

Coraopolis Water & Sewer Authority
Allegheny County, Pennsylvania
Regular Meeting
September 17, 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
George Mihalyi
Karl Groom
Charles Spencer
John Schombert

ALSO, PRESENT

Rich Deems – Superintendent
Drew Null – Authority Engineer
Devanté Miles – Authority Engineer
Patrick Gannon - 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 received a letter from Sarah Alumbaugh of 1212 Ridge Avenue requesting credit from high usage due to a running toilet.

Mr. Schombert said all three of the residents listed in the Audience Remarks; the readings are from August, is that the end of these events or do we need additional readings to close them?

Mr. Deems said we probably do need additional readings.

Mr. Cardimen made a motion to approve the Excessive Use Policy for Sara Alumbaugh of 1212 Ridge Avenue capturing the entire event. Mr. Mihalyi seconded the motion.

APPROVED UNANIMOUSLY BY VOICE VOTE.

Mr. Schombert said we have a letter from Randolph Bolea, property owner of 643 5th Avenue asking for credit due to a basement wash tub leaking.

Mr. Cardimen made a motion to approve the Excessive Use Policy for Randolph Bolea of 643 5th Avenue capturing the entire event. Mr. Mihalyi seconded the motion.

APPROVED UNANIMOUSLY BY VOICE VOTE.

Mr. Schombert said we have a letter from John Fleet regarding a running toilet at his father's house at 1012 Watson Street.

Mr. Mihalyi made a motion to approve the Excessive Use Policy for John Fleet of 1012 Watson Street capturing the entire event. Mr. Groom seconded the motion.

APPROVED UNANIMOUSLY BY VOICE VOTE.

Mr. Spencer made a motion to approve the Water Department Invoices for September 2024 in the amount of \$39,197.90. Mr. Mihalyi seconded the motion.

APPROVED UNANIMOUSLY BY VOICE VOTE.

Mr. Schombert said there is a correction to the agenda with the amount for the sewer invoices. The new amount includes RSA and is \$60,447.60.

Mr. McCutcheon said RSA is now \$46,687.00 a month.

Mr. Cardimen made a motion to approve the Sewer Department invoices for September 2024 in the amount of \$60,447.60, including \$46,687.00 to Riverview. Mr. Mihalyi seconded the motion.

APPROVED UNANIMOUSLY BY VOICE VOTE.

Mr. Cardimen made a motion to approve the Stormwater invoices for September 2024 in the amount of \$9,939.34. Mr. Spencer seconded the motion.

APPROVED UNANIMOUSLY BY VOICE VOTE.

Mr. Cardimen made a motion to approve the minutes as distributed at the August 20, 2024, Authority Meeting. Mr. Groom seconded the motion.

APPROVED UNANIMOUSLY BY VOICE VOTE.

Mr. McCutcheon said Resolution 24-117 regarding Act 20 of 2003 schedule of Attorney Fees spells everything out in detail for the attorney fees and he continued to explain.

Mr. Cardimen made a motion to approve Resolution 24-117 regarding Act 20 of 2003 schedule of Attorney Fees. Mr. Spencer seconded the motion.

APPROVED UNANIMOUSLY BY VOICE VOTE.

Mr. Mihalyi made a motion to approve the funding of the Minimum Municipal Obligation for the year 2025 in the amount of \$20,482.00 for the Employees' Pension Plan.

APPROVED UNANIMOUSLY BY VOICE VOTE.

Mr. Spencer made a motion to approve payment to the Borough of Coraopolis for utility work and road restoration on Neely Heights Avenue in the amount of \$348,930.00. Mr. Cardimen seconded the motion.

APPROVED UNANIMOUSLY BY VOICE VOTE.

MANAGER'S REPORT

Mr. McCutcheon said Water Rentals are at 66%, 1,050,000.00, which is in line with the budget. The Water Expenditures are \$980,000.00 which is 53%, but there will be a big change after we pay the Borough for Neely Heights and we did plan to use over \$240,000.00 from the reserve.

Mr. McCutcheon said Sewer Rentals are 67.5%, which is very close to budget. Expenditures are 58% and there will be a minor change for Neely Heights. Over the next few months, we are going to be under budgeted for Riverview because we were paying \$39K a month and now it's \$46K monthly. We are probably going to have to raise sewer rates next year to help cover that. He continued to explain and a discussion pursued.

Mr. McCutcheon said Stormwater Fees are at \$350,000.00 which is 87% of budget. Expenditures are 35% and we still have that \$150,000.00 that we'll give to the Borough for the new street sweeper and a discussion pursued.

ENGINEER'S REPORT

Mr. Drew Null directed everyone to the Monthly Engineering Report and said Water System Needs Assessment: for the Corrosion Determination, there is an updated proposal from Cyrus Rice and we are still working through some comments.

Mr. Drew Null said Grant Applications and Developments; the preapplication went in last month for resubmitting the West End Waterline Replacement Project. Household income surveys are required on a yearly basis so we will have to renew those again.

Mr. Drew Null said the CFA Local Share Account met today, but did not act on applications. They do intend to do so before the election.

Mr. McCutcheon said the Borough did get an additional \$375,000.00 grant for Mill Street making it up to \$700,000.00, so we'll probably do Mill Street in 2025. He continued to explain and a discussion pursued.

Mr. Null said you also have another application in for tank mixing improvements.

Mr. Drew Null said Developments; the Montour Soccer Complex Phase II filed a request and we are finalizing it. I want to meet with Mr. McCutcheon and Mr. Deems about the pending items remaining from their first phase and a discussion pursued.

