

## Board of Public Affairs Meeting Minutes – October 3, 2024

There was a regular meeting of the Blanchester Board of Public Affairs held on Thursday October 3, 2024. This meeting was held at the BPA Conference Room. The meeting was called to order at 7:00 PM by Chairman James Bowling.

Attending was Chairman James Bowling, Trustee Robert Haines, Trustee Dennis Blocker, Director Ram Reddy, Mayor John Carman, Lynn Lewis Village Council, and Donna Johnson Business Manager/Clerk.

There was a motion/second by Trustee Blocker/Trustee Haines to approve the minutes. All in favor - All Yeas. Motion carried.

A motion/second by Trustee Blocker/Trustee Haines to approve the bills listed in Appendix-A. All in favor - All Yeas. Motion carried.

### Clerk's Report:

Informed the Board that the staff is preparing for New VIP Billing software to go live on 10/25/2024.

The Board has approved quote to purchase Semi Trailer to haul sludge.

### Director Report:

Ram and Rusty attended the AMP Annul Conference.

As approved and recommended by the Board, the Council approved and awarded the Vine Street Water Tower Rehab Project bid to Clearcreek Coatings, LTD based on the Base Bid with Alternate #1 and Alternate #2 for \$341,450.00.

Staff working on getting the quotes for construction inspection.

Staff attending IMPA Board and Executive Committee and other meetings.

Staff updated the Board on funding and status of all the projects currently in process.

Lazenby Street Water Main Replacement and Street Resurfacing project – Procured required funding for this project and work on design and engineering plans has started with the approvals from the Board and Council in July 2024. The projected potential local match for this project is to be \$0.00 – **Planning to bid the project in spring of 2025.**

Orchard View/ Orchard Circle water, storm sewer, sanitary sewer, and street resurfacing phase – 2 project - Procured required funding for this project and work on design and engineering plans has started with the approvals from the Board and Council in July 2024. The projected potential local match for this project is to be \$0.00 - **Planning to bid the project in spring of 2025.**

Orchard View /Orchard Circle water, storm sewer, sanitary sewer, and street resurfacing phase– 1 project - procured required funding. The BPA/Village Awarded the contract to Panetta Excavating, Inc. for the construction. Had a pre-construction meeting and the construction has started. With the Base bid coming under budget, we may not need any local match for this project.

### **Electric Substation Construction Project:**

- Procurement of land for substation construction is complete.
- Continued to work on construction plans, design, and funding for the project.
- We have applied for DOE grant funding for a projected cost of \$9,000,000 for this project

### **Waiting for the DOE approval.**

The Board unanimously approved to start working on clearing the site while waiting for the funding approval – **working on scope of work and specifications.**

### **Electric Distribution System Upgrade and System Conversion (4.16 KV to 12.47 KV):**

- We have applied for DOE grant funding for a projected cost of \$10,000,000 for this project

### **Waiting for the DOE approval.**

Staff continued to work with RCAP on the project to identify and map lead water service lines. Staff continued to meet and discuss with RCAP on this project. RCAP's staff and the BPA staff are finishing up the field work – **Contractor's portion of the work is complete. One (1) Lead service line is identified on customer side of the service for which the customer is responsible to replace, and (5) on BPA side on which the staff will be working on to replace them by 2026. At this point we are about \$8,100 underbudget and no local match.**

Staff continued to meet and discuss with RCAP, EPA, USACE, ODNR, FEMA, and Jones & Henry Engineers on the Reservoir #3 project approvals and funding. Current cost estimation to complete this project is about 3.6 million dollars. So far, we have acquired about 2.2 million dollars through OPWC and USACE for this project. Submitted a preliminary application through ODNR to FEMA (HHPD Grants) for procuring rest of the funding – **Waiting for response from FEMA/ODNR.**

**Current Status on the Project (Reservoir #3 Improvements):**

- Specifications and construction plans have been approved by the ODNR for construction.
- Submitted plans to Ohio EPA and paid the fee for their review and approval for construction – review in process.
- Submitted plans to USACE review and approvals
- Entered into PMP agreement with USACE
- Emergency Action Plan has been submitted and approved by the ODNR.
- FEMA has released the NOFA and the ODNR applied for funding on behalf of the Village/BPA for rest of the funding for construction.
- Staff submitted a 2024 project nomination for EPA funding for Reservoir #3.
- Applied for funding for Reservoir #3 project through Senator Brown's Office from Congressionally Directed Spending (CDS) funds – in contact with Senator's staff, and
- Also trying for the same through Congressman Wenstrup's office.
- Surveyors working on the Deeds for the land associated with the Reservoir #3 as required by the USACE.

Staff continued to work on potential funding from local, State and Federal funding agencies for the electric, water, street, and sewer projects.

West Fancy Street Phase – 2 water main replacement and street resurfacing project – Procured funding for the project except a small amount for local match. Completed survey, established right-of-way, and design is in process – **Completed and bidding work is in process.**

**Electric System:**

Electric Distribution system operation – Continued to be normal with minor outages due to Duke's incoming wholesale power.

Due to storm, several poles broke off bringing the lines down and caused an outage to several customers for about 5 hours. Staff been commended by several customers for the work they did to minimize the outage time.

