

RECORD OF PROCEEDINGS
MEETING OF THE LORDSTOWN VILLAGE BOARD OF PUBLIC AFFAIRS
1455 Salt Springs Road, Lordstown, Ohio
SEPTEMBER 19, 2023

IN ATTENDANCE: Mr. Christopher Peterson, President
Mr. Kevin Campbell, Vice-President
Mr. Michael Sullivan, Board Member
Ms. Cinthia Slusarczyk, Clerk
Mr. Christopher Kogelnik, Engineer
Atty. Matt Ries, Solicitor

RECORD OF PROCEEDINGS taken before me, DEBORAH LAVELLE, RPR, a court reporter and Notary Public within and for the State of Ohio on this 19th of September, 2023.

MR. PETERSON: I'd like to call the meeting to order. Please stand for the Lord's Prayer and Pledge of Allegiance.

ROLL CALL:

MR. PETERSON: Welcome everybody. Roll call please.
MS. SLUSARCZYK: Christopher Peterson.
MR. PETERSON: Here.
MS. SLUSARCZYK: Kevin Campbell.
MR. CAMPBELL: Here.
MS. SLUSARCZYK: Michael Sullivan.
MR. SULLIVAN: Here.
MS. SLUSARCZYK: Darren Biggs.
(No response.)
MS. SLUSARCZYK: Cinthia Slusarczyk, present. Chris Kogelnik.
MR. KOGELNIK: Present.
MS. SLUSARCZYK: Matt Ries.
ATTY. RIES: Present.
MR. PETERSON: And Darren did contact me. They're just finishing up filling the 3 million gallon tower so he might pop in, he might not be here at all, he was not sure.
MR. CAMPBELL: I make a motion to excuse Darren tonight.
MR. SULLIVAN: Second.
MR. PETERSON: All in favor?
(All respond aye.)
MR. PETERSON: Opposed?
(No response.)
MR. PETERSON: Motion passed.
MR. SULLIVAN: Do you know what they are doing over there on Brunstetter?
MR. PETERSON: They were working on the meter, the master meter there.

APPROVAL AND CORRECTION OF MINUTES:

MR. PETERSON: Approval and corrections of the minutes, the previous meeting I'm assuming.

MS. SLUSARCZYK: There's none. I just gave you a draft of what I did, I did not have them on the agenda in time for tonight's meeting. Plus I'd like for you to be able to review them since it was just summarized.

CORRESPONDENCE:

MR. PETERSON: Okay. Any correspondence?
MS. SLUSARCZYK: No.

PUBLIC COMMENTS:

MR. PETERSON: Public Comments.
(No response.)

NEW BUSINESS:

1. Water Rate Increase Review

MR. PETERSON: Okay. Moving on to New Business. Water Rate Increase Review. I know that we had a meeting last week, a work session, and we discussed some things. I know, Chris, we had talked to you a little bit on the phone. You weren't able to make it. Any more thoughts that you have of what we talked about or --

MR. KOGELNIK: No. Actually Matt called me too and wanted to understand the rates and how, you know, all of the study evolved into specifically meter sizes and readiness-to-serve and that sort of thing. I haven't had a chance to talk with Bob McNutt significantly about it, but I will be doing that. You know, to your question from the meeting, building in readiness-to-serve fees or any other ancillary fee does not really matter at all with respect to the perspective of OPWC if that's what you're wondering.

MR. PETERSON: That's what they were wondering.

MR. KOGELNIK: It's advantageous in any community in Ohio to be able to go to the trough once a year and request funding from OPWC, you know that too.

MR. PETERSON: Uh-huh, yep.

MR. KOGELNIK: What are you gonna get each year, you know, from OPWC. Well, it gives you access to loan money that is zero percent interest which is great, you know. They're just handing you the money. I mean, you have to pay back the loan and everything, but where else are you gonna get zero percent. And the other thing is it gives you the potential for requesting a grant, and how much could you get really in a grant. Well normally in our district if you got a good project that's got a good useful life and a lot of people that are connected to a water line or sewer line you can probably get, you know, a good \$300,000, \$400,000 for a project, okay. And so that's what we were trying to do with the water booster station on State Route 45. But what really impacted the Village is you have an increasing MHI, Median Household Income, relative to the state level and then you have a water rate that really hasn't been increased just yet (gesturing). And so when you have those two things happening in your rates and --

MR. SULLIVAN: This is the median income?

MR. KOGELNIK: Median income, this is your water rate (gesturing). When you have that disparity, Mike, between those two (demonstrating) there's not many funding agencies that are gonna give you money because they don't think that you have a problem to get money. So you need to raise your rates, you know. And you need to also be back-checking okay, what would it take for me to get grant money from OPWC, how much would I have to raise my rates. I wouldn't just raise my rates artificially to just get OPWC funds because what did I just say, you can't really get that much of a grant.

