

CITY OF GROVEPORT REPORT TO MAYOR AND COUNCIL

October 22, 2018

ADMINISTRATION – *Marsha Hall*

Legislation

Water Rate Increase

At staff's recommendation there was no water rate increase for 2018. While we are currently holding our own for our projected balance (contingency) in the Water Fund for operations of our water plant, our projected expenses for 2019 are also less than 2018 expenses, so any unforeseen large expense would result in a much lower balance going into 2020.

In addition, the Ohio legislature adopted Senate Bill 2 which requires that all water systems develop an Asset Management Plan that includes a long-term (five year) funding strategy that determines the estimated cost per year to adequately fund, repair and replace our water assets. We are currently completing this plan that is due to be submitted to OEPA yet this year.

With expenses continuing to increase due to inflation, a small increase of 3% is being recommended for 2019 in order to stay at least current with our balance in the Water Fund.

As an aside and for your information, the City of Columbus Sewer and Water Advisory Board is recommending a 2% water rate increase and 3% sanitary sewer rate increase for 2019 to Columbus City Council.

Change to Pay Scale – Cost of Living Adjustment

The City's Compensation Plan is on a three-year calendar basis. The first year the City does a salary survey, which was done in 2017. The other two years the City determines whether there is a cost-of-living adjustment based on any number of factors. 2018 included a 2% cost-of-living increase. Social Security, one of our factors used, has announced that there is a 2.8% cost-of-living increase for 2019. For that reason we are recommending a 2.8% increase to our pay scale for 2019.

2019 Contract for Health Services with the Health Department

This is our annual health department contract, including plumbing inspection services, for 2019. The cost to us will be \$49,877.73. This is a 6.8% increase from 2018.

Miscellaneous

Ohio Municipal League Annual Conference

I will be attending the OML annual conference October 31 through November 2.

Meetings; Events

Meetings/Events Attended

10/17 OPBA negotiations (Lt.)

10/18 RITA conference call

10/18 Bid Opening – Hamilton Rd and Firehouse Lane Intersection Improvements

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Upcoming Meetings/Events

10/23 CIC
10/23 Retail Market Analysis Public Presentation
10/23 Voices of Hope
10/24 Mayor's Business Breakfast
10/25 RITA conference call
10/29 Meeting re Personnel Policy
10/31 OML Conference
10/31 Trick or Treat
11/01 OML Conference
11/02 OML Conference