Staff continued to work on non-pay disconnections every month. All or most of the non-paid accounts are disconnected remotely using the AMI system.

Staff continued to work on relocating the primary line on Main Street.

Staff continued to work on upgrading the primary line on Center Street.

Working on service upgrades in the alley next to Library.

Staff continued to work on systemwide improvements.

**Water System:**

Water Treatment and Distribution systems operation – continued to be normal and meets the Ohio EPA Rules & Regs.

Reservoir water storage levels: We have about 170 million gallons of storage available to treat and supply for about 14 months at the current flow rate to our residents and neighboring water haulers. Due to drought, we have been taking some conservative measures on water haulers, specifically on construction contractors.

Staff continued to look for procuring grant moneys for an additional emergency generator for water plant.

Cathodic protection unit in Fancy Street Water Tower is damaged due to icing and staff is looking into repair or replace it - staff continued to work on it.

Staff helping sewer department on plant and other equipment repairs.

Staff continued to work on various field and treatment plant equipment, and pickup trucks maintenance.

Staff continued to help reading water and electric meters.

Staff installed 1719 AMI meters have been installed to-date and 1717 are in service to-date, and 2 meters are removed to accommodate the owner for remodeling work on the property.

Staff continue to work on grounds maintenance.

**Sewer System:**

Sewer Treatment Plant and Collection System operations are continued to be normal and in compliance with the Ohio EPA Rules & Regulations.

Staff continued to work on repair and maintenance of various equipment at the WWTP and collection system.

Staff worked on several cleanouts for customers.

A new water pump has been ordered for the backup generator – waiting for parts.

Staff working on Secondary Clarifier #1. Ordered parts for repairs – waiting for parts.

Staff continued to work on grounds maintenance.

Televac services been used to clean and clear the sewer main on Broadway and Baldwin Streets.

Old fence between BPA and Mr. Wilson property has been removed, and cleaned the brush to replace fence.

**Other Business:**

There was a motion/second by Chairman Bowling/Trustee Haines at 7:50PM to move into executive session per ORC 121.22 for the discussion of compensation for employees  
All in favor - All Yeas. Motion Carried

A motion/Second by Chairman Bowling/Trustee Blocker to close executive session at 7:55PM.  
All Yeas. Motion Carried

A Motion/Second by Chairman Bowling/Trustee Blocker to approve the following step increases for the Following employees.

Dylan Walker (off probation) from Step W-4-D to W-4-E

The November Board Meeting will be held November 14, 2024 at 7:00PM

A Motion/Second by Chairman Bowling/Trustee Blocker to close and adjourn the meeting at 8:02PM  
All Yeas. Motion Carried

  
James Bowling - Chairman

  
Donna Johnson, Clerk



Board of Public Affairs Meeting Minutes Appendix A

Bills for October, 2024

VENDOR	TOTAL	VENDOR	TOTAL
IMPA	\$ 448,196.90	VERIZON WIRELESS	\$ 856.70
PITNEY BOWES	\$ 855.35	DUKE ENERGY	\$ 70.40
VILLAGE OF BLANCHESTER	\$ 18,424.00	STANLEY J. BOLKA	\$ 780.00
TREASURER STATE OF OHIO	\$ 1,201.00	THERMODYNE	\$ 10,032.00
CINTAS	\$ 1,426.23	INVOICE CLOUD	\$ 1,614.40
ADVANCED AUTO PARTS	434.45	AMP	\$ 12,045.41
PITNEY BOWES	\$ 1,596.75	OMEA	\$ 4,077.00
ROBERT BOYD	\$ 150.00	PANETTA EXCAVATING	\$ 3,000.00
TELE VAC ENVIROMENTAL	\$ 1,300.00	CLINTON ELECTRICAL & PLUMBING	\$ 712.00
GRADECO OF CLINTON COUNTY	\$ 2,350.00	BRENCO	\$ 666.20
WATER SOLUTIONS UNLIMITED	\$ 4,968.00	KOI AUTO PARTS	\$ 288.92
MIAMI PRODUCTS & CHEMICAL	\$ 867.50	WALTS HOME MAINTENANCE INC	\$ 520.00
EJP	\$ 1,486.40	SAMS CLUB	\$ 110.00
IONWARE	\$ 450.00	NECO	\$ 3,384.00
PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISION	\$ 35.00	BEST ONE TIRE SERVICE	\$ 158.11
ANIXTER	\$ 2,750.50	FRONTIER	\$ 1,587.23
JUSTIN DICKMAN	\$ 1,633.33	NECO WATER	\$ 396.74
BDK	\$ 919.50	MIAMI PRODUCTS & CHEMICAL	\$ 701.00
DUKE ENERGY	\$ 522.95	JUSTIN DICKMAN	\$ 1,633.33
WALTS HOME MAINTENANCE INC	\$ 600.00	MR. RENTAL	\$ 55.40
UTE (UTILITY TRUCK EQUIPMENT)	\$ 3,780.00	KIRK BROS	\$ 51,030.00
ALTEC PARTS	\$ 1,021.76	VISA BILL	\$ 4,713.34
SPECTRUM ENTERPRISE	\$ 835.30	TOTAL	\$ 594,237.10