MR. SULLIVAN: No.

MR. KOGELNIK: Okay. So \$300,000 or \$400,000 a year isn't really gonna make a dent in what you guys want to do long-range. It's nice to be able to go after that, but that's not your intent. So I'd be looking at your rate structure from two perspectives. Number one, what do you need to cover your operations, maintenance and expenses in your future projects; and then what also might you need in order to satisfy OPWC requirements, okay. I'd be looking at it from those two perspectives. But OPWC, I wouldn't necessarily say that this is your end-game. Operations, maintenance, expenses and future projects is.

MR. PETERSON: Now WSRLA money is still tied to that too, they still look at your rates. At least they did ours.

MR. KOGELNIK: Yes. Yes, it is. And you know everything, everything that comes from Ohio E.P.A. is tied together. You know when

you look at your Asset Management Plan, when you look at your -- everything that you do for water planning is tied to are you looking at your rates once a year at least.

MR. PETERSON: Yeah.

MR. KOGELNIK: And you know, are you raising your rates every two or three years or considering to do that. So if you're not doing that you need to, you know, at least have a check each year to say that okay, yeah, we looked at it, it's okay or no, we need to do something about it. So WSRLA is the loan money we would use on the Hallock Young water connector project. But it's got an interest rate on it, it's not like OPWC so.

MR. PETERSON: Now would we qualify for any principal forgiveness on that?

MR. KOGELNIK: I don't think the Village can qualify for principal forgiveness. We can look at that. We have a couple communities that do qualify for principal forgiveness, but that is also based on, you know, income levels. So I'll look at that for you guys.

MR. SULLIVAN: When you're talking about the zero loan, are you talking about the big projects like the 24-inch or the Hallock Young?

MR. KOGELNIK: What I'm talking about the zero percent loan, I mean, that's an attractive funding mechanism for just about any project so -- except for roadways. Anything with a low useful life like asphalt or something like that I don't -- I'm not a fan of loan projects. But if it's gonna be there for the perpetuity like 50 years, 60 years, that's something you can probably back with a loan because you're gonna have the mechanism to eventually pay for that out of your rate. So the question though is your rate structure and whether or not, you know, what more can CT provide you to make an informed decision other than what I just gave you. I'd have to go back and have another sit-down with Bob. If you want me to do that, you can just give me all your questions and I'll do that.

MR. PETERSON: I believe we need to, we need to get this moving forward.

MR. KOGELNIK: Give me all of your questions, Chris.

MR. PETERSON: I guess the biggest question I have is where our rates need to be to sustain the department with the projects that we have listed.

MR. KOGELNIK: Okay.

MR. PETERSON: And to make sure that if we're eligible for principal forgiveness anywhere out there where our rates have to be to qualify for that.

MR. KOGELNIK: Okay.

MR. PETERSON: Is there any other questions you guys can think of?

MR. CAMPBELL: The only thing that came to my mind was the effect of implementing the stuff that we may or may not impact, the readiness-to-serve, we were just questioning if that would impact LEC or not with the agreement.

MR. KOGELNIK: That's something I think the Solicitor might look into for you because that -- like you said, that has a contract.

ATTY. RIES: And I've talked about that with some of you guys, just about the parameters of the contract and in terms of how to proceed, so.

MR. CAMPBELL: Do you know if that's encompassing? Like if we implement that, is that part of the contract; would it, you know, affect that or it's outside of the contract and -- you know, I'm just -- I mean, do you even know at this point?

ATTY. RIES: It would be -- it would be outside. It will be a -- you know, a Village-wide decision, I guess, to implement it. It would be outside, so we would want to make sure we give them notice ahead of time.

MR. CAMPBELL: Yeah, yeah.

MR. SULLIVAN: Chris, how would we do a future building for the Water Department?

MR. KOGELNIK: Okay. We're getting a little bit off topic, Mike, but I want to answer.

MR. SULLIVAN: Would that have to be encumbered in the --

MR. KOGELNIK: I do want to answer later on in the meeting. Is there any other questions relative to the rates, Mike?

MR. SULLIVAN: No. Just that and, you know, how are we gonna end up funding the 24 and the -- are we still looking at what, \$4 million for Hallock Young?

MR. KOGELNIK: Hallock Young is two total, \$2 million total, okay.

MR. SULLIVAN: The \$4 million that Joyce was talking about, was for the 24?

MR. KOGELNIK: Yes. That \$4 million was for the 24-inch water line plus the -- a portion of the booster station. So I will answer your question about the building later. I just think that the cost of the building relative to serving the residents with water and everything like that is almost an outlier with respect to your other projects and whatnot that are directly connected to them. I'm not so sure the Village could recoup that \$5 million dollars just out of your rate structure. I just don't think that's gonna happen.

