

**CARROLL COUNTY DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS
MINUTES OF UTILITIES ADVISORY COUNCIL**

May 26, 2016

**Carroll County Government Office Building
225 N. Center Street, Rm. 003
Westminster Maryland 21157-5194
7 pm.**

Attendees: *Council*: Michael Wilmore, Kevin Hann and Ellen Dix

Absent: *Council member* Steve Miller

County Staff: Jeff Castonguay, Wanda Brandenburg,

Meeting opened by Mr. Castonguay.

Reports

Minutes from meeting of 2/25/16: Minutes from February 25, 2016 were presented at the meeting. The Council, on motion of Mr. Hann, seconded by Mr. Wilmore, and carried by Mrs. Dix voted to approve the minutes of the 2/25/16 meeting.

Council members' status:

- a. **Freedom Area business community:** Update 2/25/16 – Mr. Miller and Mrs. Dix both accepted reappointment as members of the committee. Both terms expire on December 31, 2018. Mr. Wilmore's final term expires December 31, 2016. He has spoken with an acquaintance who may be interested in applying for the position.
- b. **Bark Hill/Pleasant Valley:** A representative is still needed.

OLD BUSINESS

I. Community Investment Plan (CIP) Budgets: Updated 5/26/16 –

- a. **Water and Sewer study** – Sewer study costs came in with full study costs ranging between \$1-3 million depending on the percent of our system being looked at and to be CCTV. This included a new sewer model, InfoSWMM program and flow studies. We are looking at areas with the highest I&I (inflow and infiltration) for discretionary spending.
- b. **Freedom WWTP ENR upgrade project** – Updated 5/26/16 – The original contract cost was \$19.5M. Several change orders in the amount of \$2.6M and another for \$90k include additional structure replacement for a roof and a new centrifugal press for the sludge. We are saving approximately \$400K by doing the press now as opposed to later. There is about 43 days remaining in Phase 1 of the project.
- c. **Hampstead WWTP ENR upgrade project** – Updated 5/26/16 – The draft permit is still on hold pending a determination of stream discharge quantities. Attorney Linda Wolfe has been brought in as outside counsel to assist with the Piney Run discussions with Baltimore County resident's lawyer and MDE about the negotiations over ending the 20+ year lawsuit. To date we have about \$550K in fines incurred for temperature violations. We are currently doing a fish study which will show that the temperature of effluent water has not had any ill effects on the fish propagation. Since the second outfall (Deep Run) runs through Commissioner Weaver's property, he is now working as a liaison with the project.

- d. **Houcksville Road/Lower Beckleysville Road Line update** – Updated 5/26/16 – During the test pit, investigations showed a 6 bank electrical duct bank was constructed over top of our sewer line. This resulted in us having to add a manhole and moving our alignment 15 to 20 feet over from the original alignment. The goal is to have this complete by fall of 2016 or spring of 2017.
- e. **Westminster Septage Facility upgrade project** – Updated 5/26/16 – The project is awaiting review comments from MDE. Estimates include construction and engineering/management costs. The original project amounts went from \$3.8M to \$4.3M and are now at \$5.4M due to some changes and unforeseen conflicts with installation of equipment into the existing building. Sewer/leachate rates for haulers are increasing to 6.5 cents per gallon to cover increase in costs. The rate structure is being looked at for covering future operational costs, added \$0.9M in costs to the upgrade and projected 40% reduction in leachate.
- f. **Hampstead (MD 30) Streetscape project** – Updated 5/26/16 – The Houcksville road work is the last remaining piece of sewer pipe to be constructed. Our portion of this project is expected to be completed in the next couple of months.
- g. **Sykesville (MD 851) Streetscape Project** – Updated 5/26/16 – The State Highway and Town of Sykesville met to discuss the project and realignment of parking and roadways. New storm drains will be installed, sidewalks will be widened and some streets will be become one-way streets to accommodate traffic.
- h. **Asset Management System project** – Updated 5/26/16 - The project is currently 1.5 months behind due to info gathering and form construction not done previously. The addition of INFOSWMM to the system for will allow for real time water and sewer modelling. This will provide opportunity to create hydraulic models to support future projects. The first round of beta testing is about one month away.
- i. **Relief Sewer 2, 4, 6 & 10** – Updated 5/26/16 - Relief Sewer #10 (Sykesville Interceptor) is to upgrade and repair the 12-inch main running parallel to railroad tracks in Sykesville. Our jetter truck is too large to get into the area and clear lines if necessary. We are looking at the system to possibly relocate and build a pump station to accommodate expansion and possibly include the Gaither Road area. RS #4 is to replace about 2,050 ft. of sewer main that parallel's to Snowdens Creek Road. The specifications and scope are 75% for bidding to address the I&I along with a pipe sag. Relief #6 is to replace approximately 2,200 feet of an existing 12-inch pipe with a 16-inch pipe south of MD 32 to Piney Ridge Parkway. Two developments under design at the same time caused two lines to cross each other. We are looking into tying into the force main for Edgewood pump station. RS #2 to replace the existing 8-inch sewer main with a 16-inch main in the vicinity of Carroll Highlands and Harvest Farms developments to the Carroll Highlands PS. This project is half complete. The worst I&I was addressed.
- j. **Water & Sewer Specs** – Updated 5/26/16 – We are obtaining copies of Harford County's Specs to use as an additional reference. We are also using Taneytown's, Baltimore County and Baltimore City's. We hope to have an updated draft to present to the County Commissioners by the end of summer.
- k. **Raincliffe Well Rehabilitation** – Updated 5/26/16 – Carbon is to be replaced in filter. A construction permit is needed from MDE prior to work being done. RC2 monitoring well is now a production well. RC1 and RC2 both have different Aquifers. We want to install a by-pass so that only one well can be used if necessary which will allow us to re-chlorinate only one system if needed.

