

Commission of Public Works meeting, February 24, 2025  
Regular monthly business.

Commissioners present:                   Trey Stephens, Donnie Cooper, Jackie Keenan and  
  Gerald McMurray

Employees present:                        Danny Lowe, Ken Phillips and Christy Lowe

Visitors present:                         Carter Rhine, Judy Graham-Dowd, James Pate &  
  Joan Pate

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. (none)

Mr. Trey Stephens states that approving the Financial Report for January 2025 is on the agenda and asks for a motion and a second. Vice Chairman Donnie Cooper 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 January 27, 2025 is on the agenda and asks for a motion and a second. Commissioner Gerald McMurray made a motion to accept the Minutes as written; it was seconded by Vice Chairman Donnie Cooper and carried.

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

OLD BUSINESS

Director Danny Lowe stated he had the final walk through for the Chime Bell Church Rd. project on February 13<sup>th</sup>. Mr. Lowe reported there were a few issues for the contractor to fix and also addressed a few customer concerns. Danny stated that a letter has been send to SCDES to request a permit to own and operate the line so we can get some water flowing.

Danny Lowe stated the bid opening for Dry Branch Well will be on March 11<sup>th</sup> at 2pm.

Danny Lowe reported there was a pre-construction meeting for the Florida/Fern/Club Dr. project in February. The contractor plans to bring in 2 crews; one will start in Cedar Creek and the other one on Florida Ave & Fern Dr. There is a drop off point in Cedar Creek which will be located by the maintenance shed and the contractor is going to try to bore the driveways if they can. Danny Lowe met with 2 representatives from Cedar Creek to discuss/coordinate that Hugh Ray would be the point of contact for customers during construction in Cedar Creek. It was requested by the Cedar Creek representatives that construction not start until after the Masters.

Danny Lowe stated that we met with our engineer to discuss the rate study. The engineer would like to do an in depth study but it could end up costing more than originally discussed.

Mr. Lowe stated that he believes we have gotten everything straightened out the with SCDOT on getting our reimbursement check for the Eagle Rd project.

Danny reported that the pressure test has been done on Summit Dr.

Mr. Lowe stated that the Atomic City Apartments is still moving forward and have applied for their permits with SCDES.

Danny reported the land beside JDubbz has been cleared and will probably go back and plant some shrubs to make it look nice.

Ken Phillips gave an update of field activities for January.

Chairman Trey Stephens asked about the insurance claim due to Hurricane Helene. Danny stated he spoke to him a few days ago and he wanted a detailed list of the addresses where all the leaks were fixed or any work was done and who was on each job and their job title. Office Manager, Christy Lowe, typed up a list containing all this information and emailed it to him. Danny stated the person he was speaking to is with a third party company that has been contracted to ask these questions. Vice Chairman Donnie Cooper asked what insurance company we were with, Danny stated we have the Insurance Reserve Fund, which is through the state. Donnie said that we could look at other insurance. Danny stated that he was going to bring that up in new business after speaking with someone at the Decision Makers Conference he attended last week. Danny is going to set up a meeting with the contact from the meeting to get more information.

James Pate, a resident of Cedar Creek, had a few questions concerning the upcoming project on Club Dr.

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

### NEW BUSINESS

Danny Lowe stated that he, Trey Stephens and Christy Lowe met with Bennett Bowers with Ameris Bank. During the discussion, it was brought up that Ameris would have an attorney look over all the loan documents. After the attorney was contacted, CPW was notified that it was the same attorney that had

represented CPW with the USDA Bond in 2009, Theodore DuBose. Mr. DuBose stated that he could not represent the bank since CPW was already considered a client of his. Theo stated that he is more specialized in representing the water department in matters like this and stated that he would represent us and the bank, if that is the route CPW Commissioners decided go. Mr. DuBose also stated that CPW also need to set up a meeting with USDA to discuss how this would affect our Bonds with them. Mr. DuBose will draw up a resolution for us to sign and will have to get the City of New Ellenton to sign as well.

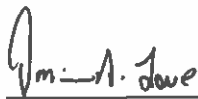
Chairman Trey Stephens asked if Oak Hill has notified us of all their accounts being closed out. Danny Lowe stated that Debbie Peek with Oak Hill contacted SCDES to inform them that Oak Hill has been turned over to New Ellenton CPW. Danny stated that he had already taken care of that with SCDES. Ms. Peek provided documentation that she has closed out the bank account for Oak Hill and gave CPW a check with the remaining funds in the account.

Christy Lowe reminded the Commissioners with the budget discussions coming up that we need to replace our server. Intellisystems has provided an estimate of \$20,000. There is also a Windows upgrade that will take place in October. Mrs. Lowe will meet with them soon to discuss

Christy Lowe informed the Commissioners that the City's Parks and Recreation Director contacted her about a donation/sponsorship for youth sports. CPW gave a \$500.00 donation last year. After discussion, Vice Chairman Donnie Cooper made a motion to make a \$500.00 donation to Parks & Recreation; it was seconded by Secretary-Treasurer Jackie Keenan and carried.

Donnie Cooper made a motion to adjourn; Jackie Keenan seconded, all vote, so moved.

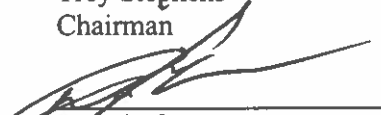
Attested by,



Director  
Danny Lowe

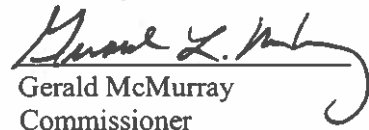


Trey Stephens  
Chairman



Donnie Cooper  
Vice Chairman

Jackie Keenan  
Secretary-Treasurer



Gerald McMurray  
Commissioner

Roy Shaw  
Commissioner