



City of Powell, Ohio
City Council

MEETING MINUTES

March 6, 2018

CALL TO ORDER/ROLL CALL

A regular meeting of Powell City Council was called to order by Mayor Jon Bennehoof on Tuesday, March 6, 2018 at 7:30 p.m. City Council members present included Jon Bennehoof, Frank Bertone, Tom Counts, Brian Lorenz, Brendan Newcomb, Melissa Riggins and Daniel Swartwout. Also present were Steve Lutz, City Manager; Eugene Hollins, Law Director; Karen J. Mitchell, City Clerk and interested parties.

OPEN SESSION

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

CITIZEN PARTICIPATION

Mayor Bennehoof opened the citizen participation session for items not included on the agenda. Hearing none, the Mayor closed the public comment session.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES – February 20, 2018 minutes.

MOTION: Councilman Bertone moved to adopt the minutes of February 20, 2018. Councilman Lorenz seconded the motion. By unanimous consent of the remaining members of Council, the minutes were approved.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES – February 23, 2018 Special Meeting minutes.

MOTION: Councilman Lorenz moved to adopt the minutes of February 23, 2018. Councilman Counts seconded the motion. By unanimous consent of the remaining members of Council, the minutes were approved.

PRESENTATION: Del-Co Water Company, Inc. Update, by Glenn Marzluf, General Manager

Mr. Marzluf updated Council on things happening at Del-Co since his last update to Council approximately two years ago. Kris Dye was introduced as the recently promoted Business Operations Manager and she is replacing the current retiring CFO.

- Del-Co is a cooperative, member-owned, non-profit corporation with a 10 member elected board that was incorporated in 1969. Del-Co is currently the 9th largest water system in Ohio, as well as having the 2nd largest service area, servicing 140,000 customers in 7 counties, encompassing 800 square miles with 1,922 miles of pipelines and 4 water treatment plants.
- Capital Report:
 - Doutt Reservoir – came online in 2016. Columbus owns and operates this, but Del-Co purchased a 15% share and it is one of the largest of its kind in the world. It's an off-line reservoir in Thompson Township. When there is a lot of water in the Scioto River, it can pump water from the river to the up-ground reservoir and save it there until it is needed.
 - O'Shaughnessy Raw Water Intake/Line - This is on Home Road in Liberty Township and is the new pumping station and pipeline. It is in service and while there are still some punch list items being completed, it is substantially complete and can be used today if needed. This connects to the backside of the Olentangy campus to the up-ground reservoir Del-Co owns and operates there.
 - Schreiber Pumping Station – This allows Del-Co to pump 16 million gallons of source water from the Scioto system and is purchased from the City of Columbus through the Doutt Reservoir project.
 - Olentangy plant expansion - It was originally designed with the intent to expand,

although they did not anticipate expanding it so soon. The project has been awarded and is expected to cost \$17 to 18 million all-in. It will go from a treatment capacity of 19 million to 29 million gallons per day. This should resolve and remedy the concerns that came from the 2012 drought.

- Other projects:

- Del-Co rehabilitates two water towers each year at a cost of \$900,000 each.
- The company has hired its first full time employee to do watershed protection and monitoring.
- The recent customer service survey showed an 80% satisfaction rate.
- The Conservation Tier, which was discussed last time Mr. Marzluf was here, was put into effect in June 2016. It has helped to change the outdoor water use and allows Del-Co to make its assets that are being invested in today last longer going forward.

Powell is largest municipality on Del-Co's system with 4,009 directly-connected customers.

Councilman Bertone: From a safety point of view, how do you maintain all these sites to ensure we have safe drinking water?

Mr. Marzluf: Like many other industries, the water industry changed dramatically after 9/11. Homeland Security was developed and they dove into our sector, as well as others, and we have had to come up with a contingency plan. We have an Emergency Response Plan that takes a look at any type of contamination issues, either man-made or natural. The up-ground reservoir systems we have in effect provide us a luxury because if we find out there's been contamination in the water, it is likely that we would be able to know about that and turn that part of the system off before it got contamination into our distribution system. Because of the way we have grown, there is a lot of redundancy built into the system. We have 24 hour monitoring and we think we are as well positioned as anyone.

Steve Lutz, City Manager: What is the average life span of residential water meters and how do you know when they need to be changed out?

Mr. Marzluf: The typical warranty is 20 years with 10 years at full warranty. Prior to coming to Del-Co, I saw a lot of loss at the 10, 11 or 12th year in accuracy. So far here at Del-Co, we haven't found that. We find meters that have been in service for a long time and are still pretty accurate. In 2013 we switched to automatic meter reading (AMR drive-by system), so we read all our residential meters simply by driving by. We have looked at alternatives but one of the ways to justifying paying for it is by inaccurate meters. Because we are not finding any value there, we haven't found a way to justify making a change. Because of that, I think around here we are getting a full 20 year life out of the meters.

Councilman Counts: What are your future needs? Is it more treatment plants? Do you have enough water? Or is it more treatment plants with the water that you do have?