MR. SULLIVAN: The \$5 million, where do you get the \$5 million?

MR. KOGELNIK: The \$5 million was just the high-level estimate of that building.

MR. SULLIVAN: Well, we had an estimate of a modular building that were off the specs that you --

MR. KOGELNIK: Yeah, you could definitely do that.

MR. SULLIVAN: That was like what, a million-four?

MR. KOGELNIK: You can certainly go with a scaled-down building, and that \$5 million would be astronomical compared to that. I was just going off the concept plan that we had present to you in the master water plan, so. But just from a standpoint of the items that you talked here, readiness-to-serve relative to LEC, what rates do we need to have, and can we qualify for some principal forgiveness.

MR. PETERSON: Uh-huh.

MR. KOGELNIK: If there are any other questions please let me know, and we'll get you those answers by way of Bob.

MS. SLUSARCZYK: I will be sending an e-mail then to you and Bob because there's factors where there's some parameters built-in from LEC and now we have Ultium and TEC. And because of how comprehensive the rate study is, you have to refer back to a cell in the base and then you come back -- it's just too much. And then there's some factors where LEC is not represented, but I think it's because he doesn't want to use that to assume our revenue because we get a fixed amount. We can't say this is price per gallon and we can't use their gallons towards that because they don't pay, you know, like everybody else would. So it goes back and forth. And I've been working in the water rate study pretty good for the last two weeks, but there's still -- I've highlighted several locations where I need clarification. But Bob, when I talked to him last, has done many rate studies since he's done ours so sometimes it takes him a couple days to get back into it and know what he's referring to as well. So I was trying to get like a comprehensive list of my questions before I started bothering him.

MR. KOGELNIK: I'm just going through a real quick calculation. For a building you probably go with what, a 30-year loan hypothetically, 7 percent? Way high, right?

MS. SLUSARCZYK: Uh-huh.

MR. KOGELNIK: \$5 million -- let's just go -- let's use \$3

million. \$20,000 payment per month.

MR. PETERSON: That sounds about right.

MR. KOGELNIK: So you know, what you're probably gonna end up doing is you're not gonna be able to construct something lavish like we drew up. You're gonna have to scale that down, maybe work it into another department or combine some department type of facility or whatnot and then also go after some other funding like U.S.D.A. and whatnot. And you're just gonna have to try and do it like that because that money is just not gonna fall out of the sky. And you desperately have a water booster station and a water line that has to come before any building, right?

MR. PETERSON: Absolutely.

MR. KOGELNIK: It's just the way it's gonna be.

MR. PETERSON: Yeah, absolutely.

MR. KOGELNIK: So --

MR. SULLIVAN: And I don't know how the hell we're gonna do that 24-inch.

MR. PETERSON: And really the 24 needs done before the building, I hate to say that.

MR. SULLIVAN: For sure.

MS. SLUSARCZYK: Absolutely.

MR. KOGELNIK: Yeah. So you know, this is all part of a conversation that you need to have just separately for funding, but I can understand why you're asking the questions because it partly is tied to. But I encourage the Village to continue being as aggressive as you can be going after funding, specifically to earmark funding which is gonna become, you know, applicable back in spring of next year. We're gonna be there to do that. So send me your e-mail, Cindy, and I've got the three items that Chris and Kevin just rattled off here.

MR. PETERSON: Yeah. My biggest thing is I just want to keep this ball rolling and get -- make a decision and get to where we need to get.

MR. SULLIVAN: When I talked about the building, I didn't imagine going out and starting to build it today. I just thought that --

MR. PETERSON: You're thinking about planning for the future.

MR. SULLIVAN: In this case if we could encumber some money each year --

MR. KOGELNIK: Yeah. And with the building, I think it's probably expected for me to say this to you, you're probably gonna be investing some maintenance costs into the old building, you've got just to bide time.

MR. SULLIVAN: Yeah.

MR. PETERSON: Anything else on the water rates? Okay. Seeing -- anybody else have any other new business? Seeing none --

OLD BUSINESS:

1. Antonine Village Phase 2 Expansion Water Line

MR. PETERSON: Old Business. Antonine Village Phase 2 Expansion Water Line. I know Council passed it last night, and from what I heard the Attorney Puhalla and the Sisters were going out with shovels. They were excited.

MR. CAMPBELL: That's eagerness.

MR. PETERSON: So - but yeah. As far as I know just your guys end of monitoring the line being put in and --

MR. KOGELNIK: Well, we're not doing any monitoring. I think Darren is doing all of that.

MR. PETERSON: Yeah, Darren.

MR. KOGELNIK: And I think that the design engineer is reviewing the shop drawings for the components. So Darren's, you know,

probably gonna have some inspection and testing work coming up for that water line.

