

Vienna Utility Board
210 60th Street
Vienna, WV 26105
Regular Meeting
March 19, 2021

Per Chairman Randy Rapp, he wanted to introduce our new Board Member, Kim Williams and welcome her.

Public Forum: Brenda Powell – 1409 31st Street

The meeting was called to order at 1:02 PM with the Pledge of Allegiance.

Roll call was taken with the following present:

Randall Rapp, John Barr, Steve Eaton, Joseph Thorpe, Kim Williams, and Attorney Russ Skogstad.

Also, present: Craig Metz Public Works Director, Lorrie Bond Stormwater Coordinator / Program Administrator, Mike Davis, Lise Sibicky from Burgess & Niple, and Council Member Tom Azinger.

Minutes from the February 19, 2021 Regular VUB Board Meeting were approved as presented and posted.

Unfinished Business:

- A. **Stormwater Management Program –** Per Mike Davis, still nothing on new permit and when it will be issued, they are still working from home, so still no word on when we can expect it.
- B. **Water Quality Testing –** Per Craig Metz, last results were non – detects so everything is working great.
- C. **Lead & Copper Discussion on new EPA Regulations - Per** Lise Sibicky, as of now the new rule has been postponed until June of 2021, even with this postponement we still may be looking at a further postponement until December of 2021. I think the takeaway from this is, it gives us a few more months before this all-kicks in. It will give us more time to identify service lines that might possibly fall into the lead service line category. This is something I need to get with Craig and his team on as far as how much we do know about certain parts of town and are they truly lead lines. That is the key to this new rule, identifying where these lead service lines are. Per Craig, several years ago when we did meter replacements, we got a nice look at the service lines, the majority were replaced when we replaced meters. To be honest, I cannot recall any service lines that were lead lines. There are still copper lines of course, but most of them are being taken out. Per Lise, the definition of a lead service line is from the tap to the house. Per Randy, I passed out an article that was in Water & Waste Digest. It gives a pretty good overview of what the actual rules are going to be about. The thing we are going to have to test for is the schools and daycares. This is part of the data we are going to have to acquire. The reason for this is, just because our supply lines are not at risk, if the lines on the inside of the buildings and these levels come back high, then we have the ability to say, it is not our supply lines it is your water fountains inside the schools and whatever else is in there. The levels they have established are measurable numbers, so you must be below those. So, that is one of the things we need to focus on. This handout is an excellent overview, so if you get a chance, please take a look at it. Attorney Russ Skogstad asked if this testing included churches as well, since some churches have daycares. Per Chairman Rapp, he advised that yes, the churches with daycares would apply.

New Business:

- A. Burgess & Niple – Status Report #3** – Per Mike Davis, hoped everyone got a chance to review the status report and asked if there were any questions on it. He stated that it looks like we are on track with everything so far. The wastewater study will be coming soon. He asked when we wanted to discuss the preliminary Stormwater Survey results. Per Mr. Metz, he would rather wait in discussing this to get more data since the survey has not been out that long. Mike advised that as of now we have received 62 responses back so far. I know we spoke previously about possibly doing something more aggressive to get the word out, do we still want to do this? Per Chairman Rapp, 62 responses are very good, do we think it is good the way it is? Per Craig, we will make an agenda item to discuss and suggested to Chairman Rapp that possibly he could mention it in the next few City Council meetings as well. Mike Davis suggested that the end of April would be a good time to close the survey. Mr. Metz and Chairman Rapp both agreed. Craig stated that this would get us through the rainy season, during the summer people seem to forget about Stormwater, it is always more of a concern during the rainy seasons. Chairman Rapp stated that we will have this information added to the newsletter. Mike wanted to confirm that this information was on our website and on Facebook he was advised that it is.
- B. Burgess & Niple – Wastewater System Improvement Presentation** – Per Mike Davis, the presentation is up on the screen for everyone to look at. I wanted to say this has been a long process, this started back when we got meters in 2013 then actually started metering in 2015. One thing I want to mention is through the flow metering, smoke testing and sewer televising you guys did a great job keeping your costs down by purchasing your own flow meters and training your staff. They all know how to do this now, we went out and smoke tested, you bought the equipment, trained the staff and you also have your camera truck now. If you had not done this in house and had hired out, you would have been looking at paying out approx. \$500,000. You saved a lot doing this in house and the great thing is you have trained staff that can go back out and do any of these things that we have done previously without even involving us. So, the goals of our study were two-fold, the first is anything we can do to get water out of the system that does not need to be there like stormwater or groundwater, that is what we are shooting for. Every ounce of water is metered by Parkersburg and we pay that rate. The second thing is we are at capacity. When there is a storm event especially, the pumps run continuously for hours. So, we want the system set up for when new people come in, we can serve them. We went through looking at the I & I situation, the first thing we could do is rehabilitate or replace sewers. We had 200+ sewer videos we went through, from those we found approx. 64 locations of extremely poor sewers that you have, a lot are root issues and some that have pipes with holes or severe cracking, and this causes areas where water can get in. If you look at map, it is an excellent overview throughout the City. We have places around town that have had issues. It is no surprise that a lot of these problem areas are on the river side of Grand Central, a lot of the issues are happening in the older side of town. Craig had said that there were issues along Pond Run, so he had us look through out flow metering data to see what was wrong. The first thing we found was flow coming from Pond Run to 12th Street, it is a 10-inch line which is significantly undersized, it is getting more flow than it can handle. Putting in a 12-inch line would improve this and get the water where it needs to be. Rapp asked is going from 10 inch to a 12 inch really going to increase the capacity that much, Craig and Mike both said yes. Mike advised that it would increase flow about 40% which would be a significant improvement. The 2nd part we found is the line that goes from Forest Hills area. Many of these homes are currently on 6-inch lines, when they built the sewer system on 27th street they probably thought at that time it would be ending there, but they did the whole subdivision, and a 6 inch cannot handle it. Craig also explained that this area is very shallow for the sewer placement, so this is a priority area that needs addressed. Mike stated that this is where we started out and wondered if this would fix our issues. We have figured that the issue goes back to the 12th Street lift station and the 12-inch line being way undersized. So, in order to get enough flow, we would replace the 12 inch with an 18 inch. This would be a huge project due to having to cross Grand Central, which we would bore under, but we would also have the railroad to deal with. This is not an easy fix, but it would really open up that area along Pond Run. So, we have identified the issues and what we could do to fix some of these problem areas. The next

