

VILLAGE OF MORRISVILLE
WATER AND LIGHT REGULAR MEETING MINUTES

May 3, 2023
Wednesday

5:30PM
Wastewater Treatment Plant

PRESENT:

Trustees: Tom Snipp, Robert Heanue, and Carl Fortune

Staff: Scott Johnstone, Kevin Newton, David Heller

Guest: Daniel Copp, Rodger Sheldon

Public: Laura Green, Martin Green, Evelyn Throne, Jerry Throne, Alexander Cyr

1) CALL REGULAR MEETING TO ORDER:

Chairman Snipp called the meeting to order at 5:30 PM.

2) CONSIDER AGENDA ADJUSTMENTS: None.

3) TOUR OF WASTEWATER TREATMENT PLANT: Dan Copp of H2O Innovations led the Trustees and public on a tour of the wastewater treatment facilities. The plant operates in the 55% range of capacity for both flow and BOD, assuring sufficient capacity for many years to come. Issues around sludge management, increasing testing requirements and the expectation of a tightening of phosphorous limits are examples of issues raised on the tour. Many questions arose around the ability of the plant to keep pace with development in the village. Staff offered that the utilities, including wastewater were unlikely to become a constraint on growth any time soon.

4) APPROVE MINUTES OF REGULAR MEETING HELD April 5, 2023:

On a **motion** by Trustee Heanue and seconded by Trustee Fortune, the board approved (3-0) the minutes of the regular meeting held on April 5, 2023.

5) CHECK REGISTERS (ACTION):

On a **motion** by Trustee Fortune and seconded by Trustee Heanue, the board approved (3-0) the check registers.

6) OTHER BUSINESS:

a. Wastewater Plant Follow Up Discussion:

As a follow up to the tour of the plant the trustees, public and staff engaged in a conversation to further explore issues with the treatment plant operations and future. Beyond those topics covered during the tour it was noted that a regular updating of the plant should be expected around the turn of the decade due to normal wear and tear. That may or may not result in a need for a rate increase as the bond issue from 2009 will expire around the same time the plant will need updating. Overall the plant is well run, reserves are being created by new development, and appropriate planning is being completed to assure this important community asset remains in excellent operating shape.

b. Management Update

- Next week the water department will need to close Portland Street in order to make a repair to the water line. We've communicated with the town and signs are already out.
- Electric outages were down 55% last year. This is great news for customers and a result of continued improvements of our system.
- The lead and copper rule will require us to perform a good amount of work in 2023. That said, funds are available to support these efforts. We plan to bring a "loan" for approval at an upcoming meeting. This loan actually converts to about a 90% grant once the work is complete.
- FERC will be holding a meeting in the coming weeks for get updates on the dam safety study the ANR is performing relating to Green River Reservoir. MWL will, of course, participate and we expect this meeting will be helpful to continuing to move things along.
- Electric Rate Case: The state is objecting to our ability to have funds available as cash flow. They actually argue we should have more available cash than our rate case requests but they only want to support our having access to cash if we agree to always borrow money for any capital projects. They do not support using cash for capital projects. Our strategy is to work to settle this rate case and then address this attempt to take over financial management of the utility in our Integrated Resource Plan.

c. Any other Business to come before the meeting. None

7) PUBLIC COMMENT: None

8) EXECUTIVE SESSION: None

9) ADJOURN REGULAR MEETING:

On a **motion** by Trustee Heanue and seconded by Trustee Fortune, the Board adjourned (3-0) the meeting at 7:08 PM.

Attest: Travis Knapp, Clerk