MR. PETERSON: Yeah.

ATTY. RIES: They were anticipating three weeks. They're gonna start digging as of today according to their attorney. And so yeah, Darren or somebody just needs to be there to make sure everything looks right when they put it into the ground. We've got the easements executed. Once we approve and accept that line, the easements will be recorded.

MR. KOGELNIK: Was the agreement executed?

ATTY. RIES: Yes.

MR. KOGELNIK: Can I get a copy of that?

ATTY. RIES: Bill has the original. And actually Leo was supposed to send me a copy today, but Bill has it. Because I executed it as to form last night, and Bill Blank and the Mayor executed it after. They were the last two signatures on it.

MR. KOGELNIK: When we're doing your GIS project -- and I'll talk about that -- we'll attach to that anything you want like your drawings and inspection reports. Okay.

MR. PETERSON: Okay. Anything else on that?

2. Trumbull Energy Center - Sanitary Sewer

MR. PETERSON: Moving on Trumbull Energy Center Sanitary Sewer.

MR. KOGELNIK: I haven't gotten back to TEC staff. I told them today I would.

3. Project Funding

MR. PETERSON: Okay. Project Funding. Any updates on that?

MR. KOGELNIK: No. Today was OPWC's three-minute presentations, and Ron Hickox was there for the roadway project. But one thing we did learn about OPWC today, like your projects, your water booster station and your Hallock Young Road, would have really helped our district because we're suffering at our district right now because our projects that we have -- and we've got probably about 50 of them, you know, across District 6 -- District 6 is comprised of Mahoning and Trumbull if you didn't know. We don't have a high useful life. With not having a high useful life --

MR. PETERSON: It impacts funding.

MR. KOGELNIK: It affects how much money comes into this district. So we when you have just a pile of paving projects with a useful life of like 10 years, do you think that OPWC is gonna send boatloads of cash to Mahoning and Trumbull County.

MR. SULLIVAN: I understand that TEC, of course, is 20, 50 year. Same with Ultium and.

MR. KOGELNIK: Yeah.

MR. SULLIVAN: And I would think Foxconn would fall in that same category.

MR. PETERSON: We're talking about projects that were submitted to OPWC?

MR. KOGELNIK: Yeah. These are water line projects and things like that. Mike?

MR. SULLIVAN: No.

MR. KOGELNIK: If we had a project like your booster station and your water line, it would have a high useful life like maybe 20 or 30 years; whereas most of these roadway projects are like 10 years. And so those just don't justify bringing a lot of funding in here. The State wants to pay for big infrastructure that's gonna be in the ground for a long time.

MS. SLUSARCZYK: 24-inch water line, Salt Springs Road.

MR. SULLIVAN: We got it.

MR. KOGELNIK: That's right. So you need to be championing that project, not just for OPWC's reason but for your own. So that's all I have on project funding.

4. Proposed Hallock Young Road Water Line Improvements

MR. PETERSON: Proposed Hallock Young Water Line Improvement.

MR. KOGELNIK: Nothing.

5. Salt Springs Road Booster Station Relocation

MR. PETERSON: Booster Station -- Salt Springs Road Booster Station.

MR. KOGELNIK: We need to get into the hands of the property owner an easement. Matt, do you want to see the easement exhibit and the easement description, and maybe you're the one who's gonna put together the agreement?

ATTY. RIES: Okay. Yeah, if you send it over to me I'll check it out.

MR. PETERSON: Yep.

MR. CAMPBELL: What happens to the old booster station easement?

MS. SLUSARCZYK: It's still -- the easement remains the Village's, correct?

MR. CAMPBELL: I was just curious.

MS. SLUSARCZYK: It's still --

MR. KOGELNIK: Time out. Is that a parcel or is that an easement?

MR. CAMPBELL: I don't even know that.

MR. KOGELNIK: Can you double-check that before we have that go into the minutes? It's a good question, I think it needs answered. Last I remember I thought that was on the GIS, which would illustrate it being a parcel. It was on the Trumbull Auditor's GIS. I have my computer here, I can pull it up.

MR. PETERSON: I'm thinking you're right.

MR. CAMPBELL: I'd assume that's what it was.

MR. KOGELNIK: Let's just go through what your thought process or your question is. If we remove the building that's there, it's just gonna be a pad after that. And then the two water lines are gonna be capped off and it's not gonna be used. So I don't know what the Village's plans are for that postage stamp easement or parcel.

MR. SULLIVAN: Go back to the land owner.

MR. KOGELNIK: Pardon me?

MR. CAMPBELL: Well if it's a parcel of the Village, it would just stay Village property.

MR. PETERSON: Yeah, I would think.

