

CITY OF AMHERST, OHIO

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Minutes of the Utilities Committee Meeting held February 5, 2024, at 7:00 P.M. Present in Council Chambers were Chairman Wachholz, Mr. Dembinski, Mr. Heberling, Mr. Janik, Mr. Winiarski, Mr. Nahorn, Ms. Harmych, President Wasilk, Auditor Phillips, Safety/Service Director Jeffreys, Law Director Pecora, Treasurer Ramsey, Assistant Law Director Ward, and one member of the press.

A-24-05 Ordinance Amending Amherst Codified Ordinances
Chapter 913.02 Rental Rates; emergency

Mayor Costilow stated that we have been studying the rate for a few years and the City has lost money on sewer rates. The fix was going to be that funds the City borrowed was going to be paid off this year. However, the EPA study approved by Council requires mandated improvements and the City will have to borrow money again. To keep from losing \$200,000 per year, we will have to increase sewer rates by 10%. The comparison he sent Council shows that we are the lowest in the area. He explained those rates and said he hates to increase them but there have been no increases in 20 years.

Chair Wachholz asked how long before we would stop losing money. Mayor Costilow said he hopes four years. Chair Winiarski said he took a tour of the facility and there are improvements that need to be made.

Mr. Janik asked about the Cooper Foster Park Road improvements and if those are already budgeted. Mayor Costilow said those are water improvements. He answered some other questions and noted that this can go three readings.

Mr. Dembinski motioned to send this to the floor of Council with the emergency. Seconded by Mr. Janik. Voice vote 7-0 to send to the to the floor of Council with emergency.

Mr. Dembinski motioned to adjourn, seconded by Mr. Nahorn. Voice vote 7-0 to adjourn. The meeting adjourned at 7:09 P. M.

Jake Wachholz, Chairman
Utilities Committee