



**Town of Sullivan's Island, South Carolina
Water and Sewer Committee of Council
Meeting Minutes
Thursday, January 30, 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, January 30, 2025, at Town Hall, all requirements of the Freedom of Information Act having been satisfied. Present were Council Committee members Justin Novak (Chair), and Gary Visser. Staff members present were Jason Blanton, Water and Sewer Manager Greg 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 9:15 a.m., and stated the press and public were duly notified pursuant to State Law.

2. Public Comment

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

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

There have been no updates.

4. Discussion/Motions:

- a. Approval of the Minutes from the December 19, 2024, Water and Sewer Committee Meeting

Motion was made by Mr. Visser, seconded by Chair Novak, to approve the minutes from the December 19, 2024, Water and Sewer Committee Meeting, passed unanimously.

- b. Letter from CWS Re: EPA Regulation to Significantly Impact Water Rates

Mr. Gress stated the CWS water rate increase will likely impact users in a year and a half. The letter also gives highlights of numbers, and those numbers have been added to the next budget. Chair Novak suggested a five-year improvement plan would be helpful with moving forward on

how this new regulation will affect the Town. The Town has reached out to Attorney Jim Sheedy for input on best practices for interpreting future letters and changes. CWS has until March 1 to provide another five-year capital projection. Mr. Visser suggested the idea of a committee of municipalities that are served by CWS and will look into making it a possibility.

c. Discussion of the South Carolina Wastewater Surveillance Program

Mr. Gress stated there will be little burden on the Town and no confidential or proprietary information will be put on map data.

Motion was made by Mr. Visser, seconded by Chair Novak, to approve participation in the South Carolina Wastewater Enhanced Program to send samples and other information as required and no GIS information, passed unanimously.

d. Plan for Town Deep Water Wells

An engineering study will be needed to evaluate if the deep wells have high fluoride and if they would best be used as a back-up or emergency water source. They would have generators and would need to be used regularly. Testing is done once a month without any impact on the resident's water system. The study has an estimated cost of \$15,000 but we will know more after quotes are received.

There are currently two deep wells, at Station 17 and the Water Tower. They are exercised regularly but there is currently no back up power or electrical hook up. Chair Novak suggested preparing an RFP for review by the Committee to move forward.

e. Discussion FY 2023-2027 CIP Plan and Funding for AMI Meters (Greg Gress Recommendations)

Chair Novak suggested for the proposed plan to have accurate prices to present to Council. The AMI meters would be a large expense that would include maintenance and software costs, and we should possibly look into getting assistance with funding. There was more discussion about budget items and more financial options and concerns.

5. Review of Active and Pending Projects:

a. W&S Ordinance Clean-Up Discussion

Chair Novak asked for some thoughts/notes on what Mr. Gress thinks are possible ordinance edits.

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

6. 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, March 13, 2025 at 9:15 a.m.

7. Adjourn

Motion was made by Mr. Visser, seconded by Chair Novak, to adjourn the Water and Sewer Committee meeting at 10:07 a.m., passed unanimously.

Respectfully Submitted,



Bridget Welch