

WATER AND SEWER COMMITTEE MINUTES

Friday, October 2, 2015, 8:30 AM

Water & Sewer Department Office

1. Call to Order

The Freedom of Information Requirements having been met, the meeting was called to order at 8:47 AM. Those present were Committee Members, Bachman Smith, Susan Middaugh (Chair); Staff Members Greg Gress and Andy Benke; and Consultant Frank Davis. Mark Howard and Jason Blanton were absent.

2. Rate Study Planning & Implementation

Frank Davis, of Raftelis Financial Consultants, reviewed the Town's current rate structure and methodology for W&S charges and the proposed scope of work for the planned Rate Study. For example, there was preliminary discussion of the current Base Charge for all customers. Nationally, this is typically 30% of the W&S bill. The Town determines the Base Charge on meter size. Mt. Pleasant bases this on REUs (Residential Equivalent Usage) and also has an impact fee for new construction. The Rate Study goals were discussed. The next step is data collection to identify how charges are distributed under the current W&S rate structure using 2014 data, and how this distribution would differ if the Town changed to an REU rate structure. The consultant will present this information to the Committee when it is available.

3. I&I Phase II Planning continued.

- a. Application for 1% SRF Green funds. The required study is being done to determine whether the work proposed for Phase II will reduce power (electricity) use by 20% to qualify for a 1% SRF loan.
- b. Phase II cost estimate: This is being worked on.
- c. Application for SRF funding: Once a cost estimate is available, the Town will be ready to apply to the State Revolving Fund for the Revenue Bond needed to fund this project. As in Phase I, a consultant will be engaged to prepare the application and manage the considerable paperwork required.

4. Communications / other items from WWTF Manager, Greg Gress

- a. Noise reduction at WWTP : Berm/plantings & sound shielding
There was discussion of methods for ameliorating the motor whine that has been bothering homeowners across the park on Sta 22 for the past 18 months since the trees were removed along the fenceline at the West end of the WWTP to make room for plant improvements. The Committee decided to landscape along the

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fence line with trees, selected to provide sound screening. Funding will be requested from the Tree Bank and Park Landscaping funds. It was also decided to construct a covering, with soundproofing, for the two motors. These motors will be replaced in 2-3 years as part of planned improvements to the WTP.

- b. 1220 Cove Pumping Station: Not Discussed
- c. Trimming fence line vegetation at water pumping station: Not Discussed

5. Executive Session: Contractual Matter

At 10:03 AM, a MOTION was made by Bachman Smith, seconded by Susan Middaugh, and approved 2/0 to go into executive session to discuss the Charleston Water System Contract for Purchase Capacity Water Agreement.

At 10:55 AM, a MOTION was made by Bachman Smith, seconded by Susan Middaugh, and approved 2/0 to come out of executive session. No votes were taken in Executive Session.

- 6. **Next W&S Committee meeting** is planned for Thursday, October 22, 2015, 8:30 AM.
- 7. **Adjournment:** The meeting was adjourned at 11:00 PM on a motion by Bachman Smith, seconded by Susan Middaugh, approved 2/0.

Pending Items (To be considered in future meetings)

- a. Pre-Disaster Mitigation Grant for submersible pumps
- b. Update of W&S Policy on Sewer Laterals
- c. ASR: Aquifer Storage and Recovery
- d. Water Pumping Station Fencing & Site Improvements

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