

**CITY OF PITTSVILLE  
WATER & SEWER COMMISSION  
WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 9, 2017**

The meeting was called to order at 5:00 p.m. by Chairman John Becker.

Members present: Dave Soderberg, Deana Becker, Duane Tritz, and Jerry Jensen

Also present: Paul Veldman, Utility Director; Mike Voss, MSA; Dale Nichols, Mayor

Motion by Jerry J., seconded by Deana B., to approve the minutes from the July 12, 2017 meeting. John B. mentioned he would like the word “vehicle” added before “inspection log” in the 4<sup>th</sup> paragraph.

Motion carried.

Mike Voss presented the attached MSA update as well as a contract to complete the 3<sup>rd</sup> year Preliminary Phosphorus Compliance Plan in the amount of \$13,500. The plan looks at different options to meet the phosphorus compliance limits. He stated the best option for the City is the multi-discharger variance. It will allow us to put off the very strict .075 phosphorus limit for up to 10 years (with a possibility of the EPA allowing another 5 years after that). This will require the treatment plant to meet every permit period limit starting at .8 mg/L for the first 5-year permit period and the second at .6 mg/L (and possibly .5 after that). Chemical treatment alone won't reach the .075 limit, but it is needed to comply with the MDV for the next 10 years. Questions were raised regarding the attached scope of services letter and the necessity of each of those evaluations listed. Mike V. answered that this is the way that the DNR and EPA require that it be done. They want to know how much each of the alternatives listed are going to cost. John B. was told at a DNR meeting that 18% of phosphorus comes industry and wastewater management plants and the rest from agriculture or natural sources such as rotting leaves, etc.

Paul has already done jar tests for the optimal amount of chemicals needed. These numbers will be in the report. There will be a charge of \$50 per pound of phosphorus discharged over .2 mg/L. Paul previously reported on this, and he figured the charge would be roughly \$400-\$700 per year which is without treatment. Motion by John B. to table this Plan approval until next month to see if there are any more changes coming. Second by Duane T. Motion carried.

The possible sewer rate increase and letter to residents were discussed at length. The attached rate increase estimates were presented. Using the 10% increase for sewer usage and 15% minimum increase, these estimates would increase our annual revenue \$12,858.20, or approximately 1/3 of the annual deficit not including any phosphorus treatment. Our auditors have been recommending an increase for years and the sewer rates have not been raised for 12 years. Even with an increase this year, we would still be operating on a deficit so there will need to be another increase next year. Motion by Duane T. that the sewer rates increase 15% from their current levels on the minimum charge and increase 20% on the sewer usage. Second by Jerry J. Motion carried. The letter to the residents should show an example of a 2-person household's current bill compared to a proposed bill showing the difference per quarter.

The attached operational report was presented and discussed. Paul V. mentioned someone from Hawkins was here to jar test for phosphorus treatment using ferric chloride. We would have to add between 150/ppm and 200/ppm to get inside of .5. At 200/ppm we are looking at a cost of \$47 per day or around \$17,000 per year. Mike V. said we will need to start this at our next permit period. We will apply for our new permit in December of 2019. We just keep operating on our old permit until the new one in 2020. Paul also mentioned we received an application from Dollar General for new water and sewer services. They will require 2 meters—a 1” and a 5/8”. Motion by Jerry J. to accept Dollar General's application for water/sewer service. Second by Deana B. Duane T. abstained. Motion carried.

More discussion on optimizing the plant for phosphorus treatment was held. Paul will look into the current permit to ensure we do not have to add ferric now. Mike V. left the meeting.

Competitive bids for this project have been requested from different engineering firms. We are waiting to receive responses. It was the consensus of the Commission to look at different engineering firms for the 3rd year compliance plan and a possible future relationship. It may be necessary to hold a special meeting to recommend an engineering firm once information is received.

Motion by Jerry J. to pay water vouchers #10056-#10068 and sewer vouchers #6480-6488. Second by Deana B. Motion carried.

Motion by Jerry J. to adjourn. Second by Deana B. Motion carried and the meeting was adjourned.

Submitted by,

Sue Shute/Deputy Clerk/Treasurer