Mr. Marzluf: That is a great question. Long-term we need more of both. The master plan identified it within 20-25 years. As far as source water, we either have it available today or we can contractually have access to additional water. So we have enough source water for at least the next 25 years assuming the same growth as the past. One of the reasons we are spending money and effort on changing customer behavior today is because it gets tougher and tougher to find new water sources. Source water long term is a big challenge and that's actually something we just had a strategic planning session with our board on and looking for water sources for the years 25 to 50 years out. In the short term, our master plan says that we need to expand our other two plants (Scott plant in the Alum Creek area and the Stewart plant in Knox County) within the next 20 years.

Mayor Bennehoof: There are evaporation problems out west and their reservoirs have large open spaces of water which is the prime contributor of evaporation. I understand that they put these plastic

balls out on the reservoirs. Do you ever foresee doing something like that?

Mr. Marzluf: I've seen that technology. In Ohio, precipitation is pretty much equal to evaporation. During a drought year you will have more water going out than coming in, but does it justify that little bit you are going to lose through evaporation for that kind of investment? Depending on how tight we get for source water that is something to consider down the line.

Mayor Bennehoof: You mentioned ground water plant. Is that well-sourcing?

Mr. Marzluf: Yes.

SECOND READING: ORDINANCE 2018-09: AN ORDINANCE MODIFYING APPROPRIATIONS FOR THE CALENDAR YEAR 2018. (EX. A)

Mr. Lutz: We spent quite a bit of time in committee and at the last Council meeting talking about this proposed appropriation for a contract to help with communications with the Financial Task Force.

Councilman Counts: I would recommend that we table this to our next regularly scheduled meeting.

Mayor Bennehoof opened this item to public comment. Hearing none, he closed the public comment session.

MOTION: Councilman Counts moved to table Ordinance 2018-09 to a time certain of the next regularly scheduled council meeting on March 20, 2018. Councilman Bertone seconded the motion.

VOTE: Y: 7 N: 0

FIRST READING: ORDINANCE 2018-12: AN ORDINANCE MODIFYING APPROPRIATIONS FOR THE CALENDAR YEAR 2018. (EX. A)

Mr. Lutz: Last month we were notified by the state auditor that we had been randomly selected to have our police pension fund audited this year. This was an expense that we had not budgeted for and the \$600 appropriation will cover the cost for the audit.

Mayor Bennehoof opened this item to public comment. Hearing none, he closed the public comment session.

Mayor Bennehoof: How often do they randomly select and how many items do we generally get hit with on random selections?

Mr. Lutz: This is a relatively new requirement, so I don't know how frequently our pension fund will hit the Wheel of Fortune.

Councilman Counts: And it's a new audit so we really can't say if they will find anything. But given the way we run our financial records and department, I would expect that it should be a clean audit.

MOTION: Councilman Counts moved to suspend the rules regarding Ordinance 2018-12. Councilman Bertone seconded the motion.

VOTE: Y: 7 N: 0

MOTION: Councilman Counts moved to adopt Ordinance 2018-12. Councilman Bertone seconded the motion.

VOTE:

Y: 7

N: 0

FIRST READING: ORDINANCE 2018-13: AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE CITY MANAGER TO ENTER INTO A COOPERATIVE PROJECT AGREEMENT WITH DELAWARE COUNTY FOR THE PURPOSE OF MAKING IMPROVEMENTS TO SELDOM SEEN ROAD WEST OF LIBERTY ROAD TO THE CSX RAILROAD TRACKS AND SPOT REPAIRS ON SELDOM SEEN ROAD WEST OF THE CSX RAILROAD TRACKS TO SAWMILL PARKWAY, AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY. (EX. A)

Mr. Lutz: This is an agreement similar to what the City enacted last year with the resurfacing of Rutherford Road where the City and county worked together to complete the project. We found it was beneficial when the county and City can coordinate road projects so we don't have roads that change their conditions half way through. This year Seldom Seen Road will be milled and overlaid from the curve in the township portion east to Sawmill Parkway where the county section ends. We will do spot repairs from Sawmill Parkway east to the railroad tracks. We will not be resurfacing that section of the road because it is in better condition than the rest of our portion of Seldom Seen Road. We also don't want to do much there with the construction of the park taking place. We will mill and overlay east of the railroad tracks to about 300 feet west of the Liberty Street/Seldom Seen intersection because that intersection will be improved as part of the traffic signal installation that should follow in a year or two.

The City's portion of this project is approximately \$104,000.

Councilman Bertone: This is something that we discussed tonight at Development Committee. It comes with a recommendation of the committee to advance this forward.

Mayor Bennehoof opened this item to public comment. Hearing none, he closed the public comment session.

Councilman Lorenz: Do we know the timing of this project?

Mr. Lutz: No. The county will be going out to bid later this month for their entire street program. Then, like any public project, the county cannot dictate the methods, means or schedule. It will be done this summer.

Councilwoman Riggins: What is the total cost?

