
COUNCIL PROCEEDINGS

VILLAGE OF GEORGETOWN, OHIO

MINUTES

Utility Services Committee Meeting Village of Georgetown December 10, 2020

The Village of Georgetown Utility Services Committee convened in regular session on Thursday, December 10, 2020 from 5:00 p.m. until 5:59 p.m. in the Georgetown Municipal Building, Council Chambers. The meeting was called to order with the following council members present: Councilmember Ginny Colwell, Councilmember Buddy Coburn and Chairperson Dave Guenther. Employees present: Administrator Tyler Thompson, Fiscal Officer Natalie Newberry and Billing Superintendent Cassandra McCormick. Mayor Dale Cahall was absent.

GENERAL BUSINESS:

The committee began the meeting with discussion on gravel deliveries. The village currently charges \$25.00 per scoop of gravel which is the estimated at one ton of gravel. Discussion held on raising the cost per ton. Administrator Thompson said that this will need to get added to the utility ordinance but is not in the one up for discussion tonight. Councilmember Coburn felt the cost should remain the same or increase no more that ten dollars. Councilmember Guenther sustained from conversation concerning the gravel deliveries. Councilmember Colwell suggested increasing the cost to \$30.00 per scoop. Billing Superintendent McCormick reviewed the stipulations that go with gravel delivery; such as it is three scoops, per address, per thirty days; and the street department does not spread it they only dump it in one spot. Discussion held. Councilmember Coburn and Councilmember Colwell concluded on leaving the price at \$25.00 per scoop but getting the process/policy added to the utility ordinance.

Administrator Thompson brought the topic of the Infrastructure Assessment Proposal to the table; and pointed out that on the condition assessment has been extended out over a few years. Administrator reminded the committee that the storm drainage is a big unknown; and that the Wastewater Treatment Plant is not going to be assessed since it is still new. Discussion held. Councilmember Guenther asked if the committee felt this satisfied what Council asked for. It was the consensus of the committee that this did fulfill that request and should take their recommendation of moving forward with this proposal to Council. Administrator Thompson, Superintendent Derek Copas and Superintendent Travis Bonar have met with American Structurepoint and have begun the water assessment as approved at the last meeting. Discussion held. Liz Dorsey with the Brown County Press asked if this proposal was for fixes or just evaluations. Administrator Thompson noted that this is to evaluate and assess where the Village's

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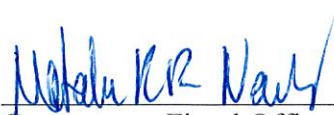
needs are on our utilities. The largest task in the proposal is sewer and water line clean outs so that an assessment of our pipes could take place.

Updates to the utility ordinance was brought to the table. The committee reviewed a letter from Brown County Rural Water informing the Village of another rate increase equivalent to three percent per year over the next four years. The proposed utility ordinance notes no new security lights and adds in language on current policies and practices. The biggest change and discussion for tonight's Council meeting will be the water rate. Administrator Thompson has left the rate amount blank for Council to decide. Superintendent McCormick passed out a table of rates with the nine percent increase as previously discussed to show the committee how it would affect a resident over time. Administrator Thompson's recommendation of a nine percent increase is based off RCAP's assessment from two years ago. Discussion held on increasing the water rate by nine percent while the Village is basically having a three percent annual increase at the same time. Councilmember Coburn felt like the Village could not allow for a deficit to continue in the water fund. Councilmember Guenther felt the water rate should be re-evaluated every five years. Discussion held on how often to re-evaluate the water fund and rate. Administrator Thompson reminded the committee that this is not up for a vote tonight but only up for discussion so that Council can decide on a rate. Discussion held on increase by percentage or flat dollar amount. Councilmember Coburn suggested a twelve percent increase for five years and then re-evaluate the fund and rate again at that time. Both Councilmember Colwell and Councilmember Guenther agreed with that suggestion. Administrator Thompson asked Superintendent McCormick to make a sheet showing a twelve percent increase for Council discussion tonight.

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

The Next Regular Utility Services Committee were set for Thursday, January 14, 2021 at 5:00 p.m. in the Georgetown Municipal Building, Council Chambers. Councilmember Guenther made a motion to adjourn with a second from Councilmember Colwell. Meeting adjourned.


Georgetown Mayor


Georgetown Fiscal Officer