



**Town of Sullivan's Island, South Carolina
Water and Sewer Committee of Council
Meeting Minutes
Thursday, August 24, 2023**

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

The Water and Sewer Committee of Council met at 8:45 a.m. on August 24, 2023 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 Water & Sewer Manager Greg Gress, Andy Benke, Joe Henderson, and Bridget Welch. There were no members of the public and no members of the media present.

Chair Justin Novak 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

The rip-rap for lift stations one and three are out for public comment and surrounding neighbors have been notified. There has been one correspondence from Phillip Sexton. This will not affect our erosion control project.

There have been issues at lift station three with soil erosion and the power line at the lift station is now exposed. This was caused by the stormwater outfall getting clogged with pluff mud. SCDOT has stated they are not responsible for the outfall, only for infrastructure. Any issues from the end of pavement to the marsh are the Town's responsibility. There is stormwater money available and once the engineer is finished, a plan will be brought to Council on how to best alleviate stormwater issues from the outfall. Mr. Gress suggested extending the pipes for the outfalls. Dredging the outfalls is also an option, but the issue will continue and need to be dredged every few years.

Chair Novak suggested finding a company to research different options and solutions for these issues and then having them open for discussion. He also wants to find burden-sharing opportunities since any stormwater issues can be very expensive. Mr. Henderson stated the Town will be applying for four different grants over the next few years that could help fund stormwater improvements. He will present a map at the next meeting that shows where exactly the grant money will be applied.

3. Discussion/Motions:

- a. Rates discussion and consideration of a 4th tier and public hearing

A date needs to be scheduled for the public hearing, which will be decided at the next Council Workshop. Residents will be notified via their water bill or a separate mailer.

Mr. Gress stated in response to a question at a past meeting, Mt. Pleasant has four tiers, Isle of Palms has five tiers, Folly Beach has four tiers, and Kiawah has three tiers, which is what we currently have. He also stated they will have a better idea of the cost of implementing a fourth tier after August 30th.

- b. Discussion FY 2023-2027 CIP Plan and Funding for AMI Meters

4. Review of Active and Pending Projects:

- a. Wastewater Treatment Plant Retrofit
 - i. Screening of the WWTP
- b. CWS contract revisions
- c. Written Cost Recovery Program
- d. Private Sewer Lateral Policy for I&I Reduction
- e. Pump/Lift Stations flood proofing project
 - i. Protection using rip-rap
- f. W & S Ordinance clean-up
- g. Update Capital Improvement Plan

Mr. Gress stated the department often has issues with landscaping being put over water meters, making them inaccessible, even though they are supposed to be left uncovered. The department will start issuing warnings for covered meters and if they are not taken care of then staff will begin clearing them. Chair Novak agreed and requested residents be duly notified. He also asked Mr. Gress to give a presentation with an update on the CIP at the September meeting.

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

- a. The next Sullivan's Island W&S Committee meeting will be held on Thursday, September 28, 2023 at 8:45 a.m.

6. Adjourn

Motion was made by Mr. Visser, seconded by Ms. Latham, to adjourn the Water and Sewer Committee meeting at 9:19 a.m., passed unanimously.

Respectfully Submitted,



Bridget Welch