MR. KOGELNIK: I can tell you here in a second. But the parcel or the easement that we're seeking from the property on State Route 45, it's a small area. It's probably like 75 by 150 or something like that. And I've already talked with the property owner representative, he's on board with it.

MR. CAMPBELL: That's good.

ATTY. RIES: Who's the property owner?

MR. KOGELNIK: I don't know who the property owner is, but the representative that I've been speaking to is Dan Cuckovich. Supposedly he's aware of some sort of future development that would land near the new booster station, Matt. It's Village of Lordstown, .429 acres on Salt Springs Road.

MR. PETERSON: It's a parcel.

MR. CAMPBELL: It's a parcel then, yep.

MR. KOGELNIK: Parcel ID 45-905447.

MR. CAMPBELL: There you go. Something else to mow.

6. City of Niles/Mahoning Valley Sanitary District Water

MR. PETERSON: Okay. City of Niles/Mahoning Valley Sanitary District Water.

ATTY. RIES: Still have not heard back from Zuzolo. I ran into the Mayor, our boys play baseball together, and he asked me if I had heard from Phil. I said no, I called him. That was two weeks ago. He said I'll have him give you a call. Still haven't heard from them. Apparently they are having issues with Girard which apparently have been taking the front burner. We're still paying pursuant to the contract, right?

MS. SLUSARCZYK: Yep.

7. Imperial Sewer Agreement

MR. PETERSON: Okay. Imperial Sewer Agreement. Have you heard anything? I haven't heard anything.

MR. CAMPBELL: Well, I think at this point we're waiting to meet to go over -- do we have any figures? I don't know if they have any figures generated yet. I'm not sure where we left it. I know they talked about --

MR. PETERSON: They said they had some figures, we have some figures. Do we have anything from our side?

MS. SLUSARCZYK: I think we want CT to assess because that was based on flow pump run times and flow times, and that's what I questioned the Board. If you go down that road and it shows there's a bill due after, if you're gonna invest money in it are you going to bill Imperial; or if it's vice versa are they getting money back? Because I think you need to consider that because it's not something that I can just whip up. I mean, this is all what I was --

MR. KOGELNIK: Do you want us to run a calculation on that; and can you describe to me what calculation, from when to when, you want that run?

MS. SLUSARCZYK: It's more Cowie's request because their requests are always changing.

MR. KOGELNIK: Should I call him?

MR. CAMPBELL: I think what to base it off is when we first implemented it because they didn't have a meter, and this was a push to get them connected with some other circumstances that were on the time. They called the Village and said go ahead and connect; and we put a meter in and we'll go back and revisit because we were billing off of a calculation, that's the best we could do for the situation that was before us. And TJX comes into play and all that develops and, you know, we ended up, you know, getting a meter in place, and so now it's metered. And they said well, what about the time that, you know, we were just doing a calculation. Now we've got history with a meter, we've got a chunk that doesn't have anything but a calculation on, where are we've at. Is it something we owe or you owe, and I guess -- I guess at this point, from what Imperial's presented they want it investigated.

MR. PETERSON: They just want it looked at to see if they owe us money or we owe them.

MR. CAMPBELL: So if you look at it and we owe, then what are we gonna do? And if they owe, are we gonna bill them? If that's how it is gonna play out, I guess both parties have to be comfortable with whatever the outcome is. Right?

MR. PETERSON: Yeah.

MR. CAMPBELL: Does that make sense, Matt, from where we're at with it?

ATTY. RIES: Yeah.

MR. CAMPBELL: But the numbers have never been crunched either way. I don't -- if they have, they have might have rough figures too.

MR. SULLIVAN: He talked like they did.

MR. PETERSON: I am thinking they have rough figures and we owe them.

MR. CAMPBELL: That makes sense. Why they are coming to the table.

MR. PETERSON: Personally I feel we have Chris contact him and we run the numbers and do what we need to do with the understanding that --

MR. CAMPBELL: Obviously it needs to be finished up.

MR. PETERSON: It needs to be finished, with the understanding that if we owe or -- we'll have to work out --

MR. CAMPBELL: And if they owe, I guess we're billing them.

MR. PETERSON: Yeah. I mean, I don't know if it's fair to them to bill them all at once either, that might have to be something over time.

MR. CAMPBELL: And again, if we owe them --

MR. SULLIVAN: A credit.

MR. CAMPBELL: We work out something that accommodates leveling it out.

MR. PETERSON: I think we need the number one way or the other. Do you guys both agree?

MR. CAMPBELL: Yeah.

MR. SULLIVAN: Yeah. And that's -- the last time he was here is kind of what he said is well, let's get a meeting together so we can get these numbers.

MR. KOGELNIK: Yeah. So ideally what I could do is do the calculation, put it on a piece of paper, a memo format, then you guys can make your decision.

