## **CUYAHOGA FALLS CITY COUNCIL**

## Minutes of the Public Improvements Committee Meeting

April 20, 2015

Call to Order The meeting was called to order by Mr. Iula, Chair, at

6:40 p.m. A quorum was present.

Approval of the Minutes Approval of the Minutes was deferred.

Agenda Items

Temp. Ord. B-31

An ordinance authorizing the Director of Public Service to enter into a contract or contracts, according to law, for professional services necessary for design engineering to upgrade Substation #5, and declaring an emergency.

Proponent testimony was offered by Electric Superintendent Michael Dougherty. Mr. Dougherty stated that this ordinance authorizes a contract for the engineering services necessary for the substation #5 upgrade. Substation #5 was built in 1956 and its estimated life is 50 years. It carries a critical load and if anything significant would happen to that substation, the City would not have enough power supply to restore service quickly in that part of the city. This upgrade will help greatly with reliability. The City also plans to convert its distribution system from 4,160 volts to 12.5kv. The converted system will carry less amperage which allows more room for infrastructure in the future for more growth and lower line losses. This will help the City save money on power costs. The expected overall cost for the project is about \$2.5 million. This part of the project (engineering) is budgeted for in this year and construction will be budgeted for next year.

The Chair asked how much the engineering work will cost. Mr. Dougherty stated that with contingencies the contract will be for \$260,000. The Chair asked where Substation #5 is located. Mr. Dougherty stated it is located behind the electric building at the Bailey Road service complex. The Chair asked how many substations the City has. Mr. Dougherty stated the

City has 13 substations. The Chair asked if the previous evening's power outage was related to this substation. Mr. Dougherty stated it was not related. There was a power outage on feeder #804 due to a failed cut-out and a pole fire.

The Chair asked Mr. Dougherty to introduce the engineering firm that has been selected for this project. Mr. Dougherty stated that GPD of Akron is the firm that scored the highest on the RFQ, and it has been selected. Jeff Pierce will be the lead engineer and will be working with Jim O'Conner, also from GPD. Jeff Pierce has worked on CFED substations in the past as part of PFK Engineering.

The Chair recognized (inaudible). Mr. Dougherty stated that the project will be done by the end of 2016. (inaudible conversations).

The Chair asked whether the City's other 12 substations need to be upgraded. Mr. Dougherty stated that other than Substation #5, Substation #7 is the oldest. It was built in 1963. There are no short-term plans to do anything there.

The Chair recognized Mr. Colavecchio, who asked how long this upgrade will extend the life of the substation. Mr. Dougherty stated that the substation should last another 50 years. Mr. Colavecchio asked how much it would cost to build a new substation. Mr. Dougherty stated it would cost \$3 million to \$3.5 million. This project will effectively result in a new substation.

The Chair recognized Mr. Weinhardt, who asked if there has ever been a safety issue regarding fencing of the substation. Mr. Dougherty stated that there is a fence around the substation. Mr. Weinhardt asked about the significance of the substation numbering system. Mr. Dougherty stated that they are numbered based on the order that they were installed, except that the City's two 138kv substations are named, not numbered.

There was no opponent testimony. There was no public comment.

Motion by Mr. Mader to release Temp Ord. B-31 with a favorable recommendation. Seconded by Mr. Brillhart.

Motion adopted by acclamation.

Adjournment

Without objection, Chairman Iula adjourned the meeting at 6;50 p.m.

Jeff Ita, Chair

Paul A. Janis, Clerk of Council