

Commission of Public Works meeting, February 27, 2023
Regular monthly business.

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

Employees present: Danny Lowe, Ken Phillips and Christy Lowe

Visitors present: Mike Kellems, Larry Halicki, Patty Naramore, Ray Naramore, Carter Rhine, Carl Culpepper and Kelsie Bolen

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.

Mr. Larry Halicki asked about the status of the grant that CPW applied for. Chairman Trey Stephens stated we have not heard anything on the grant yet but met with Representative Bill Taylor and spoke with Senator Tom Young recently. They both sent letters of support on behalf of the CPW receiving this grant. Mr. Halicki asked about the 3 fire hydrants that aren't working in Cedar Creek. Director Danny Lowe stated the Mueller (fire hydrant) rep is coming out tomorrow to look at them and access the parts needed. Mr. Halicki stated there are now projected to be about 70 or so homes with the Bill Beazley project in Cedar Creek instead of the approximately 90 originally stated. Larry stated they have been having a lot of issues with the cable lines being cut by the AT&T contractor installing them. Mr. Halicki asked if there have been any water lines being cut or any issues with the water. Danny Lowe stated not to his knowledge there was not any issues right now. Larry asked about the road repairs at Glen Eagle and Club Dr. due to the length of time taking to get repaired. Danny Lowe agrees this should've been done by now and he has been calling the contractor. Mr. Lowe stated the curbing was done last week and he has been assured by the contractor that the patches will be completed by the end of the week. Mr. Halicki reported a sink hole on Glenview Dr. that is not marked off with cones or anything. Director Danny Lowe and Maintenance Supervisor Ken Phillips stated that they are not aware of CPW doing any work in this area but will take a look at it tomorrow. Mr. Lowe stated it could be something the golf course is doing as they are right there close by.

Mr. Trey Stephens states that approving the Financial Report for January 2023 is on the agenda and asks for a motion and a second. After discussion, Vice Chairman Donnie Cooper made a motion to accept the Financial Report; it was seconded by Commissioner Roy Shaw and carried.

Chairman Trey Stephens states that approving the minutes for January 23, 2023 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

Danny Lowe stated we have submitted an invoice to SCDOT for reimbursement of the engineering fees for the project at Whiskey Rd/Eagle Dr. for over \$29,000. The project itself has been going smooth. They are saying it will take about 3 months and is about 25 – 30% complete.

Mr. Lowe presented a Willingness to Serve Letter to the Commissioners for approval of The Pines Section 6 (82 homes) and The Pines Townhomes (125 units) along with a letter from our engineer showing the calculations after the Willingness to Serve letters have been issued. Danny Lowe's recommendation is to provide water service to The Pines developments as they are agreeing to pay to have the PRV pit installed on the back side of Cedar Creek that will in turn help both subdivisions. The engineer is working on the documents for the easement right now.

Danny Lowe stated the Willingness to Serve conversation leads into his next discussion of needing a new water tank. He has reached out to several lending agencies on obtaining funding for a new tank: CoBank, Community Leasing Partners and USDA, with USDA having the best interest rate. After discussions and looking at locations with the engineer, it looks like the best location for a tank would be on Chime Bell Church Rd.

Danny Lowe stated the City approved the 99 year lease for \$99.00 for the property beside the NE Fire Department in order for CPW to put up a central shop area. In order to construct the building, we would need an engineer to approve the plans and a general contractor.

Danny Lowe informed the Commissioners of a Lead & Copper Study that is being required by EPA. It will be a labor-intensive study in that it requires water companies to find out the type of pipes on their customers side of the meter which is not something that is normally tracked/recorded by water departments. CPW has started keeping track of what a customer has on their side of the meter when performing work order requests so that we won't have to do those later and also knowing that newer homes will not have Lead & Copper. Mr. Lowe stated we will be able to record our findings in the new work order management system so this will be a big help in getting 60% done by October 2024.

Mr. Lowe reported water loss was at 16% due to the leaks in December from the freezing temperatures.

Danny Lowe reported the Darlington tank is complete with new logo.

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

Christy Lowe reported that new lobby furniture will be delivered on Friday and should complete that area.

Christy Lowe stated that the FY 2021-22 Audit is complete and a copy has been provided for Commissioners review.

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

NEW BUSINESS

Chairman Trey Stephens stated there are two letters in the Commissioners meeting notebooks, one from Senator Tom Young and one from Representative Bill Taylor that were sent to the appropriate agencies on behalf of CPW. Danny Lowe and Trey discussed the needs of CPW with Senator Tom Young and Rep. Bill Taylor and how receiving the full grant amount requested will help with some much needed updates to the system and also keep up with the growth coming our way.

Vice Chairman Donnie Cooper stated if we are sure about putting up a tank, we need to discuss which funding route the Commission would like to go with. Danny Lowe stated the first step in the process would be for the Commissioners to approve our engineer to do a Preliminary Engineering Report so this will be ready when funding is decided upon. Donnie Cooper made a motion to approve our engineer to begin on the PER for funding of a water tank; it was seconded by Roy Shaw and carried.

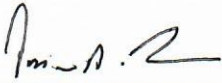
Director Danny Lowe stated he and Maintenance Supervisor Ken Phillips installed cameras around the office due to the recent problem with break ins/theft in the community.

Danny Lowe reported that Field Technician Austin Blalock passed his D Operators License exam.

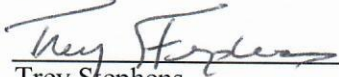
Danny Lowe reported that the survey for the PRV pit is complete. Mapping of the system is also complete. Copies are on file.

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


Attested by,



Director
Danny Lowe

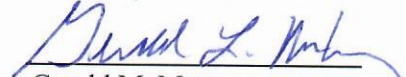


Trey Stephens
Chairman



Donnie Cooper
Vice Chairman

Jackie Keenan
Secretary-Treasurer



Gerald McMurray
Commissioner



Roy Shaw
Commissioner