



**Town of Sullivan's Island, South Carolina
Water and Sewer Committee of Council
Meeting Minutes
Thursday, August 28, 2025**

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

The Water and Sewer Committee of Council met at 9:15 a.m. on Thursday, August 7, 2025 at Town Hall, all requirements of the Freedom of Information Act having been satisfied. Present were Council Committee members Justin Novak (Chair), Jody Latham, and Gary Visser. Staff members present were Town Administrator Joe Henderson, Water & Sewer Manager Gregg Gress, and Bridget Welch. There were no (0) members of the public and no (0) members of the media present.

Chair Justin Novak called the meeting to order at 9:17 a.m., and stated the press and public were duly notified pursuant to State Law.

2. Public Comment

3. Presentation: HDR on PAA pilot test and feasibility study on future use of deep wells

David Christopher and Daniella from HDR presented about the peracetic acid pilot study as well as options for the deep-water wells. He reviewed reasons why they think it is worth investing money in this pilot study, as well as the reasons for switching over to peracetic acid from chlorine tablets for disinfection. Currently, using water for the tests runs about \$40,000 a year and the tablets cost around \$50,000 per year. He also stated using tablets requires a lot of supervision since the viability of the tablets is inconsistent and is a tedious process as the water has to be dechlorinated before it is expelled out. He then went over the benefits of peracetic acid, which is vinegar and hydrogen peroxide mixed with water. It is better for the environment and dichlorination is not required. There is little to no impact on the toxicity of the residual going into the marsh. It would be relatively easy to physically make the switch; the challenge lies in permitting from the State since it is a new system.

He reviewed the timeline for the potential program. The first step to move forward with the pilot study would be to discuss the plan with DES and receive permits before starting any actual testing. He estimates it would save around \$55,000 a year once costs are recouped and would overall be easier to use than the current chlorine tablets. There would be no effects on customers. He also took questions from the Committee.

Greg Gress then spoke about the process, saying he estimates the cost to be around \$186,315 for the total project. Testing would be anywhere from 10-30 days. Mr. Gress stated they likely have the funding currently in reserves.

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

- a. Construction updates as to the Lift Stations and WWTP

No updates, the project is currently out for bid.

5. Discussion/Motions:

- a. Approval of the Minutes from the August 7, 2025 Committee Meeting

Motion was made by Mr. Visser, seconded by Ms. Latham, to approve the minutes from the August 7, 2025 Committee Meeting, passed unanimously.

- b. Review of HDR WWTP Peracetic Acid Pilot Study proposal

Motion was made by Ms. Latham, seconded by Mr. Visser to accept the proposal from HDR for the pilot project of peracetic acid conversion and recommend we move this forward to full Council, passed unanimously.

- c. Discussion of the South Carolina Wastewater Surveillance Program – no updates
- d. Plan for Town Deep Water Wells

Mr. Gress stated they are using HDR to also look at the logistics of using the deep-water well in emergencies, mainly feasibility and costs. Generators would need to be installed first, as well as figuring out how to reduce the fluoride levels in the water.

Mr. Christopher gave some examples of how the water could be used and discussed the option of using reverse osmosis (RO). He discussed the pros and cons of the various options and stated HDR would prepare a report fleshing out these options for the Committee to consider. Chair Novak stated they would like to see cost estimates for the options discussed. Mr. Christopher and Mr. Gress answered questions from the Committee.

Motion was made by Mr. Visser, seconded by Ms. Latham, to recommend to Council that HDR's proposal for the feasibility study for treatment of deep wells be approved by Council for that work, passed unanimously.

- e. Discussion FY2023-2027 CIP Plan and Funding for AMI Meters (Greg Gress Recommendations)

6. Review of Active and Pending Projects:

- a. W&S Ordinance Clean-Up Discussion
- b. Written Cost Recovery Program
- c. Private Sewer Lateral Policy for I&I Reduction
- d. Pump/Lift Stations
 - i. Protection using rip-rap
- e. Update Capital Improvement Plan

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

- a. The next Sullivan's Island W&S Committee meeting will potentially be held on Thursday, September 25, 2025 at 9:15 a.m.

8. Adjourn

Motion was made by Mr. Visser, seconded by Ms. Latham, to adjourn the Water and Sewer Committee meeting at 10:12 a.m., passed unanimously.

Respectfully Submitted,



Bridget Welch