MR. PETERSON: Yeah.

MR. SULLIVAN: Yeah.

MR. KOGELNIK: All right. So I can help you to do that so that you can hopefully have that before your next meeting. Can you please give me Tom Cowie's phone number after the meeting?

MR. SULLIVAN: But I think we should probably have a separate meeting with them.

MR. KOGELNIK: Oh, yeah.

MR. PETERSON: I agree. Let us know when you're done, and we'll try to set a meeting with just them.

MR. KOGELNIK: Okay.

8. Rate Study - Water

MR. PETERSON: Okay. Rate Study Water. We've already discussed that.

MR. CAMPBELL: Yeah.

9. Utility Department Building

MR. PETERSON: Utility Department Building.

MR. SULLIVAN: We already discussed that.

MR. PETERSON: Chris, did you have anything to add to that?

MR. KOGELNIK: No.

10. I&I

MR. PETERSON: I&I.

MR. KOGELNIK: I'm still working on that. I still have crunching a few numbers on that so I need more time on it.

11. CEF-L Valve Replacement Along 24" Water Transmission Line

MR. PETERSON: Okay. The valve replacement along the 24.

MR. CAMPBELL: Yeah, we're just keeping that on, keeping that in our pocket.

MR. PETERSON: Yep. Okay. Any other old business? Seeing none --

PUBLIC COMMENTS:

MR. PETERSON: Any other Public Comments?
(No response.)

REPORTS:

1. Solicitor's Report

MR. PETERSON: Reports. Do you have a report?
ATTY. RIES: No report.

2. Engineer's Report

MR. PETERSON: Okay. Engineer's report.

MR. SULLIVAN: We already did it.

MR. KOGELNIK: Yeah, I'm just trying to keep this concise.

I really don't have anything other than I am going to be later on today submitting a response to TEC staff for the water and sewer, specifically the water line crossings on Salt Springs and State Route 45. I am gonna tell them that they have to bore inject both locations, not open cut on Salt Springs Road. And on the sanitary sewer I'm just gonna repeat what I told Steve Remillard in the past, you know, they are to connect on Hallock Young sanitary sewer. So no surprises in other words. Now there's quite a bit to review on their water line. I don't think that they are understanding everything that they need to, so I'm gonna document that and I'm gonna include Matt in my e-mail there.

MR. PETERSON: Okay. Anything else to add?

MR. KOGELNIK: That's it.

MR. CAMPBELL: Thanks.

MR. KOGELNIK: Yep.

3. Utility Committee Report

MR. PETERSON: Utility Committee report. Bob didn't say anything, but I do know that they did have a meeting last week; and that's when they passed the Antonine Sisters through their committee.

MR. SULLIVAN: Right.

4. Clerk's Report

MR. PETERSON: So Clerk's report.

MS. SLUSARCZYK: All I have is to let you know that we're working on the projects, closing out the projects with CT for the water tower. There is multiple projects in there, and some of the records have change orders that were not reflected in our records and vice versa, so that needs to be cleaned up, you know -- they ended up coming in under the project costs and need to be zeroed out so we have a true representation of our account balance to we know where we're at. It's apparent that we'll be putting money -- or taking money from the grant, the one existing grant. Right now it's gonna be a couple hundred thousand dollars that I can see. But until all those figures are cleared up -- and that's something we're trying to work out again because it's a huge factor in our rate study as to where we're at today. So, I'm working with that. Bill was not here today, so tomorrow when he comes back we'll do a few more steps to that. But I did talk to Chris Brubaker in regard to one of the projects that's open, and he's gonna be submitting as soon as he gets the information from the contractor to close out the EF&I. And then we'll have the tank, which is CB&I, which is like 95 percent complete, and the last project is All Ways Construction, they'll be doing the final site work up there. I was told that they asked the question what if it didn't get done this year. It has to be done this year because we have to invoice against that loan before December 31 or it would not be paid for. But it contractually has an October completion date, so I don't foresee that being a problem. That's what I've been working on recently besides, the water rate specifically. I don't have anything else to

report.

MR. PETERSON: Okay.

MR. CAMPBELL: Thanks, Cindy.

MR. PETERSON: Yeah, thank you.

5. Superintendent's Report

MR. PETERSON: Superintendent's report. The only thing, like I said, he said they were completing filling the 3 million gallon tower today about 4:00 is what they were calculating, and then he wanted to double-check SCADA and everything. I don't know if he talked to you or not.

MR. KOGELNIK: Yeah.

MR. PETERSON: And they were working on the Brunstetter meter today. I know he said something about that. I don't know if they were just getting it calibrated maybe.

MS. SLUSARCZYK: Well, that's Niles meter. I don't know what they're doing over there.

