

MINUTES OF THE FINANCE COMMITTEE
April 30, 2018
East Conference Room

Present: Councilmembers O'Malley, George, Bullock (6:15 p.m.)

Also Present: Councilmember Rader, City Engineer Papke, Finance Director Pae, 1 member of the public

Call to order: 6:03 p.m.

Proposed Resolution 8993-18 – High Rate Treatment Facility Wastewater Treatment Plant Improvement Project

Councilmember O'Malley introduced the Resolution, remarking that it was referred to Finance Committee in March and that Council is looking to seek adoption of it at the May 7th meeting.

City Engineer Papke provided an overview of the proposed High Rate Treatment Facility as described in the City's permit with the EPA. The high rate treatment plant is necessary to eliminate combined sewer overflow (CSO) 002, which occurs when the WWTP reaches capacity during wet weather events. During a wet weather event, the high rate treatment plant will be able to treat incoming water in about 20 minutes before sending it out to Lake Erie. Currently this process takes 24 hours.

Resolution 8993-18 will authorize Council to enter into a Water Pollution Control Loan Fund Agreement in the amount of \$13 million at 0% interest and in the amount of \$5.7 million at a standard interest rate. The fund is a state revolving loan fund for large scale projects.

The loans are expected to be repaid over 30-40 years. These funds must be secured before the project goes out to bid. The City has an existing design/build contract with CT Consultants for design of the Facility.

The City was recently awarded a \$3 million grant and a \$3.4 million loan at 0% interest from OPWC. The City feels fortunate to receive any grant funding as grants are more difficult to obtain. This funding is separate from the Water Pollution Control Loan Fund Agreement addressed by this Resolution.

In response to Councilmember questions, Mr. Papke remarked further on the importance of the project. He explained that eliminating this specific combined sewer overflow is a high priority of the EPA. It is one of the City's most active CSOs. The City is obligated to move forward with the High Rate Treatment Facility as written into its WWTP permit with EPA.

Mr. Papke explained the next steps after Council approves the resolution and the timeline of the project. The City is on schedule to go out to bid for the project in August. The Facility must be

operational by 2022. Repayment of the debt is not required until that time. The debt is enterprise debt and will not count against the City's borrowing ability.

A motion was made and seconded to recommend adoption of Resolution 8993-18 to Council.

All members voted in favor. Motion passed.

Finance Committee adjourned at 6:23 p.m.