

Cuyahoga Falls City Council
Minutes of the Public & Industrial Improvements Committee Meeting
May 2, 2011

Members: Don Walters, Chair
Mark Ihasz
Terry Mader

Mr. Walters called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m. All members were present.

The minutes from the April 1, 2011 and April 18, 2011 Committee meetings were approved as submitted.

Legislation Discussed

Temp. Ord. B-47

Discussion

Temp. Ord. B-47

An ordinance authorizing the Director of Public Service to enter into a contract or contracts, without competitive bidding, with DLZ Ohio, Inc., for the professional services necessary to revise and update the 2007 Separate Sanitary Sewer Overflow Study, and declaring an emergency.

Mr. Demasi stated DLZ completed the original study in May, 2007. It identified nine active overflows in the system and presented alternatives to resolve the problems. The study basically indicated the City needed to come up with over 2 million gallons of storage of infiltration for a ten-year storm. Since then, the City has completed a number of projects which removed infiltration and inflow. Project Partner has also helped. In addition, some of the lines were upsized. The result is that infiltration activity has gone down dramatically so they want to update the report with the current data. Six flow meters will be installed for DLZ to compare the data to the original report. They will then provide the modifications. Mr. Walters asked whether this was mandated by the EPA. Mr. Demasi stated it is voluntary at this time but there is a mandate that the City must have its first sanitary sewer overflow project underway by April, 2013. The original study recommended a certain number of SSO projects. They are hoping that the new report will recommend fewer. Mr. Walters stated the City has done a lot to correct the problem and asked if it could be in compliance at this point or would there be a need for storage tanks. Mr. Christopher stated there are currently five sanitary sewer overflow stations. They have been reading the hours those pumps operate each month, and have kept track since January, 2004. The numbers have gone down. 10th and Phelps has gone down dramatically. They also have two monitors in the Gorge and, while those are still active, they are not as active as they had been. He will send an e-mail to Council members showing how the hours have gone down. Mr. Walters asked if this would be done again in four to five years. Mr. Demasi stated the City will be well on the way with all of the construction. They have not yet decided if they will have them do the specific plans. There are a couple years to decide that. Mrs. Pyke stated she thought the sewer at 10th and Sackett was combined and asked that it be verified with Mr. Kring. Mrs. Hummel asked whether there were any other projects planned that would improve this situation further prior to the April, 2013 date. Mr. Demasi stated not at this time. They were looking at continuing the project between Chestnut and Grant but decided since the other improvements were made, they would take a closer look with this monitoring. Mrs. Carr stated that Project Partner continues to do very well. There had been speculation it would be hit or miss. They are considering making some changes. Currently, homeowners who do not comply are charged a 100% surcharge on their bill, but that isn't correcting the problem. At some point, the City may want to push a little harder so that those homeowners actually correct the problem. Mr. Walters stated that Project Partner requests are currently done

through real estate transactions. Mrs. Carr confirmed that was the case. Mrs. Pyke asked whether the City was looking at having any more rain gardens. Mrs. Carr stated that when they do other designs along a street, they have been putting in bio retention methods, which is a type of rain garden, but nothing major at this point. Mrs. Pyke asked if anyone has looked at rain barrels. Mrs. Carr stated they have information which is handed out to the public but there has been no campaign.

Mr. Ihasz moved to bring out B-47 with a favorable recommendation, second by Mr. Mader. Motion passed (3-0).

Meeting adjourned at 6:43 p.m.