

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

Commissioners present:                   Trey Stephens, Jackie Keenan, Roy Shaw and Gerald McMurray

Employees present:                       Danny Lowe, Ken Phillips and Christy Lowe

Visitors present:                         Mike Kellems with Aiken County Council, Karla Roberts, Judy  
Graham-Dowd, Carter Rhine and Gary Gilbert

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.

Judy Graham-Dowd asked how much money was being applied for Oak Hill Water System. Danny Lowe stated that CPW is applying for the max amount allowed at \$1.5 million with the State Revolving Fund and will also be applying for additional funds from RIA.

Aiken County Councilman Mike Kellems gave an update on the 1% sales tax renewal that will be on the November ballot. Unfortunately, none of that money comes to the Commission of Public Works but the City of New Ellenton will receive funds from the 1% sales tax.

Mr. Trey Stephens states that approving the Financial Report for January 2024 is on the agenda and asks for a motion and a second. After discussion, Commissioner Roy Shaw made a motion to accept the Financial Report; it was seconded by Secretary-Treasurer Jackie Keenan and carried.

Chairman Trey Stephens states that approving the minutes for January 22, 2024 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 Secretary-Treasurer Jackie Keenan and carried.

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

## OLD BUSINESS

Director Danny Lowe reported the bid for Well #5 at Darlington has been advertised on SCBO. There is a non-mandatory pre-bid meeting on February 27<sup>th</sup> at the site.

Mr. Lowe reported that we received the Construction Permit SCDHEC for the Chime Bell Church Rd. line expansion project today so it will be advertised for bid on SCBO later this week.

Danny Lowe stated the engineer has started the process for submitting an application for a grant through the State Revolving Fund to assist in the costs involved with possibly taking over Oak Hill Water System. Mr. Lowe reported we will also be applying for additional funds through RIA. Chairman Trey Stephens stated we need to start looking into transferring property, assets, etc. so that once we get the official word the grants have been approved, we are ready to immediately take over Oak Hill Water System. Danny stated we need a current list of all the customers in Oak Hill. Only current customers will be allowed the one time deal during this transition period to be a customer with New Ellenton CPW with no tap fees charged. If someone living in Oak Hill wants to tie onto NECPW after a deadline yet to be determined, they will have to pay an outside city limits tap fee (\$2,250.00) to tie onto New Ellenton CPW. Mr. Stephens stated Christy Lowe will need to get with Deborah Peek soon to look at accounting/bookkeeping records soon as well.

Danny Lowe reported the water loss was 7% for the month of January.

Ken Phillips, the Operations and Maintenance Supervisor, gave an update of field activities for January.

Christy Lowe gave an update on switch over to Ameris Bank.

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

## NEW BUSINESS

Danny Lowe informed the Commissioner that we meet with Nick Wade from Intellisystems recently to go over CPW's account with them and look at future updates needed with our networking system. Mr. Wade stated that in the next year or so the original 5 work stations (approximately \$6,000) that were purchased in 2020 will need to be replaced and the server (approximately \$15,000) will need to be replaced in the next 2 years. Nick also mentioned the importance of looking into cyber security insurance in the case that we are hacked and a ransom was demanded to give us access back into our records. We have a meeting scheduled on Wednesday at 11 am with Cyber Security Risk insurance man to go over what they do and what is covered under this type of insurance policy. During the meeting with Nick, it was brought up about the Commissioners doing their monthly training consistently. Christy asked if their training emails could be sent quarterly instead of monthly to encourage them to do them. Mr. Wade stated he could do that.

Roy Shaw reminded the other Commissioners to go on the State Ethic website to input their information by the end of March.

Jackie Keenan made a motion to adjourn; Roy Shaw seconds, all vote, so moved.

Attested by,



Director  
Danny Lowe



Trey Stephens  
Chairman

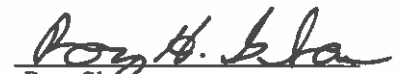
Donnie Cooper  
Vice Chairman



Jackie Keenan  
Secretary-Treasurer



Gerald McMurray  
Commissioner



Roy Shaw  
Commissioner