



TO: Thomas R. Kneeland
Members of Council
City Attorney

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

DATE: November 4, 2016

SUBJECT: Report to Council, November 14, 2016

ACTION ITEMS FROM THE CITY ENGINEER

ACTION ITEM #1 – Building and Zoning Fee Schedule: We are requesting to revise the Building and Zoning Fee Schedule to clarify some of the current fees and to provide a separate fee for Temporary Structures. Currently Tents and Temporary Structures are a single line item with the same fee on our schedule. Instead of charging the same fee for tent structures and temporary structures which is \$101.50, we are proposing to create a separate fee for the temporary structures. The proposed fee for a temporary structure is \$307.50, which includes a \$50.00 zoning fee and \$7.50 fee that is collected for the Ohio Board of Building Standards. The remaining \$250.00 is cost recovery to help offset the cost of plan review, inspections, and administrative costs associated with such structures.

We are respectfully requesting an ordinance to revise the Building and Zoning Fee schedule to account for Temporary Structures. (Building and Zoning Fee Schedule and RCA attached.)

ACTION ITEM #2 – Price Road Phase II Sanitary Sewer Project - Resolution of Necessity and Intent: This project will offer sanitary sewer to a currently unsewered area, and remove an aging lift station. The project will require easements from nine property owners. The first step in this process is statutory resolutions of necessity and intent.

We are respectfully requesting statutory resolutions of necessity and intent for each of these properties. (Map, Exhibits, and RCA attached.)

ACTION ITEMS FROM THE DIRECTOR OF PUBLIC SERVICE

There are currently no action items from the Director of Public Service.

UPDATES

SWACO Solid Waste Rate Advisory Board – Gahanna served on SWACO's Solid Waste Rate Advisory Board and will vote *For* a tipping fee rate decrease of \$3.00 per ton effective April 1, 2017. A full explanation of the details behind the decrease can be found in the information below that has been prepared and distributed by SWACO:

New, lower rate proposed

SWACO is proposing a \$3 per ton reduction in the fee paid to tip waste at the Franklin County Sanitary Landfill (FCSL). The proposed new rate is \$39.75 per ton, down from an existing rate of \$42.75. The first rate change since 2012, the new rate would go into effect during the second quarter of 2017.

The rate reduction is the result of the elimination of a restricted portion of the current fee for debt service which would be replaced with a smaller fee (\$4 per ton) to offset SWACO's increasing cost of operations, maintain fund balance reserve levels recommended by credit rating agencies, and provide funding to fulfill SWACO's community mission. The net effect would be a \$3 per ton reduction.

The restricted \$7 per ton fee is being eliminated because SWACO anticipates collecting enough money in the second quarter of 2017 to be able to retire the debt associated with the former Waste-to-Energy facility.

Any change to the tipping fee rate, even a reduction, requires a public process to ensure public input before the SWACO Board of Trustees makes its final decision.

Maintaining SWACO's financial health and planning for the future

Of the \$4 per ton replacement rate, \$3 per ton would go towards increased general operations expenses and paying for the capital needs at FCSL, and \$1 would be directed towards maintaining an appropriate level of fund balance reserves, annual maintenance costs of Model Landfill, and expanded and new services and opportunities for public/private partnerships.

General Operating Expenses. *SWACO receives 98% of its revenue from the tipping fee as a result of waste coming to FCSL. Despite Franklin County's population growth, enhanced recycling has resulted in less waste. In fact, the amount of waste received has been relatively flat in recent years, a trend that is expected to continue. At the same time, the organization's expenses have increased due to equipment, gasoline, landfill construction and recycling costs, and other inflationary pressures. Given that a rate increase hasn't occurred since 2012, a fee change is warranted.*

Fund Balance Reserves. *To maintain SWACO's AAA bond rating and enable the organization to financially withstand unforeseen emergencies unique to its mission, it is prudent to increase the organizations minimum cash reserve target from \$10 million to*

*\$15 million according to Standard & Poor's and Fitch Ratings service guidelines for solid waste operations. The revised rate would enable SWACO to maintain the **minimum level recommended.***

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 in process for the completion of all remaining curb and base pavement on Hamilton Road and the relocation of Carpenter Road.

Hamilton Road Central is still continuing to progress ahead of schedule. Crews are working quickly to complete base paving operations, and the curb installations for the roundabout islands 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 the roadway and both roundabouts functioning by November 30, 2016. As the project continues to move forward towards completion there will be some changes to the maintenance of traffic over the next few weeks, which will include lane shifts and the installation of temporary pavement markings throughout the project. These changes affect both the north bound and south bound lanes of Hamilton Road as well as Clark State Road. Motorists should expect delays and impacts during their commutes at the intersection of Clark State Road and Hamilton Road as construction crews work to complete the roundabout and splitter islands in this area over the next couple of weeks. 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 sidewalk, 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.