

# **WATER AND SEWER COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES**

**Tuesday, June 17, 2014, 2:00 PM**

## **1. Call to Order**

All Freedom of Information requirements having been met, the meeting was called to order at 2:00 PM.

Those present were: Committee Members Susan Middaugh (Chair) and Chauncey Clark; Administrators Greg Gress, Andy Benke and Jason Blanton; and HDR Consultant Tracy Lewis, P.E

## **2. Approval of minutes for: W&S Committee meeting on 5-7-2014 W&S Committee meeting on 5-14-2014**

Minutes for both W&S Committee meetings were approved on a motion by Chauncey Clark, second by Susan Middaugh, carried by unanimous vote.

## **3. HDR Review of W&S Dept. CIP Plan; Q&A with Consultant Tracy Lewis P.E.**

In November, 2013, the W&S Committee presented a motion to Council requesting approval to engage a consultant to review the W&S Department's CIP Plan. Council approved, and the Town contracted with the engineering firm HDR, to provide this review. The HDR Technical Memorandum, by Tracy Lewis, P.E., was submitted on June 9, 2014. At today's W&S Committee meeting, Tracy Lewis presented an overview of the scope of work and findings and answered questions during the planned Q&A session. The focus of many questions concerned the current status of the Oxidation Ditch, possibilities for repair and need for replacement.

Summary: Currently, the ditch is at the end of its projected life span and, due to obsolete design, heavy use due to I&I, thin walls and substantial risk of wall collapse, cannot be rehabilitated to extend its useful life. Accordingly, the recommendation is for Oxidation Ditch replacement. This is an urgent need that should be addressed without delay. Replacement will necessarily include concurrent replacement of associated components including headworks, pump, generator, interconnecting pipes and electrical wiring. All items need to be designed for flood and earthquake mitigation. Until this replacement is available there should be careful monitoring of the Oxidation Ditch to identify localized faults as they occur, with short term, localized repair of such faults as feasible.

## **4. FEMA Hazard Mitigation Grant for S.C. Communities**

South Carolina is included in a recently announced FEMA Hazard Mitigation Grant program for South Carolina communities with a community cap of \$3 M (current cap). Funds are provided with a 25% match: FEMA provides 75% of the grant amount (with no payback requirement) and the community provides 25%. Costs associated with

preparation of a grant application, such as the required engineering studies, are counted as part of the 25% match. This FEMA program is an opportunity to fund replacement of the Oxidation Ditch and associated components. A letter of intent is due June 27, 2014. The grant application, with supportive engineering studies, is due October 27, 2014. Notification of FEMA decisions on funding will be in February, 2015.

**Executive Session:** A motion was made by Chauncey Clark, seconded by Susan Middaugh, carried by unanimous vote, to go into executive session at 3:25 pm to discuss contractual matters related to the FEMA grant application process. A motion was made by Chauncey Clark, seconded by Susan Middaugh, carried by unanimous vote, to come out of executive session at 3:40 pm.

**MOTION:** To request Council approval of a Letter of Intent and Application for FEMA Hazard Mitigation Grant Funds for replacement of the Oxidation Ditch and associated components and approval of the funds required to support the preparation and submission of this grant application. The motion was made by Chauncey Clark, seconded by Susan Middaugh and carried by unanimous vote.

#### **5. W&S Rates for FY 2015**

**MOTION:** To approve the Water and Sewer rates for FY2015 as provided by Greg Gress on 6/10/2014. Motion was made by Chauncey Clark, second by Susan Middaugh and carried by unanimous vote.

#### **6. