



Town of Sullivan's Island, South Carolina
Water and Sewer Committee of Council
Meeting Minutes
Thursday, February 24, 2022

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

The Water and Sewer Committee of Council met at 8:45 a.m. on Thursday, February 24, 2022 at Town Hall, all requirements of the Freedom of Information Act having been satisfied. Present were Council Committee members Bachman Smith, IV (Chair) and Gary Visser. Staff members present were Greg Gress, Joe Henderson, Jason Blanton, and Bridget Welch. There were no members 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.

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

A. Construction updates as to the Lift Stations and WWTP

Bionomics is on the Island in the collection system. The Waste Water Treatment Plant project is moving along, they are prepping for sod and irrigation. The Pole Barn project is also continuing with cleaning and have completed the fence.

Chair Smith requested a recommendation for a bamboo contact that can advise on the best option for a screen along the back area of the construction. Mr. Henderson said he can look into it and thinks native bamboo would work well. He also confirmed that the Town tree fund can be used for this expense.

Mr. Gress also mentioned the force main replacement for the Lift Station will likely not be finished in March because the pipe delivery has been delayed. He also reported a fire hydrant was stolen from Middle Street. The police are currently investigating, and it will be replaced as soon as possible.

3. Discussion/Motions:

- a. Approval of Minutes- January 27, 2022.

Motion was made by Mr. Visser, seconded by Mr. Smith, to approve the Water and Sewer Minutes from January 27, 2022, carried unanimously.

- b. Overview/Review of Budget for FY2023

Mr. Gress spoke about the FY2023 budget and stated the nationwide CPI is 7% from December to December. The 7% is reflected in the salary increases, with a 4% increase with insurance.

Water payments from CWS have increased and Mr. Gress recommends a 5% increase based on the increase on how much we are billed for by CWS. Chair Smith suggested that Mr. Gress be prepared to address the increase in billing and explain why the decision was made to move to the tablet system.

Mr. Gress went over other various budget items, including the increase in lease payments and vehicles, and operating costs. Chair Smith suggested discussing the budget further when the entire committee is present.

4. Review of Active and Pending Projects:

- a. Wastewater Treatment Plant Retrofit (Construction Phase-Final)
 - i. Screening of the WWTP
- b. Charleston CPW/ICW Water Main Project (Close out)
- c. CWS contract revisions
- d. Written Cost Recovery Program
- e. Private Sewer Lateral Policy for I&I Reduction

Chair Smith summarized the policy, stating, for example, a plan to come up with some triggers to notify residents when a leak test is needed for a private sewer lateral. This would potentially need to be done before the sale of a house. The end result would be having the private sewer laterals certified as risk free. The plan would need to be clarified further before rolling out and enacting this policy. It would also require educating homeowners, realtors, plumbers and contractors. Chair Smith stated this will be discussed in depth at a later time, and will need legal input before putting into action.

- f. Pump/Lift Stations flood proofing project (Close out)
- g. ASR: Aquifer Storage and Recovery (Engineering as to feasibility underway)

Mr. Gress stated a well drilling company has been scheduled to inspect the well and it should be completed in March. This will probably be done in conjunction with studies done by ASR systems.

5. Set the date for the next W&S Committee Meeting

- a. The next Sullivan's Island W&S Committee meeting will be (tentatively) held on Thursday, March 24, 2022 at 8:45 a.m.

6. Adjourn

Motion was made by Mr. Visser, seconded by Mr. Smith, to adjourn the Water and Sewer meeting at 9:20 a.m., carried unanimously.

Respectfully Submitted,



Bridget Welch