Mr. Lutz: The City's portion is approximately \$104,000. I don't know what the county's cost from the curve to Sawmill Parkway will be. The county's cost [is higher]. This [our portion] is just a small part of their entire program. They do projects throughout the county and it is in the millions of dollars.

Councilwoman Riggins: I'm looking at Section 5.1 [of Exhibit A] and the estimating costs are all blank.

Gene Hollins, Law Director: I have to give kudos first to our clerk of council. The county didn't send us a cooperative agreement. We had to draft this ourselves. We sent it up to the county prosecutor expecting this would be a first reading, and we distributed, in essence, a form thinking it would have to go to a second reading. Unlike our experience with the county prosecutor in the past, they had no issues whatsoever with our form that Karen helped us draft up. So if you would like to take this to a second reading, we would be able to fill in our share of this before you actually... [Mr. Lutz: And our share would be \$104,000.]

It is a matter of form over substance. We have the money appropriated already for this. The ordinance gives Steve the authority enter into an agreement substantially in this form and obviously he would have to stay within the appropriation for this project, so it's an issue for Council whether you would like to wait

to see the written dollar figure in there or you would like to delegate to Steve the authority to make sure it's within the appropriation.

Councilman Counts: We could also amend Exhibit A to insert \$104,000 in that section.

Mayor Bennehoof: Is there a chance the county might get out ahead of us if we do not vote.

Mr. Lutz: Chris [Huber, City Engineer] stated that they are going out to bid in the next few weeks but I don't know if this is going to keep them from going out or not. I don't think it really matters one way or the other.

MOTION: Councilman Counts moved to amend Ordinance 2018-13 to add the amount of \$104,000 on the blank line of Section 5.1.3 of Exhibit A for City Share. Councilman Lorenz seconded the motion.

VOTE: Y: 7 N: 0

MOTION: Councilman Counts moved to suspend the rules regarding Ordinance 2018-13 as amended. Councilman Lorenz seconded the motion.

VOTE: Y: 7 N: 0

MOTION: Councilman Counts moved to adopt Ordinance 2018-13 as amended. Councilman Lorenz seconded the motion.

VOTE: Y: 7 N: 0

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Development Committee: Next Meeting: March 6, 2018, 6:30 p.m. We met tonight and reviewed our 2018-2019 goals. Mayor Bennehoof: It was a nice job of compiling the goals and putting them into an action plan.

Finance Committee: Next Meeting: April 10, 2018, 7:00 p.m.

Operations Committee: Next Meeting: March 20, 2018, 6:30 p.m.

Planning & Zoning Commission: Next Meeting: March 14, 2018, 7:00 p.m.

Powell CIC: Next Meeting: April 4, 2018, 6:00 p.m.

Powell Citizen Financial Review Task Force: Next Meeting: March 21, 2018, 7:00 p.m. The Task Force and subcommittees continue to meet on a regular basis with the goal of completing their report to City Council mid-year. Mr. Counts: I have a request of the City Manager. There are several meetings in the month of March. They will be having committee meeting minutes. I'd like those minutes, as well as the prior minutes, included in our packet so that Council will be up-to-speed as to what's being discussed.

CITY MANAGER'S REPORT

Mr. Lutz reported that Saperstein & Associates began the community attitude survey last week and they were continuing to make calls this week to wrap that up.

OTHER COUNCIL MATTERS

Mayor Bennehoof: Steve we had some technical difficulties with your review and the scale. I have the completed reviews tonight and will be compiling them for you shortly.

EXECUTIVE SESSION: O.R.C. SECTION 121.22(G)(1) PERSONNEL MATTERS.

MOTION: Councilman Counts moved at 8:17 p.m. to adjourn into Executive Session pursuant to O.R.C. Section 121.22(G)(1) Personnel Matters. Councilman Bertone seconded the motion.

VOTE: Y: 7 N: 0


MOTION: Councilman Lorenz moved at 8:30 p.m. to adjourn from Executive Session into Open Session.
Councilman Swartwout seconded the motion.

VOTE: Y 7 N 0

ADJOURNMENT

MOTION: Councilman Swartwout moved to adjourn the meeting at 8:30 p.m. Councilman Counts seconded the motion. By unanimous consent of the remaining members, the meeting was adjourned.

MINUTES APPROVED: March 20, 2018


Jon C. Bennehoof
Mayor

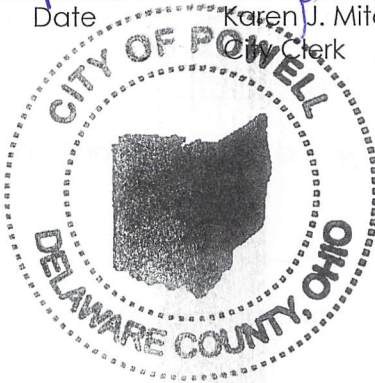
Date

4/2/2018

Karen J. Mitchell
Clerk

Date

4/3/2018



City Council

Jon C. Bennehoof, Mayor
Frank Bertone Tom Counts Brian Lorenz Brendan Newcomb Melissa Riggins Daniel Swartwout