

Citizens Water and Sewer Advisory Board Meeting Minutes

Police Community Room

September 20, 2021

1. **Meeting Called to Order** – Meeting called to order at approximately 6:11 p. m.

2. **Present at Meeting:**

Board Members – Tanner Banks, Vice Chair, Samuel Robinson, Chair, Darius Smith, and Ronald Bertling.

Staff Members – Pam Whited, Suez, Russell Bergman, City Engineer and Stephanie Wunderlich, Engineering Secretary.

Appointment of New Member – Pat Stephens was sworn in as a new member of the board.

3. **Approval of Minutes** – There were no minutes to approve from the previous meeting due to lack of quorum.

4. **Customer Comments:**

- Customer request for credit at 5201 Monitor – The resident believes someone (possibly someone from Metro Net) was coming into her yard and using her outside faucet while she was on vacation. A data log was attached to the letter that the resident submitted showing the increase in usage during the time that she stated she was out of town.

Board Discussion:

Tanner Banks would like to see more information proving that Metro Net (or other company) was in the area during this time.

Ronald Bertling feels it is an issue that the homeowner should be addressing with Metro Net and that the water to the residence should have been turned off while the resident was out of town.

Darius Smith stated there was not enough evidence to show to prove the homeowner's claim. Pat Stephens does not feel the City should be responsible for the refund.

Motion was made and seconded to disprove the request for credit. The vote was unanimous.

The board will issue a letter to the customer making them aware of the decision.

- Ronald Bertling asked why there is a \$2.99 service fee if the water bill is paid online as opposed to paying in person. Pam Whited explained the City uses a third-party vendor and

- that is their service fee. It would have to be taken to City Council to attempt to drop the fee for citizens and have the City absorb the fee.
- Samuel Robinson had a concern from a citizen that there is not enough time to mail in the bill once it is received by the resident. Pam Whited stated there is a 14-day period from the time it is mailed to the residence.

5. Staff Report:

Water Lining Project – This project was completed two weeks ago. A division of Suez installed a 2-inch bypass line that serviced each house and then shut off the main water while they sprayed the epoxy coating. The lining was installed on Bascombe Drive, Claybeck Drive, Longford Road, and Cliffwood Place and took 7 to 8 weeks to complete.

Sanitary Sewer Lining and Rehabilitation – This is done every other year. TriCities identifies the pipes by camera that need lined and then the project goes out to bid. The company will line the pipe from manhole to manhole.

Needmore Road Water Treatment Plant Demolition - The old plant that is now shut down will be demolished. A report was submitted to the EPA for a permit.

Evergreen Woods Pump Station – A new larger force main was placed. Piping and pumps will be replaced in the next few months.

Manhole Adjustments – There approximately 50 to 60 manholes that are covered in the city. They will be raised to grade.

Center Point 70 Water and Sewer Supply- The City will be running their own water main and sewer to Center Point 70 Commercial Park. It is currently being supplied by Clark County, which will be shut off. The City will connect to Fairborn wastewater plant which will run on Chambersburg then North to Center Point 70. The water main will run up Bellefontaine and to the north. This project is expected to be completed in the next year and three months.

6. Suez Report:

- Water main breaks are still a concern. There have been 82 this year.
- A Clean in Place was performed on Skid #1 at Rip Rap WTP.
- The second round of Lead and Copper testing is now underway.
- A new Operations Manager for WTP was hired and started September 20.
- More than five miles of sewer inspections were done this month. This helps to identify which pipes need cleaned, instead of cleaning all pipes.
- There is one O&M Tech position and one Customer Service position available.
- Hydrant Flushing is running schedule.
- Additional training for the Billing Software will be held in October. The Suez Offices will be closed on the training day.

Board Discussion:

- Samuel Robinson thanked Pam for the 2020 Annual Drinking Water Quality Report and questioned whether the water was tested for arsenic. Pam Whited said it is not required to test for arsenic but may be tested if certain projects are being done.

7. Old Business

- The board was satisfied with the outcome on the request for credit for Lisa Sanford.
- Samuel Robinson also wanted to acknowledge and thank the board members that are no longer serving on the board- Jamie Lussier, Donald Peterson, Dave Secor and Emily Hill.
- Samuel Robinson attended the Volunteer Appreciation Dinner and read notes from the Mayor and shared information about the event.

8. New Business – There was no new business.

9. Upcoming Meetings – The next meeting will be held Monday, November 15, 2021.

10. Adjournment – Meeting adjourned at approximately 7:06 p.m.