

SPECIAL COUNCIL MEETING

Village of Mantua

May 22nd, 2018 6:00 pm

Mayor Clark called the meeting to order at 6 pm and led the Pledge of Allegiance.

ROLL CALL: Scott Weaver, Bob Gaglione, Marty Hura, Ben Prescott, and Dave Sluka.

- Motion to excuse Paula Tubalkain by Ben Prescott with a second from Marty Hura.
All ayes on vote.

OTHERS PRESENT: Mayor Linda Clark, Clerk-Treasurer Jenny August, and Administrative Assistant Chelsea Gregor

CITIZENS: Gene Roberts and Tia Rutledge from Portage County Water Resources.

TOPICS OF DISCUSSION:

County Agreement to Manage Water and Wastewater Treatment Plants

Mayor Clark wanted to make a few amendments in the draft agreement. The first amendment was in the Compensation for Operator of Record Services paragraph on page 4. The correct amount should be \$1,468.32 per week.

On page 2 section "e". the Mayor wanted to include hydrant flushing, exercising vales as needed, and checking the reservoir booster station. Mr. Roberts noted that it would all be included under the distribution system and they would agree to this. The hydrants would be flushed if discoloration was reported, but would not take on the responsibility of a routine hydrant flushing program.

On Page 3 section "E" the Mayor wanted to specify that the three lift stations, Ambler Lane Lift Station, North River Lift Station, and East High St. Park Lift Station would be included in routine maintenance for the wastewater plant distribution system. Mr. Roberts agreed.

Dave Sluka had a few questions about the agreement. On page 2, sections "c" and "d" where it refers to routine maintenance, he wondered what that means, and if it should be more specific so it is clear as to what will be done. Mr. Roberts said it means if there is need for an oil change, they will provide that service, and the village provides the oil. Basically, any work that can be done in the 40 hours per week is included. The only time there would be additional hours billed would be if there was an emergency situation, and it would be approved in advance. If normal maintenance should take 43 hours per week, they will only bill for the contracted 40 hours.

Dave asked why they are only asking for a 6-month agreement. Mr. Roberts said they are not trying to make a profit. The Commissioners would like to see how this goes, as does Council. The Village would like to see if it helps out our staff so they can focus on their other jobs. This is kind of a trial run that would take place while the Village and County decide what we will do with our plants.

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Ben Prescott asked if they are billing at the blue book rates (hourly rates established by ODOT for equipment and vehicles). Mr. Roberts said no, they are currently just billing at cost.

Mr. Roberts briefly explained to Council that they are not out to make money on this. If it appears to be that they can do the work in 38 hours per week, they will reserve the extra hours for emergency situations or adjust their compensation.

- Motion to amend the changes in the draft agreement by Scott Weaver, seconded by Bob Gaglione. All ayes on vote.
- Motion to suspend the rules by Ben Prescott, seconded by Marty Hura. All ayes on vote.
- Motion to approve by Ben Prescott, seconded by Marty Hura. All ayes on vote.

Mayor Clark continued with discussion regarding the spreadsheet Jenny provided showing the current employee costs related to the water and wastewater plants. The current costs are over \$73,000. The County proposal would cost approximately \$76,000. Our current WWTP Operator is willing to stay on after June 1 for an additional \$5 per hour. If he stays past June 30, he wants an additional \$25 per hour. This would exceed the County's proposal by more than \$25,000 per year. Jenny said that Chelsea noted earlier that we may be able to hire a Village Administrator at a lower rate because the licensing will not be needed. Mr. Weaver said we might even be able to make it a part time position as well.

Village Administrator position

Council agreed to hold off as long as possible and see how this plays out with the County before hiring someone. According to the ORC, the Village is required to have either a Village Administrator or a Board of Public Affairs if they own Water and Wastewater Treatment Plants, but we have been in this situation before where the Mayor temporarily served as the Acting Village Administrator when the position was not filled.

Dehumidifier at the Water Treatment Plant

Mayor Clark said we have been having problems with the dehumidifier at the water plant on and off for some time. She spoke with Wright Heating and Cooling and they would recommend a refrigerated air conditioning unit. We would likely be switching from natural gas to electric. The only ball park figure she has gotten is in the neighborhood of \$30,000, but that is a very rough estimate. Wright Heating & Cooling will get some vendors for pricing.

Adjournment

- Motion to adjourn at 6:33 pm by Ben Prescott, seconded by Marty Hura. All ayes on vote.

Mayor Linda Clark

Jenny August, Clerk-Treasurer