

Muskegon County
Board of Public Works
September 10, 2015
3:00 p.m.
Michael E. Kobza Hall of Justice
990 Terrace Street
Muskegon, MI 49442

Benjamin Cross, Chair

Marvin Engle, Vice Chair

MINUTES

CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order by Commissioner Cross at 3:00 p.m.

ROLL

Present: Benjamin Cross, Muskegon County Commissioner
Marvin Engle, Muskegon County Commissioner
Susie Hughes, Muskegon County Commissioner
Jeff Lohman, Muskegon County Commissioner
Ken Mahoney, Muskegon County Commissioner
Brenda Moore, Drain Commissioner
Charles Nash, Muskegon County Commissioner
Robert Scolnik, Muskegon County Commissioner
Rillastine Wilkins, Muskegon County Commissioner
Kim Arter, Ex-officio Member
Jerry Bartoszek, Ex-officio Member

Excused:

Staff

Present: Mark Eisenbarth, Muskegon County Administrator
Beth Dick, Assistant Administrator & Finance Director
John K. Warner, Public Works Director
David Johnson, Wastewater Director
Doug Hughes, Corporate Counsel
Tina Nash, DPW Departmental Clerk
Carly Hines, DPW Administrative Analyst
Dwight Avery, Accounting Manager

BPW-15-088 – APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Moved by Commissioner Engle, seconded by Commissioner Mahoney, to approve the agenda as presented.

VOICE VOTE: **Motion carried**

BPW-15-089 – APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Moved by Commissioner Hughes, seconded by Commissioner Engle, to approve the minutes of the Board of Public Works meeting held on August 13, 2015.

VOICE VOTE: **Motion carried**

PUBLIC COMMENT ON AN AGENDA ITEM

Scott Huebler, Manager for the City of Whitehall; Sam St. Amour, Supervisor for Fruitland Township; Matt Farrar, DPW Director for Fruitport Township and Mohammed Al-Shatel, DPW Director for the City of Muskegon, all members of the Muskegon Municipal Wastewater Management Committee (User Group) stated their concerns with the proposed wastewater rate increase. Scott Huebler also distributed a copy of a letter that was submitted to County Administrator Mark Eisenbarth highlighting the User Group's points of concern.

PRESENTATIONS

Dawn Lund, Vice President of Utility Financial Solutions, LLC presented the executive summary report for a long-term financial projection completed for the Muskegon County Wastewater Management System and her wastewater rate increase recommendation (see attached). Dawn Lund answered various questions from the Board members and addressed some of the comments from the User Group members.

Dave Johnson presented the proposed budget for the Wastewater Management System (see attached).

John Warner presented the proposed budget for the Solid Waste Management System. John Warner also included the Regional Water System and Facilities Management, these are departments that fall under his supervision (see attached).

ITEMS FOR CONSIDERATION:

BPW-15-090 – Approve FY2016 Budget for Solid Waste

Moved by Commissioner Nash, seconded by Commissioner Hughes, to recommend to the Muskegon County Board of Commissioners the approval of the FY 2016 budget for the Muskegon County Solid Waste Management System as presented.

VOICE VOTE: **Motion carried**

BPW-15-091 - Approve FY2016 Budget for Wastewater

Moved by Commissioner Hughes, seconded by Commissioner Nash, to recommend to the Muskegon County Board of Commissioners the approval of the FY2016 budget for the Muskegon County Wastewater Management System and the 3.5% increase in the wholesale sewer rates.

Commissioner Engle made a Friendly Amendment to change the 3.5% increase in wholesale sewer rates to the recommended 4.9% increase.

The Friendly Amendment failed due to lack of support.

Discussion ensued regarding the wholesale sewer rate increase.

BPW-15-091 – Approve FY2016 Budget for Wastewater CONT'D

Drain Commissioner Moore called for the question.
Chair Cross called for the roll call vote.

Roll call:

Yes – Engle, Hughes, Mahoney, Moore, Nash, Scolnik, Wilkins, Cross

No – Lohman

Motion carried

The Board asked that Doug Hughes look into the section (VIII. Finances) of the Master Contract for the Muskegon County Wastewater System and report his findings back to the Board.

BPW-15-092 – Accept findings for Brown's Pond

Moved by Commissioner Hughes, seconded by Commissioner Nash, to accept the findings of expediency in the preliminary engineering report for Brown's Pond as presented by David Schultz, P.E., determine that it is necessary to establish a special assessment district to pay for required infrastructure and ancillary costs and to direct Corporate Counsel to move forward with the appropriate action in the Muskegon County Circuit Court for the establishment of a legal lake level on Brown's Pond.

Roll call:

Yes – Lohman, Mahoney, Moore, Nash, Scolnik, Wilkins, Engle, Hughes, Cross

No – None

Motion carried

BPW-15-093 – Loan of funds for Heritage Landing project

Moved by Commissioner Mahoney, seconded by Commissioner Hughes, to approve a loan of funds in the amount of \$343,770 plus any funds needed to cover change orders from the Solid Waste fund (5710-0526) for the project to place steel sheet pile wall at Heritage Landing (RFB 15-2191) with the funds being repaid to Solid Waste by the Accommodations Tax fund over a period of 20 years together with interest at the same annual rate as the money would have otherwise received sitting in fund 5710-0526.

Roll call:

Yes – Nash, Scolnik, Wilkins, Engle, Hughes, Lohman, Mahoney, Moore, Cross

No – None

Motion carried

BPW-15-094 – Authorize vehicle trade

Moved by Commissioner Hughes, seconded by Commissioner Scolnik, to authorize the Wastewater Director to trade from their vehicle pool one (1) 2007 GMC Yukon to the Sheriff's Office for one (1) 2012 Chevrolet Tahoe. Wastewater would also reimburse the Sheriff's Office the Blue Book difference in the amount of \$14,500.00, which the Sheriff would use to purchase used fleet vehicles.

Roll call:

Yes – Wilkins, Engle, Hughes, Lohman, Mahoney, Moore, Scolnik, Cross

No – None

Abstain - Nash

Motion carried

BPW-15-095 - Informational Items:

Moved by Commissioner Hughes, seconded by Commissioner Nash, that the following informational items be received and placed on file:

1. Public Works Monthly Operations Report, August 2015.
2. Wastewater Monthly Operating Report, August 2015.

VOICE VOTE: **Motion carried**

OLD BUSINESS

None

NEW BUSINESS

None

PUBLIC COMMENT ON A NEW ITEM

None

ADJOURN

There being no further business to come before the Board of Public Works the meeting was adjourned at 5:24 p.m.

Benjamin Cross, Chair