MR. PETERSON: He didn't say what he was doing, he just said --

MS. SLUSARCZYK: In addition they drained the Ellsworth Bailey tower and were going to start refilling that as well.

MR. KOGELNIK: Yeah. Darren expressed a problem that's been there for -- since the days of Bruce, and that problem is maintaining a high enough chlorine residual for that tank. And in between the water booster station on Pritchard-Ohltown Road and the tank is not a far distance, and there's quite a drop in chlorine residual from those two points. It shouldn't be happening like that.

MR. PETERSON: Something has got to be eating it.

MR. KOGELNIK: There could be a hole. I don't know if there's a service in between that's bad or something like that.

MR. CAMPBELL: There's no services in between there.

MS. SLUSARCZYK: Poor pressure from that booster station is allowing that water to lag there. I think that's a factor in this loan or grant.

MR. KOGELNIK: Could be, I don't know. But I encouraged Darren to reach out to Bob because there might be some betterment we can do with redistributing flow, you know, to mix that a little bit better. But there shouldn't be a reason as to why that chlorine drop is so drastic from the booster station to the tank.

MR. PETERSON: Yeah.

MR. KOGELNIK: So that's a safety issue, we need to look at that. That's kind of important. I will go back -- you know, go to bat for Darren on the staffing he's got, you know. He needs some help. This guy's burning it at both ends and I can tell, you know -- he's always, you know, like a gentleman on the phone and everything like that, but he's definitely got his hands full.

MEMBER COMMENTS:

MR. PETERSON: Okay. Member Comments.

MR. CAMPBELL: I don't have anything.

MR. SULLIVAN: I said that I wouldn't be here for the October meeting. I changed my flight so I will be. Changed it from Monday to Thursday, so I will be out of town from the 19th to the 29th.

MR. PETERSON: Okay. And the only thing I have, like I said, I want to keep -- I sound like a broken record -- the rate study stuff, I want to keep that moving. I want to decide on a -- I want to get there, you know. I know we've been talking about it for a while, we need to get it in place. And even if we have to adjust it later, I really feel --

MR. CAMPBELL: Gotta start somewhere.

MR. PETERSON: Yeah. So I don't know, do we need to have -- schedule a special meeting between now and the next meeting to --

MR. KOGELNIK: Let's get the answers that you guys have all asked and maybe you can decide -- do you want to have an impromptu meeting, Chris?

MR. PETERSON: Yeah. Cindy, I know you're against the gun to implement it. You would have to have it passed by the end of September, which obviously isn't gonna happen, correct?

MS. SLUSARCZYK: If you're implementing fees, the fees can start with the next billing cycle. If you're adjusting the water rate -- and correct me if I'm wrong -- but when you adjust the water rate. That's where you have to start with the cycle you're in, start there. I can't -- it's a three-month billing cycle, so that pushes the rate out. But if -- Matt, if they choose to eliminate -- there's four tiers in our water structure. If they eliminate the second, third, and fourth tier that also would have to be go into the three months out, you know, from the cycle that we're in except for the customers we bill monthly, right?

ATTY. RIES: Yeah. You're gonna have to stay consistent. Is that your question? Yeah. Yeah.

MS. SLUSARCZYK: So when it comes to the rate, no matter the value -- and the tiers itself is going to be three months out from whenever it's passed, a minimum of. But the fees, the readiness-to-serve fees, I think would be implemented at the next month.

MR. PETERSON: Would you -- I'm gonna ask this question. Are we all in agreement that we want to do away with the tiers?

MR. CAMPBELL: You and I talked about it.

MR. PETERSON: I talked to you on the phone.

MR. SULLIVAN: The only question I have on that, you know, when we negotiated the price for LEC and Ultium and the tiers were in there.

MS. SLUSARCZYK: They don't run through our tiers and --

MR. PETERSON: LEC doesn't run --

MS. SLUSARCZYK: -- what we charge our customers, and they don't even hit the bottom tiers. It's purchase price plus an adder. And I don't even remember the proper word for TEC's agreement, but they don't even come close to our lowest tier for price per thousand gallons.

MR. PETERSON: Yeah.

MR. KOGELNIK: I think what you're maybe asking, Mike, at the time TEC was being talked about we were heavily looking at the tier structure.

MR. SULLIVAN: And same with Ultium.

MR. KOGELNIK: But they never -- we never included them into that.

MR. PETERSON: Yeah, they never entered the tier system, so.

MR. SULLIVAN: So that wouldn't be a problem, so we could just --

MR. PETERSON: So I guess to eliminate the tier system do we have to have a resolution?

MS. SLUSARCZYK: To change your rates period you would have to have a resolution.

MR. SULLIVAN: So everybody would have the same rate across the Board?

MR. PETERSON: So at minimum next month we could have a resolution ready to at least eliminate the tier system. That would help a little bit, correct? Tell me if I'm nuts.

