

Coraopolis Water & Sewer Authority
Allegheny County, Pennsylvania
Regular Meeting via Teleconference
July 18, 2023
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

ALSO, PRESENT

Rich Deems – Superintendent
Drew Null – Authority Engineer
Devanté Miles – Authority Engineer
Charlee Rosini – Solicitor
Raymond McCutcheon – Manager

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

Public Comments

Mr. Schombert asked Mr. Deems to discuss the Excessive Use request made by Thomas and Alyssa Blumling for 1027 3rd Avenue.

Mr. Deems directed everyone to the reading history and said they had used 45,000 gallons in August, but they had asked for the water to be turned off April 22nd. It would not be fair to charge them for that since the water was supposed to be off in April. The water is off at the curb now and he continued to explain.

Mr. Schobert said shouldn't be under the Excessive Use Policy, but we can give them a break on the water.

Mr. Cardimen made a motion to grant the water bill exception to Thomas Blumling for 1027 3rd Avenue based on the recommendation from the Superintendent. Mr. Groom seconded the motion.

APPROVED UNANIMOUSLY BY VOICE VOTE.

Ms. Christina Ballarta said I am the case worker for the Latino Community Center and we serve families in Allegheny County, including Coraopolis. Some of our families have had difficulty accessing the services from Coraopolis Water especially because when they look on line the website is only in English,

the service on the phone is also in English so they need our assistance to do this all the time. We will have a fair at the center located at 5750 Baum Blvd. on Thursday, August 31st from 2:00 PM – 6:00 PM. We are asking for you to set up a table for your services and bring your own interpreter and she continued to explain.

Mr. Schombert suggested that Ms. Ballarta bring a representative to Coraopolis instead of having someone from Coraopolis going to Pittsburgh due to staffing. He continued to explain and a discussion pursued.

Mr. Ed Pitassi from 854 7th Avenue said I am here on behalf of the Shade Tree Commission. The catch basins in the back of the Jailhouse have a lot of weeds in them and we were thinking about putting two trees in there and I wanted to get permission from the Water Authority.

Mr. Cardimen said I am personally against this and he continued to explain.

Mr. Schombert said can you express your concerns with Tree Vitalize? Maybe there is an evergreen or something that may work and a discussion pursued.

Mr. Cardimen made a motion to approve the minutes from the June 20, 2023 Authority Meeting. Mr. Mihalyi seconded the motion.

APPROVED UNANIMOUSLY BY VOICE VOTE.

Mr. Cardimen made a motion to approve the Water Department Invoices for July 2023 in the amount of \$50,596.04. Mr. Mihalyi seconded the motion.

APPROVED UNANIMOUSLY BY VOICE VOTE.

Mr. Groom made a motion to approve the Sewer Department invoices for July 2023 in the amount of \$56,022.59. Mr. Cardimen seconded the motion.

APPROVED UNANIMOUSLY BY VOICE VOTE.

Mr. Cardimen made a motion to approve the Stormwater invoices for July 2023 in the amount of \$8,291.30. Mr. Mihalyi seconded the motion.

APPROVED UNANIMOUSLY BY VOICE VOTE.

MANAGER'S REPORT

Mr. McCutcheon said the Water Financials, Rentals are 47% of budget which is a little under what we would expect for half of the year. Professional Services of \$42,000.00 is the Cyrus Rice work that we have been doing. The total expenditures are 46%.

Mr. McCutcheon said Sewer Financials, Rentals are at 46% and that's just under for half the year. The expenditures are 42%, so we are basically even for the year.

Mr. McCutcheon said Stormwater Financials, we have received 89% of the budgeted amount for fees. The large capital item was \$350,000.00 for the McCabe Run Project.

Mr. McCutcheon said we did have a request from Cornell. They were filling their swimming pool and were hoping to not be charged for the sewage. I asked Mr. Deems and he explained that there is chlorine in there, so it must go to the sanitary sewer and we advised them there would not be a credit.

ENGINEER'S REPORT

Mr. Drew Null directed everyone to the Monthly Engineering Report and said Mr. Miles has been talking with Cyrus Rice and they said the last part of the leaching study is looking at the pipe deposits and checking the leaching. We are waiting on a report and expect to hear something within the next month.

Mr. Drew Null said Borough 2023 Road Program; there is no change, we expect work to start by the end of the month and we have asked for a schedule update.

Mr. Drew Null said Developments; there are several items outstanding with O'Reilly's, one was to disconnect the existing water service present to that site. We have sent them a letter requesting an update along with several Borough items.

Mr. Drew Null said Chestnut Street Roadway Vacation; the discussion with Council was to proceed with a hearing so there is little impact to the Authority at this time. Based on prior discussions with Gaitens, Tucceri the plan would be for the Borough to proceed if there are no objections with the vacation and he continued to explain.

