

Commission of Public Works meeting, August 26, 2024
Regular monthly business.

Commissioners present: Trey Stephens, Donnie Cooper, Roy Shaw and Gerald McMurray

Employees present: Danny Lowe, Ken Phillips and Christy Lowe

Visitors present: Deborah Peek, Judy Graham-Dowd, James Pate, Joan Pate and Carter Rhine

Place: New Ellenton Commission of Public Works
100 South Main Street
New Ellenton, SC 29809

Time: 7:00 PM

Chairman Mr. Trey Stephens presiding.

Mr. Trey Stephens opens with the Pledge of Allegiance and Ken Phillips said the prayer.

Mr. Trey Stephens welcomes everyone and asks that he or she state their name for the record.

Mr. Trey Stephens opened the floor to guest comments and questions.

James Pate mentioned the Pre-Construction Meeting held at Cedar Creek for the Bill Beazley Homes. Maintenance Supervisor, Ken Phillips, stated that he attended the Pre-Construction meeting and is aware of everything going on with it. Danny Lowe stated that a Willingness to Serve Letter was given to Bill Beazley a while back that was contingent upon CPW receiving an easement on the PRV pit which has still not been received. Joe with BBH is aware that an easement is still needed in order for the Willingness to Serve to be effective.

Mr. Trey Stephens states that approving the Financial Report for July 2024 is on the agenda and asks for a motion and a second. Commissioner Roy Shaw made a motion to accept the Financial Report; it was seconded by Commissioner Gerald McMurray and carried.

Chairman Trey Stephens states that approving the minutes for July 22, 2024 is on the agenda and asks for a motion and a second. Vice Chairman Donnie Cooper made a motion to accept the Minutes as written; it was seconded by Commissioner Roy Shaw and carried.

Mr. Trey Stephens asks for any questions or comments. (none)

OLD BUSINESS

Director Danny Lowe reported the Chime Bell Church Rd. project is going to start in a few days, the equipment and materials have been delivered. They have provided CPW with a construction schedule and have 150 days to complete. The Club Dr/Fern Dr/Florida Ave. project is being bid out as one project to hopefully get a better price. All permitting and encroachment permits have been obtained, we are in the RIA review phase right now. Mr. Lowe stated once we get the ok from RIA, the project will go out for bid. If there is any money left over that will go towards replacing the line on Longshadow Dr. and Brightwood Dr. Danny stated he has already spoken with COG and RIA on adding Longshadow Dr. as an extension to the project and they didn't think it would be a problem. Danny had our engineer do a cost estimate for Longshadow Dr. and Brightwood Dr. and is approximately \$985,000.00 which is elevated some for inflation.

Danny Lowe gave a projected plan for the Dry Branch well and new water tower project. Mr. Lowe stated the plan is for the preliminary engineering report to be submitted by September 27, 2024, the permit application and specifications submitted by January 5, 2025, bid opening on April 1, 2025 and start construction on June 1, 2025. Danny said he would like to get the electrical work done as soon as possible and use our match money for the project towards the electrical, so he is checking to make sure that is ok. After discussion, Vice Chairman Donnie Cooper made a motion to make every effort to have the electrical paid for from our match money for the Dry Branch Well in order to go ahead and start having it installed; it was seconded by Commissioner Roy Shaw and carried.

Danny Lowe reported that our Lead & Copper Study has been completed and emailed to SCDES.

Mr. Lowe stated that the SCADA computers have been moved downstairs. The lab room is built and ready other than purchasing the equipment needed.

Danny stated that he and Ken Phillips went door to door with a list of 23 customer names & addresses from Oak Hill who have still not moved their account over to CPW. They informed most all these customers or either their neighbor of the approaching September 1st deadline to transfer their account to avoid fees.

Danny Lowe reported the water loss was 4.6% for the month of July.

Ken Phillips gave an update of field activities for July.

Vice Chairman Donnie Cooper inquired about possibly needing another work session to discuss the rate increase. Chairman Trey Stephens stated at the last work session all the Commissioners seemed to favor one particular option over the others and unless anyone wanted to have Christy run another scenario, Mr. Stephens didn't see the need for another work session if all Commissioners still agreed on the same one. Trey also stated he would like to look into starting a quarterly newsletter to be added to the bills as we have so much going on with upcoming projects and developers approaching us that there is a lot of misinformation in the community that he believes it could be addressed if it was put out in a newsletter format from CPW. Trey stated he would like to get this out ahead of the rate increase and let the Commissioners review it and make revisions if needed, prior to it being sent out. Christy Lowe suggested

seeing if the City would like to have a section in the newsletter as well for any announcements they have with Youth Sports, upcoming events like the Atomic City Festival, the Fire/Police Dept, etc.

Donnie Cooper asked if we have heard anything from SCDOT about getting reimbursement for our engineering fees for the Eagle Rd. project. Danny Lowe stated that about a year ago we inquired about getting reimbursed and DOT informed us that we would not receive any money until the project is 100% complete but he said he will reach back out to them to follow up.

Mr. Trey Stephens asks is there any more old business. (none)

NEW BUSINESS

Danny Lowe reported that the developer for the homes on Old Whiskey Rd. has signed the Water Capacity Reservation Agreement for 170 homes that requires a 10% non-refundable payment towards the tap fees. Mr. Lowe stated that if all Commissioners are good with this, he will inform her of the amount due to complete the agreement to reserve the water capacity. All Commissioners agreed as this was previously discussed and signed the document.

Christy Lowe stated that she received the form from SCRWA to appoint voting delegates for NECPW. Christy has listed Danny Lowe and Ken Phillips as the delegates and needs a signature from the Chairman to complete the document and send back to SCRWA. Vice Chairman Donnie Cooper made a motion to keep Danny Lowe and Ken Phillips listed as the voting delegates for New Ellenton CPW; it was seconded by Commissioner Gerald McMurray and carried.

Ken Phillips presented a letter to the Board of Commissioners from William Tholborn with CSRA Weather and who reports to the National Weather Service in Columbia requesting to put up a pole on CPW property to collect data in the area on weather conditions. The letter states the only requirement from CPW is to use our internet signal to broadcast the data and he would supply the equipment needed to transmit the information. Chairman Trey Stephens stated he would like for Intellisystems advise on this before a decision is made and to also know that if at any time CPW sees the need to discontinue the agreement, that we can cancel and disconnect all devices on the property immediately.

Christy Lowe reported that the final deed to the Oak Hill Water property has been received from Aiken County.

Trey Stephens stated that he would like to see if the owner of JDubbz would like to use the property CPW owns that is next to his restaurant for parking as it is too small for CPW to utilize. All Commissioners agreed and Donnie Cooper stated he would talk to the owner about it.

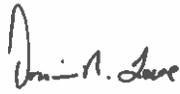
Christy Lowe informed the Commissioners that the auditors will be in the office on Thursday, August 29th.

Christy Lowe reminded Deborah Peek with Oak Hill Water that she would need the check from her for any Security Deposits that she (Oak Hill) owed to customers by Friday August 30th.

Director Danny Lowe reported that we had one field technician pass the E license exam for treatment.

Donnie Cooper made a motion to adjourn; Roy Shaw, all vote, so moved.

Attested by,



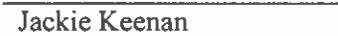
Director
Danny Lowe



Trey Stephens
Chairman



Donnie Cooper
Vice Chairman



Jackie Keenan
Secretary-Treasurer



Gerald McMurray
Commissioner



Roy Shaw
Commissioner