Mr. Drew Null said Water System Items; the Neely Heights Project is finishing up and some minor punchlist items are remaining.

Mr. Drew Null said Lead Service Inventory; we have the inventory together and are working to get it finalized with the Superintendent. He continued to explain and a discussion pursued.

Mr. Drew Null said Well Cleaning; the DEP offered to take a preliminary look at permit applications, they did and provided some comments. We are getting this finalized for formal submission and I would like for it to be out to bid before the October or November meeting and a discussion pursued.

Mr. Drew Null said School Street Roadway and Waterline; there is \$1M in funds committed for road and waterline replacement. This goes through the EPA and we will work through the process.

Mr. Drew Null said Sanitary Sewer System Items; Long Term Control Plan; the Act 537 Special Study, we got an update from the DEP with some comments looking for a copy of the advertisement and he continued to explain.

Mr. Schombert said what are they doing about Robinson?

Mr. Null said they will review that with their supervisor. With the submission to them we did include the letter from the DEP stating they need to do a plan on their own or participate.

Mr. Drew Null said NPDES Permit Renewal; this was filed a year ago and the DEP is asking for a schedule update and he continued to explain.

Mr. Drew Null said Storm Sewer System Items; the MS4 Annual Report is due in September, so we will be meeting with staff and going through the report.

Mr. Drew Null said Centre Street Generator; Cleveland Brothers advised it will be available for delivery by December 4th and he continued to explain.

Mr. Schombert said was the stormwater damage done on Brook Street ever addressed?

Mr. Null said they did come out and my understanding is that it was addressed.

Mr. Deems said they did come back, but I have not looked at it for the last month, so I don't know if it is holding up or not.

Mr. Null said we will look at it again.

SUPERINTENDENT REPORT

Mr. Deems gave the Superintendent Report for August 2024 and said 7.6M gallons were produced and 2.1M gallons were purchased from MTMA. The daily average demand was 317,000 gallons per day. The water purchased for Euclid and Grace was 124,000 gallons. The meter was replaced in August and is reading higher than the old meter and he continued to explain.

Mr. Schombert asked if the cost for the meter was on Moon and Mr. Deems said yes, the meter belongs to Moon. Mr. Deems said they still have to come back because there is still a leak before the meter and he continued to explain.

Water System

Mr. Deems said we replaced a lead line to 618 Ferree Street after the customer had their side replaced.

Sanitary Sewage System

Mr. Deems said regarding the sinkhole that appeared on Broadway Street, Robinson Pipe Cleaning CCTV'd both the storm sewer and the 24" sanitary sewer. The inspection revealed the storm sewer is leaking, there are sixty-six feet worth of grade 4 category defects in a line and is cracked on all four axes. It is leaking out of the storm sewer down to an old abandoned lateral and going to the sanitary. It is my recommendation to line the storm sewer and a discussion pursued.

Mr. Deems said we had odor complaints in the 900 block of 5th Avenue again this year. Last year, we lined State Avenue above 5th Avenue due to odor complaints and it seemed to correct the problem and all of the odor complaints went away. The odor complaints reappeared this year and were even worse. We investigated upstream of the area and the sanitary sewer on Watson Street had a big root ball in it and was plugged up. Robinson opened up the line and televised it and noticed there are 3-5 grade defects on that line, so they didn't finish cleaning it because they didn't want to destroy it. He directed everyone to the attached map and continued to explain.

SOLICITOR'S REPORT

Mr. Patrick Gannon said the update that I have is the PFAS litigation is ongoing.

Mr. McCutcheon said I do not think that I've heard any more on the PFAS litigation.

Mr. Gannon said Mr. Tucceri is handling it, but as far as I know there isn't anything.

Mr. Mihalyi said is there an update on the stormwater fee that the school has not paid?

Mr. McCutcheon said a different town initiated that and we are waiting to see how that plays out and a discussion pursued.

OLD BUSINESS

There was no Old Business.

NEW BUSINESS

Mr. Deems said the Borough received notification of the gas line project that is scheduled to occur next year in the Stratford area. We did waterlines for all of Stratford and Orchard, but did not do Cornell Street. Cornell Street has known defects in the sewer system, so my thoughts are to do in conjunction with the road already being torn up for the gas project and a discussion pursued.

Mr. McCutcheon said reconstruction is going to start on Montour between 4th and 5th next Monday. They are starting with the sidewalks so I don't think the road will be closed right away, but we should notify the Neville Island Fire Department.

Mr. Spencer said I have already mentioned it to their Chief and have sent out a notice.

Mr. Deems said getting back to Cornell Street, do we have a directive of what the engineer needs to do for us?

Mr. Null said do you want to combine Watson, Broadway and Cornell all into a project?

Mr. Cardimen said if you are going to have people here lining then yes, do all three and a discussion pursued.

Mr. McCutcheon said we need to come up with something, so that we can work it into the budget.

Mr. Null said we can come up with costs for next month and if you're good with it, get surveys scheduled.

CORRESPONDENCE

There was no Correspondence.

Mr. Cardimen made a motion to go into Executive Session. Mr. Spencer seconded the motion.

APPROVED UNANIMOUSLY BY VOICE VOTE.

Mr. Cardimen made a motion to come out of Executive Session. Mr. Spencer seconded the motion.

APPROVED UNANIMOUSLY BY VOICE VOTE.

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

APPROVED UNANIMOUSLY BY VOICE VOTE.

MEETING ADJOURNED