Mr. Drew Null said James Paine Site Development; there is a submission under review, nothing new to report.

Mr. Drew Null said Water System Items, 2021 Lead Joint Waterline Replacement Project; we have reached out to Jet Jack, there is still a concern there may be a leak on Main Street and hope to have it addressed within the next month.

Mr. Drew Null said Water Allocation Renewal; we did get some comments, (almost a year later) from the DEP and that resubmission was completed.

Mr. Drew Null said Mill Street Roadway Reconstruction; the Borough received a grant for replacing Mill Street between 4th and 5th Avenues. This work is estimated to take place in the Spring/Summer of 2024 or maybe into 2025. Now is the time to see if there is an interest in replacing the waterline and extension of the storm sewer and he continued to explain.

Mr. Drew Null said Neely Heights Waterline Replacement; we have talked about replacement of the waterline from Main Street to Wood Street. He continued to explain and a discussion pursued.

Mr. Drew Null said Lead Service Inventory; inventory is due next October, so we should have a kick off meeting to discuss what kind of service is available. He continued to explain and a discussion pursued.

Mr. Drew Null said Sanitary Sewer System Items, the Long Term Control Plan; we received comments from Moon regarding the Act 537 and directed everyone to his draft response. Mr. Null said if there are no comments then I will get it out this week and a discussion pursued.

Mr. Drew Null said Vine Street Emergency Repair; this has been completed.

Mr. Drew Null said NPDES Permit Renewal; we got notice from the DEP and the renewal is being prepared.

Mr. Drew Null said MS4 Compliance, the Brook Street Project is complete. We are looking at annual tasks and outfall sampling is underway.

Mr. McCutcheon said the Borough just applied for a grant to do Montour Street between 4th and 5th Avenues. There is probably a sewer line, so we can partner and participate with that.

Mr. McCutcheon asked for an update to the grant application for School Street.

Mr. Null said we have applied, but there isn't an update yet.

Mr. McCutcheon said we are hoping to get funding for the waterline and the road and a discussion pursued.

SUPERINTENDENT REPORT

Mr. Rich Deems stated the total water produced for June 2023 was 6.3M gallons. We did purchase 3.6M gallons from Moon. The daily average demand for the system was 330,000 gallons per day for the month. There is no update for the Grace Street meter, it is still out of service.

Water System

Mr. Rich Deems said the High Pressure Well mag meter is out of service. There are two mag meters for the raw water and two months ago we replaced the low pressure well mag meter and unfortunately the high pressure is out of service now. It only serves to record Well #2 because Wells 1 & 3 are out of service

Mr. Rich Deems said the fire hydrant at 4th Avenue and Arch was struck by a car recently and we are working on getting it fixed.

Mr. Rich Deems said we rebuilt a 4" pressure relief valve in the Fleming PRV vault.

Sanitary Sewage System

Mr. Rich Deems said Robinson Pipe Cleaning returned and was able to remove all the stuck plumber's snake that was coiled in the main near 1616 State Avenue.

Mr. Rich Deems said the Brook Street meter malfunctioned last month. The counter/totalizer component was bad and we fixed it inhouse to get it back in service.

Mr. Rich Deems said we were notified by the owner of an overflowing sewer behind their house at 1099 Vine Street. This was right after a hard rain and sounded like a waterfall behind their house. Once they went through all the weeds, they discovered the manhole was defective. The following day I had Tri - State try to jet open the line, but unfortunately, they were not able to do it upstream or downstream, but we did note there was a buried manhole. The following day I had Robinson televise and locate that manhole and the Authority Staff dug it up for access until Robinson could locate the blockage which turned out to be bricks and other things. That section of line is cast iron so it had a bad buildup of corrosion and scale so we had JetJack/Independent who excavated 22 feet and cut out the joint of pipe that had the clog and fixed with a chain knocker and they estimate that it's at least 70% better than what it was. We also televised up two more sections and it transitioned to terra cotta and he continued to explain. Mr. Deems said I recommend doing some rehab on that sewer before something major might happen and a discussion pursued.

SOLICITOR'S REPORT

Ms. Charlee Rosini said I am an Attorney with Vince Tucceri's office and am filling in for him tonight. If you need any assistance with Vine Street or if there is an issue we are here to help.

Ms. Rosini directed everyone to a memorandum on the consideration on what to do with abandoned taps and said once you get a chance to review, contact me and we can discuss how you would like to move forward.

OLD BUSINESS

There was not Old Business.

NEW BUSINESS

Mr. Cardimen said I would like for the Board to consider next year putting up a \$100,000.00 bond issue to the Borough to start fixing some of the places that we've neglected over the years and he continued to explain.

CORRESPONDENCE

There was no correspondence.

Mr. Cardimen made a motion to adjourn. Mr. Groom seconded the motion.

APPROVED UNANIMOUSLY BY VOICE VOTE.

MEETING ADJOURNED