

SERVICE COMMITTEE

May 5, 2025

The May 5, 2025 Service Committee meeting was called to order at 5:30 p.m. in Council Chambers by Dale Rowe, Chairman. Service Committee members present were Aaron Korte, Dale Rowe, and Andy Voorheis.

Others present included: Kyle McColly, Mayor; Doug Keller, Wastewater Treatment Plant Supervisor; Dave Schneider, Collections System Supervisor; Aaron Schoenberger, Water Treatment Plant Supervisor; Brad Taylor, Street and Sanitation Supervisor; Nancy Lehnhart, Utility Officer Manager; Doug Swartz; Patrick Barnes; John Walker; Brian Hemminger, Daily Chief Union; and Sarah Bennett, Clerk.

The summary of bills totaling \$257,598.83 was presented.

A motion was made by Mr. Voorheis, seconded by Mr. Korte, for the approval and payment of bills totaling \$257,598.83. Upon Voice Vote, all members voted Yes. The Chairman declared the motion carried.

The minutes of the April 21, 2025 Service Committee meeting, having been mailed to each Service Committee member, were approved as received.

Mr. Doug Swartz addressed the Service Committee requesting relief from the sewer portion of the utility bill for his rental property located at 369 West Bigelow Street. Mr. Swartz indicated that he was in Florida for the winter and there was a fire at the property in November 2024 that he didn't find out about the fire until he returned home in April 2025. Mr. Swartz indicated that the tenant was taken to a nursing home following his release from the hospital. Mrs. Lehnhart presented information about the water usage for this property showing excessive usage over a weekend in December 2024 and she noted that the Water Department shut the water off to the property when a leak was suspected. Mr. Swartz noted that there was a pipe that broke causing the water leak and he is not contesting the water portion of the bill but he would like relief from the sewer portion of the bill. Mr. Schneider will look at the property to determine if the water went into the sanitary sewer and report his findings to the Service Committee.

Mr. Patrick Barnes addressed the Service Committee regarding the Dave Eippert Subdivision located to the north of West Guthrie Street and west of North Hazel Street. Mr. Barnes indicated that Mr. Eippert was his grandfather and he died recently and now the family is considering selling the lots within the family and restructuring the lots and the 60' wide area which appears to be an unimproved street. Mr. Barnes inquired as to how the family should proceed with this project. Mr. McColly indicated that he will ask Mr. Ben Buckland, Law Director, to research the subdivision and provide his opinion on how to proceed.

Service Committee members again discussed amendments to Chapter 951 Garbage and Refuse Collection in conjunction with the new automated garbage truck and ninety-six (96) gallon garbage containers. The possibility of the City selling an additional ninety-six (96) gallon garbage container at cost instead of requiring a deposit equal to the cost of the garbage container with the deposit refunded upon return of the can in usable condition, as discussed at the April 21, 2025 Service Committee meeting, was suggested. The charge for picking up an extra garbage container was discussed. Mr. Taylor reported on software available for sanitation trucks at a cost of \$3,600.00 plus \$60.00 per truck/per month to help keep track of extra trash for the new automated truck for the residential route and the garbage truck used for the commercial route.

Service Committee members again reviewed a schedule of charges as presented by Mr. Schneider at the March 17, 2025 Service Committee meeting.

A motion was made by Mr. Korte, seconded by Mr. Rowe, to recommend to City Council to approve an Ordinance addressing the schedule of charges as follows:

Vac-All	\$200.00 (per trip)
Street Sweeper	\$200.00 (per trip)
Sewer Jet	\$200.00 (per trip)
Sewer Camera	\$200.00 (per trip)
Labor	\$50.00 (per hour/per employee – minimum 1 hour for each employee)
Labor – after hours	\$75.00 (per hour/per employee – minimum 1 hour for each employee)

Water Meter Check – at the request of the customer

	\$50.00 (if nothing is found to be wrong with the meter)
after hours	\$75.00 (if nothing is found to be wrong with the meter)

Upon Voice Vote, all members voted Yes. The Chairman declared the motion carried.

Mr. Taylor presented a quote from Tawa Mulch & Landscape Supply, 8420 County Road 140, Findlay, Ohio 45840, to grind the brush piles at the compost at a cost of \$20,745.00. The price includes TAWA loading and hauling the ground material off site including the pile of wood chips.

A motion was made by Mr. Korte, seconded by Mr. Rowe, to approve the quote of \$20,745.00 from TAWA Mulch & Landscape Supply to grind the brush piles at the compost. Upon Voice Vote, all members voted Yes. The Chairman declared the motion carried.

The hiring of a Utility Office Manager to replace Ms. Nancy Lehnhart following her retirement was addressed.

A motion was made by Mr. Rowe, seconded by Mr. Voorheis, to hire Mrs. Michelle Halter as the full-time Utility Office Manager. Upon Voice Vote, all members voted Yes. The Chairman declared the motion carried.

Mr. Keller reported that the non-potable pumps are being pulled at the Wastewater Treatment Plant tomorrow.

Mr. Taylor reported that the Street Department worked last week patching streets and alleys with hot mix.

Mr. Schoenberger reported that a dive crew from Midco Diving cleaned the sediment out of the clearwell and water towers last week. They removed ¼” of sediment from the clearwell and 1” of sediment from the water towers.

Mayor McColly reported that notice was received from the Ohio EPA regarding the City’s water due to taste and odor issues that are being experienced by residents and businesses. The notice indicated that the City’s water is safe for consumption. It has been suggested that residents run their water from the highest faucet in their home for up to thirty (30) minutes to flush the lines.

Mayor McColly again reported that an open house will be held on Thursday, May 8, 2025 beginning at 6:00 p.m. at the EMS Building, 401 North Warpole Street, with representatives from the City, the Louis Dreyfus Company, and Peterman Associates. Representatives will be on hand to answer questions from the community regarding the Louis Dreyfus Company’s soybean processing facility located to the west of the City in Salem Township, the lift station to be installed, and the water and wastewater extension projects as part of the development.

There being no further business, the Chairman declared the meeting adjourned.

Sarah J. Bennett, Clerk

Dale Rowe, Chairman