



TO: Thomas R. Kneeland
Members of Council
City Attorney

FROM: Dottie A. Franey
Director of Public Service and Engineering

DATE: October 14, 2016

SUBJECT: Report to Council, October 24, 2016

ACTION ITEMS FROM THE CITY ENGINEER

There are no action items from the City Engineer.

ACTION ITEMS FROM THE DIRECTOR OF PUBLIC SERVICE

ACTION ITEM #1 – Code Modifications:

CHAPTER 919 – Water and Sewer Internal Review Board

Upon review of this section of code, we would like to add that applicants shall attend their hearing and can do that in person or by phone. We also want to add that failure to attend the hearing without reasonable prior notification will result in a waiver of their claim. (Modified Code and RCA attached.)

CHAPTER 928 – Sewer Districts

We are simply correcting a typographical error where a wrong sewer district was noted.

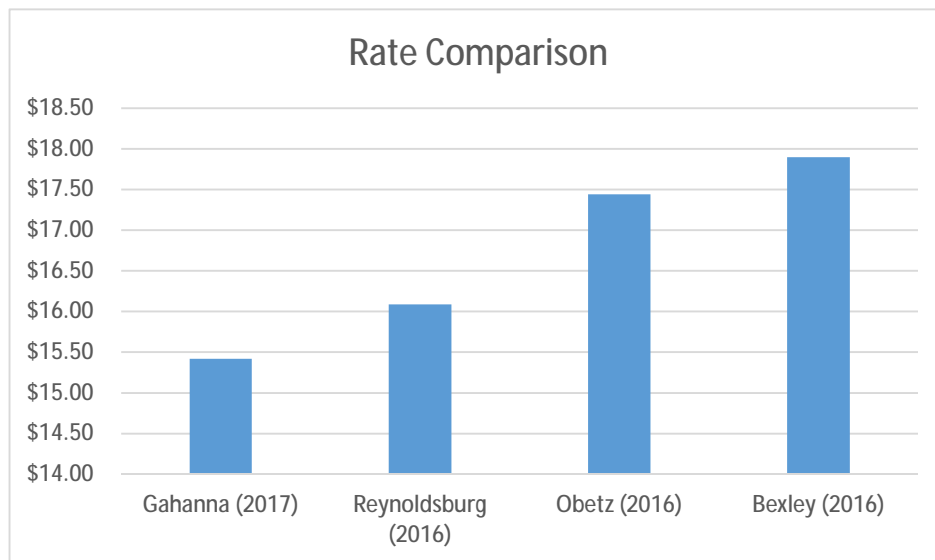
CHAPTERS 921 Sanitary Sewer Rates and Rental Fees and 929 Water Connections and Rates –

The City of Gahanna is a master meter community, which means that we purchase our water and sewer treatment from the City of Columbus and our payments to Columbus are, by far, our greatest expense in those utilities. Therefore, we wait for Columbus to determine their rates before we make our recommendation.

The City of Columbus intends to increase water 3% and sanitary 3%. After incorporating Columbus' increases into our budget we make the following recommendations for Gahanna's 2017 water/sanitary sewer rates:

- Water Operational Rate: **\$7.01/1,000 gal** (*increased from a 4-year steady rate of \$6.68/1,000 gal*)
- Water Capital Improvement Rate: **\$0.38/1,000 gal** (*lowered from the rate of \$0.85/1,000 gal in 2016*)
- Sanitary Sewer Operational Rate: **\$7.01/1,000 gal** (*was \$6.81/1,000 gal in 2016*)
- Sanitary Sewer Capital Improvement Rate: **\$1.02/1,000 gal** (*was \$0.51/1,000 gal in 2016*)
 - FYI - The City of Columbus continues to offer a pass-thru 20% low income discount.
- Columbus Consent Order (CCO): The city of Columbus is under a consent order with the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) to separate their combined storm and sanitary sewers. Because the satellite communities utilize Columbus' sewer system, we are all responsible to contribute to these projects. The revenue that we collect for this consent order is passed-thru to Columbus and Gahanna does not keep any of this money. CCO Rate: **\$7.98/ERU/qtr** (*was \$7.88/ERU/qtr in 2016*)

The following graph shows Gahanna's recommended 2017 water/sewer per 1,000 gallon rate as compared with the 2016 rates of three other master meter cities:



We are respectfully requesting legislation modifying Code Chapters 919 WATER AND SEWER INTERNAL REVIEW BOARD, 921 SANITARY SEWER CONNECTIONS AND RENTAL RATES and Code Chapter 929 WATER CONNECTIONS AND RATES to reflect the 2017 rates and miscellaneous code clean-up changes. (Modified Code and RCAs attached.)

UPDATE

Hamilton Rd Central - Shelly and Sands has completed all storm sewer and waterline installation as well as tie-ins on Hamilton Road.

Paving operations are also expected to begin for the completion of all remaining curb and base pavement on Hamilton Road and the relocation of Carpenter Road.

Hamilton Road Central is progressing ahead of schedule. Crews are working quickly to complete base paving operations this Fall on Hamilton Road, and if weather permits, the goal is to complete all curb and base paving operations on Hamilton Road, and have both roundabouts functioning by November 30, 2016. As time and weather allows this Fall and as we move into Winter, the contractor will continue to work to complete remaining concrete work for driveways and sidewalks, while all final restoration and surface asphalt will be completed in the Spring/Summer of 2017.

Motorists should continue to expect delays throughout the construction zone, and are encouraged to consider other routes if they wish to avoid a possible delay in their travels.