

Coraopolis Water & Sewer Authority  
Allegheny County, Pennsylvania  
Regular Meeting via Teleconference  
March 19, 2024  
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           6:05 Arrival  
George Mihalyi  
Karl Groom  
Charles Spencer  
John Schombert

**ALSO, PRESENT**

Rich Deems – Superintendent  
Drew Null – Authority Engineer  
Devanté Miles – Authority Engineer  
Vince Tucceri - Solicitor  
Bailey Gilchrest – 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 Amanda Ardingher of 622 Locust Street asking for the Excessive Use Policy, have they done the repairs?

Mr. Deems according to the letter they haven't done any repairs; they haven't been able to figure out where the excessive use came from. We've done a couple of check readings and it looks like it is getting back to normal he continued to explain.

Mr. Schombert said granted with her understanding that this is a one-time Excessive Use credit.

Mr. McCutcheon said we will definitely explain that to her.

Mr. Spencer made a motion to approve the Excessive Use Policy for Amanda Ardingher of 622 Locust Street encompassing the entire event. Mr. Groom seconded the motion.

APPROVED UNANIMOUSLY BY VOICE VOTE.

Mr. Schombert said we have a letter from Christina Heckert of 405 Main Street requesting the Excessive Use Policy due to a toilet issue.

Mr. Deems said this will have to be contingent upon the owner agreeing because she is a tenant.

Mr. Mihalyi made a motion to approve the Excessive Use Policy for Christina Heckert of 405 Main Street contingent upon the property owner agreeing. Mr. Groom seconded the motion.

APPROVED UNANIMOUSLY BY VOICE VOTE.

Mr. Schombert said we have a letter from Andrew and Laura Rauch from 406 Mill Street for excessive use, but the letter is unclear.

Mr. Deems said there is no explanation for this one, it looks like they had a minimum bill up into the excessive use.

Mr. Schombert said let's put this on hold until we have more information.

Mr. Schombert said Anna Trunzo from 1110 5<sup>th</sup> Avenue and the apartment.

Mr. McCutcheon said I think she was going to attend.

Mr. Deems said the issue here is that there are two meters, but only one service line. The office told her she would have to master meter and she doesn't want to do that, so that is why she was coming tonight and a discussion pursued.

Mr. Schombert said we will table this as well.

Ms. Paula Montgomery, the owner of 617 7<sup>th</sup> Avenue said I have sent emails regarding the Tappin Fee information that I have gathered from municipalities. I am not sure if everyone has seen these, would you like me to go through the findings?

Mr. Vince Tucceri said the understanding that we have is that you disagree with the policy regarding the Tap and Connection Charge and that you do not believe there should be two EDUs as a result of two houses on one lot. I want to make it clear to you what the Board's position is on both of these. The policy was adopted for the tapping in and connection charge when we had a property that had not been connected for over a year or more. That policy is what this Board has agreed to and is not interested in changing and he continued to explain. With regards to the EDUs, that has been a longstanding practice pursuant to the Municipal's Authorities Act and they are not interested in changing that either and he continued to explain. Mr. Tucceri said if you wish to challenge this then your challenge would be in the Court of Common Pleas and he continued to explain.

Ms. Montgomery first of all I did call around to all of the Municipalities that were mentioned in a previous meeting regarding tap in fees and they do not charge tap in fees for existing structures. She continued to explain and a discussion pursued.

Mr. Mihalyi made a motion to approve the minutes from the February 20, 2024 Authority Meeting. Mr. Spencer seconded the motion.

APPROVED UNANIMOUSLY BY VOICE VOTE.

Mr. Schombert asked for a motion to approve the Water Department Invoices for March 2024 in the amount of \$63,978.17 and asked for discussion.

Mr. McCutcheon said there are two garbage payments to the Borough on the invoices this time.

Mr. Mihalyi made a motion to approve the Water Department Invoices for March 2024 in the amount of \$63,978.17. Mr. Cardimen seconded the motion.

APPROVED UNANIMOUSLY BY VOICE VOTE.

Mr. Spencer made a motion to approve the Sewer Department invoices for March 2024 in the amount of \$56,511.92 which includes the Riverview Sanitary fee of \$39,383.00. Mr. Mihalyi seconded the motion.

APPROVED UNANIMOUSLY BY VOICE VOTE.

Mr. Cardimen made a motion to approve the Stormwater invoices for March 2024 in the amount of \$7,186.91. Mr. Mihalyi seconded the motion.

APPROVED UNANIMOUSLY BY VOICE VOTE.

### **MANAGER'S REPORT**

Mr. McCutcheon said Water Rentals are \$284,000.00 which is about 18% and a little better than budget. On the expenditure side, (excluding the capital improvements of which we haven't spent anything yet) we are at 17.5% which is a little higher than budget, but a lot of that covers the temp we had in the office while Darlene was out and she was done at the end of February.

