

Cuyahoga Falls City Council
Minutes of the Public & Industrial Improvements Committee Meeting
June 29, 2009

Members: Debbie Ritzinger, Chair
Mark Ihasz
Terry Mader

Mrs. Ritzinger called the meeting to order at 6:36 p.m. All members were present.

Legislation Discussed:

Temp. Ord. B-63

Discussion:

Temp. Ord. B-63

An ordinance authorizing the Mayor to enter into a contract or contracts according to law to cooperate in the construction of a sewer line along Seasons Road to accommodate development in the vicinity of the Season's Road interchange and declaring an emergency.

Mr. Demasi stated that Cuyahoga Falls, Stow and Hudson have been working on getting a finalized JEDZ agreement. The cities have also been working to construct the sewer along Seasons Road. The cost was to be shared among the three communities. The pump station is being built by Stow on Allen Road, and the Route 8/Seasons Road interchange is being constructed. As a result, Seasons Road is closed to thru traffic until September of this year. If the cities wait to install the sewer until the interchange is completed, they would have to tear up the new road and re-close Seasons Road. That is unacceptable to ODOT so they are asking the cities to do it now. The Department of Environmental Services requested funding of sewer through American Recovery and Investment Act but was denied. The cities requested funding through LaTourette but that determination is not expected until later this year. Mrs. Truby stated there are three elements that the cities would share construction on: the interchange, extension of sanitary sewer and property acquisition. In February, the budget on sewer was \$1,132,667. Since then, all communities have been pursuing funds. In April, \$367,000 was what would be paid by each community. Today, that is lower and, if funding comes in through LaTourette, it could be as low as \$30,000. If not, it could be as high as \$197,000. The only number that remained the same was the property acquisition. Stow voted unanimously on this legislation. This is the first step in the process. If this is approved and the JEDZ does not happen, the City would not be out this money. This is still an important element because sewer has got to get out there. The project is moving along and it is only a matter of time until the three communities get the development agreement done. It will hopefully be completed within the next 30 days.

Mrs. Ritzinger stated that the sewer on either side of the expressway is the developer's portion and one-third of the remainder will be the City's portion. Mrs. Klinger asked when the expenditure of funds would happen on this legislation. Mr. Demasi stated they could bill us monthly as work is completed, just like any other construction project. Mrs. Klinger asked if the three communities have applied for federal funds money. Mr. Demasi stated they have. He added that they requested \$500,000 from LaTourette and will not know until later this fall. Mr. Mader asked whether any residents would be able to access the sewer being put in at Seasons Road. Mr. Demasi stated they could tie into it but it would be owned by the Department of Environmental Services. It would be up to the County Health Department and EPA as to whether tie-ins would be mandatory. If property owners have failing septic systems and are under ordinance to tie into the system, then they will probably be ordered to do so. If they have a working septic system, it would be up to the County. Mrs. Hummel stated that the contractor is doing 2,100 feet of sewer around the interchange now. She asked whether they will be reimbursed for their portion based on collections for tie-ins. Mr. Demasi stated it depended on how many tie-ins there were. Mrs. Hummel asked what the \$3.58 charge was. Mr. Demasi stated it is a County charge for anyone who builds a sewer. It pays for the inspection review and processing of payments. It will be applied to the City's portion as well. Mrs. Colavecchio asked if it

was normal for the County to oversee a project as opposed to building it themselves. Mr. Demasi stated they rarely build them themselves. Mrs. Colavecchio asked where all of the sewer would ultimately tie-in. Mr. Demasi stated the entire project starts at Allen Road, then there is a gravity sewer to Wyoga Lake Road, then north on Akron-Cleveland Road. Mrs. Colavecchio stated the people who live on Wyoga Lake Road were never provided sewer to tie into and asked if they would be able to here. Mr. Demasi stated this project will not help those property owners. It is more than one mile away. The work on Steels Corners was a County project that was eliminating a pump station and reversing the flow so now it is tied into the sewer on Wyoga Lake between Steels Corners and the Stow border. Mr. Walters asked if there was a limit as to how much can be added as far as a treatment plant goes. Mr. Demasi stated if the sewer is extended, it needs to state the final resting place where the sewage will end up. All of the Cities sewers go to Botzum. They look at current flow and the proposed project. The EPA will not allow a sewer to be built if its final resting place does not have capacity to handle the flow.

Committee recommended bringing out Temp. Ord. B-63.

Meeting adjourned at 6:51 p.m.