. Mr. Mihalyi seconded the motion.  
APPROVED UNANIMOUSLY BY VOICE VOTE.

Mr. Cardimen made a motion to come out of Executive Session. Mr. Mihalyi seconded the motion.  
APPROVED UNANIMOUSLY BY VOICE VOTE.

Mr. Cardimen made a motion to approve the slate of increases based on the presentation by the Manager. Mr. Groom seconded the motion.  
APPROVED UNANIMOUSLY BY VOICE VOTE.

Mr. Cardimen made a motion to adjourn. Mr. Harris seconded the motion.  
APPROVED UNANIMOUSLY BY VOICE VOTE.

### **MEETING ADJOURNED**