

MEETING OF THE COMMISSION  
ISLE OF PALMS WATER & SEWER COMMISSION  
MAY 15, 2024

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In accordance with the Freedom of Information Act, the Agenda was posted on Wednesday, May 8, 2024, at City Hall, the Commission Office, and provided to *The Post and Courier*. The meeting was held on Wednesday, May 15, 2024, at the Commission Office, 1300 Palm Boulevard on the Isle of Palms, SC.

Attending were Chairman Jay Leigh, Vice Chairman Bob Hooper, Secretary Donald Smith, Commissioner Jeff Forslund (via phone), General Manager Chris Jordan, Operations Manager Shorty Meade, Special Projects Administrator Bill Jenkins, Comptroller Helena Stickles, CPA, Engineer Mark Yodice, and Attorney Jennifer Blumenthal. Commissioner Curtis Helfrich, PE, was absent.

Chairman Leigh called the meeting to order at 8:26 a.m.

Secretary Smith made a motion to approve the minutes of the April 17, 2024, regular meeting as presented. Vice Chairman Hooper seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

As there were no citizens present, Chairman Leigh dispensed with the reading of the Chairman's Statement.

Special Projects Administrator Jenkins began the Manager's Report by stating that performance testing was done at the Wild Dunes Pump Station on April 23, and everything went well. The IOPWSC is in the process of securing the Permit to Operate. SC DHEC will issue a partial Permit to Operate. The seeding for the Forest Trails Plant has been scheduled for May 28, provided DHEC issues the partial Permit to Operate. Logistical difficulties among the various vendors have been the cause for the delay. Small technical issues have been resolved.

The R/O concentrate line project is out for bid. Bids will be opened on May 28. Engineer Yodice indicated that not as many contractors expressed interest in the project. The Commissioners expressed concern about the bids coming in too high. General Manager Jordan noted that this project must be done according to DHEC and is being funded by the American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA).

The City's storm water project at 41<sup>st</sup> Avenue is nearly complete. The City's contractor will be installing a section of pipe in the outfall wall for us for our proposed outfall for Forest Trails.

Ruby-Collins, Inc., installed 25 feet of steel casing and 30 feet of 16-inch carrier pipe in the casing underneath the storm drain lines that were laid at Waterway Boulevard. A Permit to Construct has been received. Engineer Yodice said that the bid package has gone to RIA for approval.

Thomas & Hutton is working on the design of the pump station for Sewer Basin N. Staff has reviewed the preliminary plans and returned comments to Thomas & Hutton.

Special Projects Administrator Jenkins reported that Verizon would like to add more antennas to the towers. This may or may not result in more income for the Commission.

A brief discussion ensued about the capacity for grinder pumps on the system and the potential to increase monthly fees for those with grinder pumps. General Manager Jordan said that he has spoken to Frank Davis about those fees.

Comptroller Stickles delivered the Financial Report. She said that the number of water and sewer accounts is steady. The balance of the revenue bond account as of April 30, 2024, is \$63,491.04, following a transfer of \$270,000.00 from the bond checking account on April 11. Three checks were written in April totaling \$273,152.95. A FEMA reimbursement of \$56,952.75 was deposited on April 15, 2024.

An appraisal for the vacant lot at Cameron & 40<sup>th</sup> Avenue was valued at \$1.1 million. The value recorded was \$1,100,860.00 after the addition of appraisal and recording fees. This value is now included in the total fixed assets.

The Commission earned \$20,414.00 in interest at a rate of 5.5%.

Revenues for April 2024 were over budget by \$52,000.00 and expenses were under by \$86,130.00, resulting in a positive net revenue of \$138,142.00. April 2024 had higher revenues of approximately \$45,256.00 than April 2023. Year-to-date, the Commission is underperforming by \$277,851.00, but when adjustments are made for depreciation, 2024 is outperforming 2023 by approximately \$79,000.00.

There was no Correspondence.

Under Old Business, General Manager Jordan referenced the Sewer Connection Policy and the final Water & Sewer Impact Fee Report, noting they were posted on the Commission's website for public comment. No public comments have been received.

Secretary Smith made a motion to accept the Sewer Connection Policy and the Water & Sewer Impact Fee Report as written. Vice Chairman Hooper seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Vice Chairman Hooper made a motion to recommend the FY25 budget as presented pending the change of a number as discussed in the Finance Committee meeting. Secretary Smith seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Vice Chairman Hooper made a motion to adjourn. Commissioner Forslund seconded the motion. The meeting was adjourned at 8:46 a.m.

  
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Jay D. Leigh, Chairman

6-12-24  
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Date