

Amberley Village Council – Streets, Public Utilities, and Sewer Committee Minutes of November 28, 2018

In Attendance: R. Warren (Chair), E. Hattenbach (Member), T. Muething, S. Lahrmer, W. Brown, and R. Monahan

The meeting was brought to order.

The minutes from the November 7, 2018 meeting were distributed. The minutes were accepted as submitted.

There were three items on the agenda, (a) purchase of fire hydrants, (b) 2019 budget, and (c) CT Consulting fee revision.

Purchase of Fire Hydrants: Last calendar year the Greater Cincinnati Water Works (GCWW) informed the village that the water mains on Arborcrest Dr, Arborcrest Ct, Longmeadow Ln, North and South Whitetree Cir, and Lamarque Dr from North Whitetree to Longmeadow Ln would be replaced in 2018. The work is now scheduled for early 2019. Included in this upgrade process and to maintain process efficiency is the removal of the existing fire hydrants along the water main and their immediate replacement with other functional fire hydrants. As the village does not have these in stock new fire hydrants need to be acquired. There will be 32 fire hydrants purchased. Since the estimated cost exceeded \$50,000 bidding for the purchase is required and the Committee could not take immediate action. Mr. Brown noted that the 32 old hydrants would be assessed for their functionality (i.e., to be used in future GCCW projects) or for parts.

2019 Budget: What represents a considerable increase (~\$70,000) in the 2019 Streets budget is the line item for Supplies and Materials. This reflects the new salt contract that the Streets Committee recommended and Council approved in September. Due to the mild winters of recent years coupled with a new and expanded salt barn, the Village purchased a relatively small amount of salt last year. This now needs to be replenished. The Committee also reviewed the proposed Capital Budget. The most important items being considered include (a) the purchase of a new dump truck having an estimated cost of \$150,000. This truck was acquired in 2009 and we had scheduled its replacement for 2019. Unfortunately, the truck had to undergo emergency repairs recently (at a cost of \$20,000). (b) Purchase of a water backflow tester and salt conveyor (estimated cost of backflow tester is \$8,500). This backflow tester will meet the needs to test/validate our water lines and together with the Village employee operator, we plan to 'sell' our services to neighboring communities. The current salt conveyor, used to load salt in the salt barn, is owned by Anderson Township. The purchase of a new one will require participation with other communities. (c) Purchase of a loader case (estimated cost \$50,000 after trade-in). This is used to load trucks with salt, compost, and debris. The current case was purchased in 2004 and we had scheduled its replacement in 2019. (d) The last proposed item is a chipper (for branches and leaves, estimated cost \$58,000). The Village currently owns 2 chippers, purchased in 2001 and 2013. While the older unit is a backup unit it still gets considerable use (i.e., especially this year). With the purchase of a new unit, the 2013 unit will become the backup. We plan to trade in the 2001 unit.

CT Consulting Fee Revision: CT Consultants is the engineering consulting firm the Village relies on for assessing various projects, including specifications, and their associated estimated costs. For example these include bridge repair work, storm water needs, street repair, and grant reviews. The attachment shows the proposed contract with rate increases for services that range from 2.43 to 3.03%. The actual amount in dollar terms will not be known until the actual work is commissioned. The Manager and staff have been very pleased with their work and their responsiveness to Village needs, and recommend that Council approve this new fee schedule. Mr. Hattenbach moved to recommend to Council to approve the proposed fee schedule from CT Consultants. Mr. Warren seconded and the motion carried 2-0.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned.

Chair: _____
Ray Warren