II. **Fat, Oil, Grease (F.O.G.) information:** Updated 6/15/15 – Item closed.

- III. **Fluoride Costs**: Updated 5/26/16 – After presentations by the Carroll County Health Department and their Dental Department representative, further study and research, we decided to keep fluoride in the Freedom/Sykesville water system. With 55% of children in Carroll County not seeing dentists in the past year, we feel obligated to do what we can for good dental health in Carroll County.
- IV. **Freedom WTP operations Membrane** Updated 5/26/16 – New membranes have been installed. Pumps previously pumping at 50 to 70% capacity are now operating at 23% capacity. New monitoring equipment is in place and testing procedures to ensure that poly aluminum chloride (PAC) material is adjusted to constant changing turbidity of water and pH levels. Over dosing PAC material is what damaged the membranes previously.
- V. **Piney Run Reservoir** – Updated 6/18/15 –Mrs. Dix questioned why Piney Run was not considered as a main water source as opposed to a backup source. There have been many resident complaints regarding the cost of water bills. Jeff mentioned a 12 to 13% increase in raw water costs from the City of Baltimore each year now and for the foreseeable future. In 1921 the land, now Liberty Reservoir, was turned over to the City of Baltimore. Prior allocation of 3 million gallons a day for Piney Run was taken away by MDE when the project of adding a treatment plant did not get off the ground. A new process for getting the allocation back would need to take place and residents would have to change their stance on use of the reservoir to the politicians to get this back on the table, since it was the same residents years ago who prevented the project from moving forward. An initial option would be to use this as a backup source and send to Raincliffe for treatment.
- VI. **Gaither Manor** – Updated 6/18/15 - The Gaither Manor WWTP for the Schneider Apartments has aged and needs upgraded. The Schneider’s do not want to operate the plant any longer. They claim that they are losing money in the apartments. The County can’t get any new discharge permits but the permit for the Schneider’s could be transferred if the County, if and only if we were willing to take on the system for planned expansion needs. The property is not in the priority service area at this time. We are currently looking into feasibility of operation and maintenance for the system on a more global platform to be able to service the surrounding area.
- VII. **Sprinkler System – State Requirement and existing water lateral upgrades** – Update 5/26/16 – Item closed.
- VIII. **Winfeld Elementary/South Carroll High Update – I&I, Discharge Location** Update 2/25/16 – Item closed.
- IX. **Fiber Network to FWTP** – Updated 2/25/15 – Item closed.
- X. **MacBeth Walking Path/Water Line Loop** – Updated 2/25/16 - Project is still under design. HTI can install the line with open cut versus boring under streams due to stream classification. Geotechnical (subsurface) investigation was not previously performed by Rec & Parks for the project. After some discussion with Rec & Parks about the 12 ft. high retaining wall and two bridges proposed for the project, Jeff recommended they do the investigation now versus waiting for a contractor coming on board and creating a major change order. BOU also needs information for subsurface soil classification to determine how much soil we will need to import into the project.
- XI. **Bartholow Tank Rehabilitation** – Updated 2/25/16 - Pittsburg Paint & Tower cleaned and inspected the tank. The inside will need to be painted. CDM is working on water model with relation to putting tank back on line with a booster pump mixer.
- XII. **FSK Force Main** – Updated 2/25/16 – Item closed.

- XIII. **Proposed CIP Project for 2017-2023** – Updated 2/25/16 - Nothing has been approved for recommendation yet. Money is already being set aside for 10-15 year projects down the road. The Greenmount area was added and we updated the Gaither Manor to ACF list. Added HWWTP & FWWTP expansion for w/s master plan updates (all previous for 10+ years out planning) to meet the requirements by MDE for the Master Plan process only. Update Relief Sewer 10 for pump station addition to remove line between CSX and Patapsco. SCWWTP standby generators (next 15 yrs.), tank maintenance and paint project. Shilo pump station upgrade to accommodate Greenmount and IDA expansions, moving of North pump station, increase meter installs for 1 year to get ahead. Current old meters are running 10-20% low on accurate readings. We are looking to replace 2,000 meters this year for more efficiency of the system.
- XIV. **FY17 Operating Budget** – Updated 5/26/16 – The budget was adopted on 5/26/16. A water rate increase of 7% was adopted but was initially proposed at 10%. The BOU had to cut \$175K from the 3R projects in order to meet the decrease of 3%. The meter replacement project was increased to allow the installation of 2,000 meters vs. the 1,000 previously being installed annually. As meters age they tend to read less which allows a loss in revenue from water being used and not captured by the readings. Replacements will start in areas of most issues and oldest development areas.
- XV. **City of Baltimore Water Rates** – Updated 5/26/16 – City rates are increasing at about 15% for raw water purchase. County staff met with City of Baltimore staff to discuss the current raw water rates and the discharge of backwash water going back into the lake for a possible reduction in our costs.

NEW BUSINESS

- I. **Phase I for Influent line on Route 88 – Cole Farm for HWWTP** – Materials have been ordered. The Contractor was awarded and the project is expected to begin within the next 15-30 days.

The next meeting is scheduled for August 18, 2016 at 7 pm in Room 003.

The meeting was adjourned.

Cc: *Council Members*
Jeffrey Topper, Deputy Director of Public Works
Jeffrey Castonguay, Bureau Chief of Utilities
Robert Burk, Comptroller
Thomas S. Devilbiss, Deputy Director, Land Use, Planning & Development
Robin Hooper, Budget Analyst, Department of Management & Budget
Jenny Hobbs, Financial Analyst, Department of the Comptroller
Ted Zaleski, Acting Chief of Staff, Board of County Commissioners
Utilities Advisory Council File
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