

**TOWN OF SULLIVAN'S ISLAND  
WATER AND SEWER COMMITTEE OF COUNCIL  
MEETING MINUTES**

**Thursday, December 19, 2019**

**8:45 a.m.**

**1. Call to Order & Freedom of Information Act Requirements:**

The Water and Sewer Committee of Council met at 8:45 a.m. on Thursday, December 19, 2019 at Town Hall, all requirements of the Freedom of Information Act having been satisfied. Present were Council Committee members Bachman Smith, IV (Chair) and Tim Reese. Staff members present were Andy Benke, Jason Blanton, Greg Gress and Courtney Liles. There were approximately five (5) members of the public present and no members of the media present.

Chair Smith called the meeting to order at 8:45 a.m., and stated the press and public were duly notified pursuant to State Law.

**2. Communications/Additional Items from WWTF Manager, Greg Gress:**

At the Wastewater Treatment Plant, the oxidation ditch has two rotors. One of the rotors has snapped in half. As of now, the second rotor is keeping up with everything and is running properly. A new rotor is being delivered and installed on Monday, December 23<sup>rd</sup>. Councilmember Bachman Smith, IV stated he would like to send photos of the failed rotor to the manufacturer.

**3. Discussions/Motions:**

- a. Approval of Minutes- November 21, 2019.

**Motion was made by Councilmember Tim Reese, Seconded by Councilmember Bachman Smith, IV, to approve the Water and Sewer Minutes from November 21, 2019, carried unanimously.**

- b. Discussion of the need for a water demand study: Greg Gress explained the chart on the Purchased Water Projections handout (Attachment 1). All of the water is recorded through Charleston Water System (CWS) meters that supplies water to the island. By the year 2028, the Town will exceed the maximum-day productions. Irrigation meters are driving the numbers up. There are currently 180 irrigation meters on the island. Each irrigation meter user is averaging 16,000 gallons/month. The peak demand is approximately 4:30 a.m. A more detailed study is needed to determine if more water supply is needed from CWS.

- c. Lift Station flood proofing project: Greg Gress gave a brief overview of the project and the system. There are approximately 15 miles of sewer mains on the island, all of which are underground. Most of them are 8” but there are a few larger ones that go up to 15”. There are another 5 miles of 6” service lines which is the Town’s responsibility from the main to the property line. There are 325 man holes that the Town maintains as well as 6 pump stations (also referred to as lift stations). Those stations lift the wastewater up and pumps it down until gravity feeds it to the plant to pump station 6 which is the center station. The original pump stations 2 and 3 were built in the 1950’s. In 1968, the rest of the system was built, as well as the wastewater treatment plant. In 1998, the Town replaced all of the pumps. The average life of a pump is approximately 7 years under normal maintenance and routine. The current pumps have extended their useful life are all overdue to be replaced. The Town hired WK Dickson in 2018 to give the Town a new design with a challenge to deepen the wet wells while addressing flood proofing. There were 3 options discussed. The first was to keep the existing building if possible, and deepen the wet well. The second option was to remove the existing building and deepen the wet well. The third option was to abandon the building and putting new stations in. The Town decided on option 3, which was also the least expensive option.

There will be a special meeting of Council before the January 6, 2020 workshop meeting to accept the bids and award a contract. Once a bid is awarded, the Town will be able to share with the public any thoughts to re-design.

- d. Executive Session: Discussion of issues related to personnel:

**Motion was made by Councilmember Tim Reese, seconded by Councilmember Bachman Smith, IV, to go into Executive Session at 9:01 a.m. to discuss an issue related to personnel, carried unanimously.**

**Motion was made by Councilmember Tim Reese, Seconded by Councilmember Bachman Smith, IV, to come out of Executive Session at 9:24 a.m., carried unanimously.**

Councilmember Bachman Smith, IV stated that no votes or actions were taken during Executive Session.

- e. Comply with Codification Review suggestions as to water shut-offs due to unpaid bills (on hold).

**4. Review of Active and Pending Projects:**

The current status of active and pending projects (a. through i. below) was reviewed.

- a. Wastewater Treatment Plant Retrofit (Construction Phase)
- b. Charleston CPW/ICW Water Main Project (anticipated start in Fall of 2020)
- c. CWS contract revisions
- d. I&I Phase II (nearing completion)
- e. Written Cost Recovery Program
- f. Private Sewer Lateral Policy for I&I Reduction
- g. Pump Stations flood proofing project (design/bid phase)
- h. ASR: Aquifer Storage and Recovery (explore use of Pre-Disaster Mitigation Grant funds)
- i. Water & Sewer Ordinance review/clean-up

5. **The next Water and Sewer Committee Meeting is scheduled for:** Thursday, January 23, 2020 8:45 a.m. at Sullivan's Island Town Hall.

6. **Adjournment:**

**Motion was made by Councilmember Tim Reese, seconded by Councilmember Bachman Smith, IV, to adjourn at 9:25 a.m., carried unanimously.**

Respectfully submitted,



Courtney Liles