Mr. McCutcheon said Sewer Financials are \$175,000.00 which is around 17.5% which is where we expect it to be. Expenditures are in line as well and we do have a very small deficit to date.

Mr. McCutcheon said Stormwater Financials; the fees are starting to come in, but there isn't much going on with Stormwater yet.

### **ENGINEER'S REPORT**

Mr. Drew Null directed everyone to the Monthly Engineering Report and said Water System Needs Assessment: there is nothing to report this evening.

Mr. Drew Null said Grant Applications; Representative Deluzio Appropriations; there was an announcement within the past month that the bill was passed which includes \$800,00.00 for the waterline and road repairs on School Street and a discussion pursued.

Mr. Null said the Flood Mitigation Grant is out and I will have the resolution for next month. We are looking at improvements for both the American Bridge Station and the Centre Street Flood Pump site.

Mr. Drew Null said Water System Items; we are still working to get the PENNVEST Project closed out.

Mr. Drew Null said the Tank Inspections; the Contractor was out this month and we are waiting on the final report. The work was completed.

Mr. Drew Null said Neely Heights; we will focus on getting this out to bid for next month and get the package finalized.

Mr. Drew Null said Lead Service Inventory; we are getting a questionnaire finalized to distribute to the residents asking for them to provide feedback on interior plumbing to include with our inventory.

Mr. Drew Null said Sanitary Sewer System Items; the Long-Term Control Plan. In the past week we received comments back from Moon. The draft revision was to them and they were accepting of the comments and had another paragraph that they wanted added. We need their resolution to be executed, but we still haven't heard anything from Robinson.

Mr. Drew Null said the Chapter 94 Report was finalized in the past month.

Mr. Drew Null said Storm Sewer System Items; looking for the typical sampling, annual updates, and get the annual training scheduled in the coming months.

Mr. Schombert said the NPDS permit has been extended through 2025, so there is no change in the water quality positions.

Mr. Null said we haven't heard anything. The DEP wasn't fond of the stream bank restoration style of project that you got through, so I would look for less of that moving forward.

## **SUPERINTENDENT REPORT**

Mr. Rich Deems stated the total water produced for February 2024 was 9.5M gallons. We did not purchase any water from MTMA for February. The average system daily demand was 322,000 gallons per day. There was no change to the status of Euclid and Grace.

### **Water System**

Mr. Rich Deems said we had a large leak at 4<sup>th</sup> Avenue and Watt Street and we were losing about 3,000 gal per minute. According to record drawings there was 50 feet of 8" pipe stub going toward the tracks from 4<sup>th</sup> Avenue, so we dug at the four-way cross, cut that pipe off and capped it close to the cross. We are not exactly sure where the leak was, we just know that it was somewhere on that section and he continued to explain.

Mr. Rich Deems said the service to 931 4<sup>th</sup> Avenue was repaired due to a leak after the curb stop. They excavated and found a piece of lead under the sidewalk that was probably left over from when it was a train station. It is now all copper and was repaired by a private plumber.

Mr. Rich Deems said all three tanks were inspected.

Mr. Rich Deems said our leak loggers detected a leak in the Hiland and Thorn area, however, to date we have not been able to pinpoint it. We are trying to coordinate with two property owners to narrow it down to where we think the noise is coming from, but we need to get into the house to investigate further.

Mr. Rich Deems said the discharge valve for the plant high service pump No. 3 was replaced, because of leakage when closed.

Mr. Rich Deems said we recently checked the specific capacity (which is the GPM/drawdown feet of each well.) Well No. 6 is currently operating at a specific capacity of 9.29. When it was cleaned in 2017

it had a specific capacity of 18.8, so it is roughly half. The time lag between cleanings has averaged between 6-8 years and we are going on 7, so it is time to clean it and he continued to explain. Mr. Deems said we will have to go to the DEP to get a permit to clean the well. Well No. 5 is only outputting 40 gpm unthrottled, so I also recommend addressing Well No. 5 at the same time.

### **Sanitary Sewage System**

Mr. Rich Deems said the Mulberry CSO regulator is back in service.

Mr. Rich Deems said the dye test that failed for 1884 Cliff Street has been remedied.

### **SOLICITOR'S REPORT**

Ms. Bailey Gilchrist said I have gone through all of your resolutions concerning your water regulations. The ordinance part is going slow seeing if we can convert them or if someone is going to have to retype them all and she continued to explain.

Mr. Schombert said is there a need for a Committee Meeting on the technical issues?

Mr. Null said yes, and a discussion pursued.

Mr. Vince Tucceri said there is not an update for the PFAS litigation, inaudible.

### **OLD BUSINESS**

There was no Old Business.

### **NEW BUSINESS**

Mr. McCutcheon said PennDOT plans to start working on 4<sup>th</sup> Avenue where the plate is and a discussion pursued.

### **CORRESPONDENCE**

There was no correspondence

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

APPROVED UNANIMOUSLY BY VOICE VOTE.

### **MEETING ADJOURNED**