MS. SLUSARCZYK: It would, but it's a lot of work to keep changing the structure.

MR. PETERSON: I don't want it to keep changing on your end. I know you have to keep changing the software and changing rates.

MS. SLUSARCZYK: And then it would be if you didn't do it all at once you could have a scenario where we did this in this month,

so in three months we gotta wait until that runs out and then implement.

MR. PETERSON: I understand what you're saying.

MR. CAMPBELL: If you do it in stages it's getting really muddy.

MR. PETERSON: I know what you have to do, but --

MS. SLUSARCZYK: The most important thing is we get the right rate. Not just the rate, but the right rate, and put that into effect, whether it is -- I highly doubt we'll see it for September 25 or even September 30. But if you had it and we got it in place well before the October meeting, you know, or October 25 is our reading date, that would be all the further out I would like to extend because I think it should be done and implemented prior to October 25.

MR. PETERSON: Okay. So Chris, yeah, as soon as you can get us some answers back; and I know, Cindy, you had some questions.

MS. SLUSARCZYK: I actually was going to talk about -- I know Bob had said about him coming up here or working together on that because it is many pages, many things. But if that is necessary, then you might be hearing from me if it's easier to meet with him and work on this.

MR. PETERSON: Yeah. No, that's fine. I just -- by our next meeting I want to have something in place if you guys are in agreement to get there.

MS. SLUSARCZYK: And based on that, you definitely -- they said that the water booster station project is number one, Hallock Young Road water line extension is number two, and number three would be the 24-inch water main from MVSD to the Village of Lordstown. Those are the top three projects. One and two as soon as possible, and three is same.

MR. KOGELNIK: One other thing that I forgot to mention -- and I did talk to you about it, Cindy -- was House Bill 168, that we have some knowledge that it's coming back. There must have been more money in the program than was used. So remember the last House Bill 168 go-round was kind of a fiasco, and the top project that the Village had was those five sanitary sewer extensions, really not a very high priority. We know that there's other high priorities, that booster station. I would get those and put those into House Bill 168 when it comes out.

MR. PETERSON: Are they gonna let you change it?

MR. KOGELNIK: Yes. They weren't looking at the old list at all is what I was told.

MR. PETERSON: Okay.

MR. KOGELNIK: And you know, the booster station is gonna be a lot less money than the five sanitary sewers, and there was like \$3 million for the five sanitary sewers. We're only talking like \$500,000 or \$600,000 tops for the booster station. So that's what I would do.

MR. PETERSON: Okay. Should we have anything ready for that so --

MR. KOGELNIK: No. We don't even have -- we don't have any documents on that. All we have is hearsay from our funding experts.

MR. PETERSON: Just so we're ready when it comes out and they say you have a week.

MR. KOGELNIK: So this was an effort that was significantly like a political issue or it's something where like the Mayor should be reaching out to the representatives saying hey, if House Bill 168 comes out I have a couple priority projects you need to consider. That would be a great message. Last time this came out this was orchestrated through O.D.O.D., and CT did the submission for the Village. Do you want us to do that? We can put that together, we have all of that information from the last attempt. So I don't think you need to make a decision on that just right now, just be prepared to give us that green

light to do that for those couple projects.

MR. PETERSON: Okay. Okay. So October 17 is our next meeting. We can have the rates ready to go by then, right? I know I'm pushing everybody, but I just want to keep it moving.

MR. KOGELNIK: October 17.

MR. PETERSON: Mike will still be here and that will work perfect.

QUARTERLY APPROVAL OF BILLING ADJUSTMENTS:

MR. PETERSON: Okay. Any Billing Adjustments? No.

ADJOURNMENT:

MR. PETERSON: Motion to adjourn.

MR. CAMPBELL: So moved.

MR. SULLIVAN: So moved. Second.

MR. CAMPBELL: Second.

MR. PETERSON: All in favor?

(All respond aye.)

(Meeting adjourns at 4:50 p.m.)

C E R T I F I C A T E

STATE OF OHIO)
TRUMBULL COUNTY) SS.

I, Deborah I. Lavelle, a Notary Public in and for the State of Ohio, duly commissioned and qualified, do hereby certify that the foregoing meeting before the Board of Public Affairs was written by me in the presence of the Members and transcribed by me using computer-aided transcription according to the stenotype notes taken at the time the said meeting took place.

I do further certify that I am not a relative, counsel or attorney of any Member, or otherwise interested in the event of this action.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and affixed my seal of office at Niles, Ohio on this 7th day of October, 2023.

DEBORAH I. LAVELLE, Notary Public
My Commission expires 4/15/2027

Submitted:

Approved by:

Cinthia Slusarczyk, Clerk

Christopher Peterson, President