thing we want to do is, find out which areas you want to focus on, what these projects will cost and when do we want to do them etc. Rapp added that we must remember this is only sewer that we are looking at right now, so until we get the information back on water and stormwater, we will have to prioritize what projects we can address. Craig stated that once we get the information from water and stormwater, you all will need to decide what projects in each department we will work on. *Copy of presentation is available upon request.

C. Burgess & Niple – Central Boaz Meter and Valve Replacement Update – Per Lise Sibicky, Craig and I thought we were done, until Craig raised a few questions regarding the valving out there, he was concerned about the 3-inch valve in the old pit and the fact that they may not hold. Per Craig, what we have been discussing is that we have 2 3-inch meters for this area. In order for our guys to work on this, they must be out in the road which is very dangerous for them. I have asked Lise to look into taking that pit, tie into each side of it, re pipe it and hook it up to a new Neptune meter which would be a new 6-inch meter. The estimate Lise sent me this morning was too late to have Lorrie add to agenda documents. What I want to do is to get approval to go ahead and bid this out then get back to you after bid opening with what changes we are referring to and the cost estimate. We have wheel valve stops right now; they are not shutting down all the way. So, we need to put an insertion valve on the Boaz size, replace our valves and get them wrapped around and opened back up. This will keep us from having to shut down their valves, due to their tank only having about an 8-hour supply of water. We need to get the insertion valve in so we can make our taps, reroute to meter vault, and use just the meter pits as a bypass. The new meter pit will handle the new meters. Craig advised that the DOH permits have been completed on this and we will continue to use their right of way. Rapp asked what the estimated cost of this update would be Craig advised it would be between \$62,000 and \$64,000. He stated that he is just wanting permission to bid it out and once bids come back, he will present to board what the prices are, and you can accept or deny at that time. Rapp asked if we have to do this in a formal motion. Per Russ, he did not think he necessarily has to have your permission to do this. Rapp provided an update that since we are discussing Central Boaz, they are continuing to make their payments regularly, so everything is on schedule there.

Manager's Report: We have installed 6 back flow preventors around the City this past month, we will probably install another 6 next month once I get them ordered. We have done a lot of service line replacements. Our main line breaks have been while we have been doing the service line replacements. We have been out re seeding all the areas we had repairs since all the way back to December, we are waiting on the asphalt plants to open back up so we can actually start hot patching the roads back where we have had main line breaks and service line repairs. This weekend we will have some equipment down at the mall for a community event. Rapp added that it has been incredible with these new stores opening, Pet Smart opened yesterday, TJ Maxx opened on the 13th, they had the largest sales day that they have ever had in 18 years when that new store opened. Rapp asked Craig if had any idea when we were going to do the line replacement at 47th St. & 7th Avenue. Craig advised that right now we are down 2 crew members right now, it has been difficult to find new employees with the economy the way it is right now. We have not had a full staff this whole year due to illness, vacations, etc. once we are back to full staff that will be one of our main projects. This department is overwhelmed, our guys are very good at what they do but we just do not have the manpower right now. Rapp wanted to add that we lost one of our senior employees the City of Vienna had. Mr. Lee Emrick passed away he was with us many years and will be missed.

Board Comments: Joe Thorpe wanted to add that we had a crew working on 16th street, they started very early in the morning and had project done within a few hours they were working very hard and what a great job they did.

Meeting adjourned at 2:10 PM.

Next regular meeting – Friday May 21, 2021 @ 1:00 PM @ 60th Street VUB location.

Respectfully submitted,

Lorrie Bond