



**Town of Sullivan's Island, South Carolina**  
**Water and Sewer Committee of Council**  
**Meeting Minutes**  
**Thursday, October 28, 2021**

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

The Water and Sewer Committee of Council met at 8:45 a.m. on Thursday, October 28, 2021 at Town Hall, all requirements of the Freedom of Information Act having been satisfied. Present were Council Committee members Bachman Smith (Chair), Gary Visser, and Scott Millimet. Staff members present were Andy Benke, Jason Blanton, Greg Gress and Bridget Welch. There was one (1) member of the public present and no members of the media present.

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

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

Construction updates as to the Lift Stations and WWTP

Mr. Gress stated that the corrosion on panels at Lift Station 4 was deemed a non-issue by the manufacturer and the warranty will be maintained. Rotten boards still need to be replaced at Lift Station 3. They are currently waiting on Republic to close out the Lift Station projects.

All four rotors are up and running at the WWTP and will continue with concrete pours and road work. There is one final change order to wrap up with Garney which may cause a price increase with the contract. Information on the cost will be provided when the information is available.

Mr. Gress also updated the I&I and CWS projects. Arcadia now has all videos and reports up on the GIS system. CWS said their work should be finished up in the next few weeks and will be cleaning up the playground area, as well as replacing two trees. They will be doing a flush today (October 28), but it will not affect water pressure.

**III. Discussion/Motions:**

A. Approval of Minutes- September 23, 2021.

**Motion was made by Councilmember Millimet, seconded by Councilmember Visser, to approve the Water and Sewer Minutes from September 23, 2021, carried unanimously.**

B. Discussion re: sewer connection for 1702 Blanchard St (*discussed second*)

The owner of the lot, Sam Applegate was not present at the meeting. Chair Smith reviewed the issue, which is that a lot was sold after a sewer line was run through the lot. Because no easements or concessions were made, new construction on the lot would cut off sewer line access to 1702, rendering it uninhabitable. The new construction also cuts off driveway access to his home. Mr. Applegate is currently working with an engineer on installing a new sewer line to the home. Both this, and how the new access will be run needs to be presented to and discussed with Council and staff, specifically the Fire Chief. Mr. Benke clarified the new access needs to meet county regulations, as well as have enough space for service vehicles to turn around. Mr. Applegate should provide a plan to the Town that can be approved or modified.

C. Discussion re: WWTP landscaping/screening

Heidi Brown, 405 Station 22 Street, discussed the need for a buffer for noise caused by the WWTP. She stated oak trees were taken down and that some palm trees were put up, but it was not a sufficient as a screen or buffer. She mentioned the noise has been disruptive for the past few years and affects sleep. The construction of the new plant has also decreased the value of the properties nearby as it affects their view as well as the increased noise. She requested that the Committee consider putting up a better buffer than palm trees. The 16-foot height of the treatment plant walls means it could potentially take years for the trees to reach the same height.

Mr. Gress confirmed they did remove the original trees to make room for the pole barn and ox ditch. Chair Bachman Smith and Mr. Gress agreed to explore a solution to Ms. Brown's concerns and will seek more input on viable options. There currently is no money in the budget for a project, but it can be considered for the future. Mr. Blanton mentioned there is some money in a tree fund that may be available to put towards a solution. Mr. Benke stated the Town needs to check with FEMA about building a berm to ensure it doesn't affect storm water issues.

#### **IV. Review of Active and Pending Projects:**

- a. Wastewater Treatment Plant Retrofit (Construction Phase-Final)
- b. Charleston CPW/ICW Water Main Project (Construction Phase-Final)
- c. CWS contract revisions
- d. Written Cost Recovery Program
- e. Private Sewer Lateral Policy for I&I Reduction
- f. Pump/Lift Stations flood proofing project (Contracting Phase-Final)

- g. Water & Sewer Ordinance review/clean-up
- h. ASR: Aquifer Storage and Recovery (explore use of Pre-Disaster Mitigation Grant funds)

**V. Set the date for the next Water and Sewer Committee Meeting:**

The next Sullivan's Island W&S Committee Meeting will be held on Thursday, November 18, 2021 at 8:45 a.m., moved up a week due to the Thanksgiving holiday.

**VI. Adjourn:**

Chair Bachman Smith adjourn the meeting at 9:31 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,



Bridget Welch