

MEETING OF THE FINANCE COMMITTEE  
ISLE OF PALMS WATER & SEWER COMMISSION  
MAY 21, 2025

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In accordance with the Freedom of Information Act, the Agenda was posted on Thursday, May 15, 2025, at City Hall, the Commission Office, and provided to *The Post and Courier*. The meeting was held on Wednesday, May 21, 2025, at the Commission Office, 1300 Palm Boulevard on the Isle of Palms, SC.

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

Chairman Smith called the meeting to order at 8:00 a.m.

Following the opening prayer, Pledge of Allegiance, and roll call, General Manager Jordan reviewed the O&M and Capital Expenses portion of the proposed FY26 Budget. Overall, the budget shows a 0.8% increase over FY25 approved budget. However, if water and sewer depreciation and sewer debt service are removed, there is a proposed 7% increase in the budget. Moderate increases are anticipated in chemicals, materials, the cost of water from CPW, and the employer's share of health insurance.

General Manager Jordan pointed out that the costs to CPW could change depending on future rulings or regulations around PFAS. He also reviewed the upcoming Capital Projects, the next of which will be at Fairway Dunes. A portion of the proposed Capital Projects is for the purchase of equipment and spare parts for the new plant and pump station.

Comptroller Stickles shared the revenue side of the proposed FY26 budget. She anticipates slight increases across all areas except in interest income, tower rental, and building rental. Impact fees and surcharges are not included in the budget. She projects the residential sale of water to be the same as FY25.

Commissioner Forslund asked why the anticipated costs for sludge disposal hauling are so high. General Manager Jordan replied that this number is an estimate, since this will be the first year of that activity. He anticipates that the actual number will be lower.

Commissioner Leigh made a motion to recommend to the full Commission the approval of the FY26 budget subject to any changes made. Commissioner Forslund seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

General Manager Jordan and Finance Committee Chairman Smith thanked staff for their help in preparing the FY26 budget.

Commissioner Forslund made a motion to adjourn. Commissioner Hooper seconded the motion. The meeting was adjourned at 8:15 a.m.



Donald S. Smith, Chairman



Date