



Due to COVID-19, Meeting to be held via TEAMS/Telephone

Committee Members:

Ken Klinepeter (Middletown Borough)
Don Correll (WCP)
Dan Sugarman (WCP)
Jason Kiernan (Veolia)
Kodi Webb (Veolia)

Additional:

Bradley Pensyl (Allen & Overy)
Ken Bonn (Argo)
Justin Mendinsky (HRG)
Angela Lloyd (Middletown)
Jenny Miller (Middletown)
Michael Winfield (Post and Shell)

Michael Barger (Veolia)
Ryan Haigan (Veolia)
Jagruti Patel (Veolia)
Maria Tajali (Veolia)
Yunjie Tu (Veolia)
John Joyner (WCP)

1. Introductions/Opening Comments

After a roll call, Mr. Correll called the meeting to order. A PowerPoint presentation was presented. Mr. Kiernan added that as of March 17th SUEZ is officially Veolia, and brand updates would be made forthcoming.

2. Operations Update

Ms. Webb explained that SmartCover calibrations had been performed. The triennial PA DEP water system inspection was completed in April, with no major deficiencies found. Ms. Webb added that the brand rollout would be in May. A fire hydrant that had been hit on Main Street was repaired. Covid cases continued to remain low in the area resulting in a Threat Level of zero, so only individuals with exposures were required to wear masks. Mr. Kiernan stated that the official Veolia rollout would be by May 23rd with new branded items. Ms. Webb discussed the out of service equipment including well 3, well 4, booster pump 2 and raw pump 2.

Mr. Correll asked what notification was being made regarding the rebranding. Mr. Kiernan answered that it would be posted on social media and Ms. Webb added that Mr. Halleron, Manager of Communications and Customer Relations, was called to another emergency meeting, but customers would be receiving notification of the change, and it would be included on the bills and Consumer Confidence Report.

Ms. Webb explained that there were two main breaks, two service line leaks, and one sewer lateral repair since the last meeting. There were no Sanitary Sewer Overflows or Smart Cover alarms. Ms. Webb discussed the chemical feed upgrade project and explained that permits approvals have been received for all six wells regarding the chemical feed upgrades. Wells 3 and 4 required an additional permit amendment for the replacement of well pumps and only the permit amendment for well 3 had been received. Previous applications have taken upwards of three months to receive approvals.

3. Customer Service

Ms. Patel stated that water consumption has stayed steady, while revenue is trending up due to the 8.3% increase compared to the first quarter of 2021. Sewer revenue has increased 3% compared to the first quarter of 2021.

Ms. Webb explained that in 2021, 266 meters were replaced and when tested had a 97.7% pass rate. The meter replacement program will resume in 2022 when the weather becomes more favorable.



4. Capital Investment/Engineering Report

a. Operations

Ms. Webb noted that Ms. Akgun had left SUEZ and Mr. Tu is now the Project Engineer. Ms. Webb provided an update on the capital projects. The 2017/2020 project is underway with an anticipated completion date around the end of May. The 2018/2021 project was awarded to Wexcon and the 2022 is in design phase with HRG. The water storage tank rehab project was awarded to I.K. Stoltzfus, and a preconstruction meeting has been held. The first tank to be worked on will be the High Street tank.

5. 2021 CPI and Impact on 2022 Rate Increases

Mr. Sugarman explained that another month's inflation data that was not looking favorable. The rate escalation would be calculated in 3 months, and it was trending above 7% through the end of March. When added to the 2% margin change, it would likely be almost 10% before capital cost recovery was added. Mr. Correll added that if inflation continued at that level and the capital spending continued as approved, the rate increase could be up to 20%. Mr. Correll also added that we are proceeding with the capital work due to scheduling needs with contractors. Inflation will continue to be discussed at the next meeting.

6. Royalton

Mr. Sugarman had been reexamining the previously performed analysis in regards to inflation and the claimed capital investment to determine the rate change for Royalton.

7. Community Service

Ms. Webb noted that the project would again be supporting the Middletown Craft Fair, and a litter clean-up was scheduled for the upcoming Friday at Susquehanna Street Park.

8. Univar Meter

Ms. Webb added that the vault would be installed the upcoming weekend.

9. Other Matters

Mr. Klinepeter requested that the powerpoint be distributed after the meeting so it could be distributed to council. Mr. Correll asked Ms. Webb to send the powerpoint to Mr. Klinepeter. Mr. Winfield made it a standing request that future powerpoints are also shared with the Borough. Mr. Correll agreed.

10. Review and Approval of Minutes

Mr. Correll made a motion to approve the circulated January minutes. Mr. Sugarman added that as the meeting was beginning, there was an email circulated by Mr. Winfield to amend the minutes, which was approved via email by Mr. Pensyl. The modified minutes were approved. Mr. Winfield noted that the February meeting minutes were not circulated. Ms. Webb added that the February meeting minutes would be added to the next meeting agenda and distributed.



11. Next Meeting

Mr. Correll suggested the next meeting to be held at 11 AM on June 14, 2022. The meeting may be held in person pending no significant increases in Covid cases.

12. Adjournment

Mr. Correll asked for any other business. Hearing none, the meeting was adjourned.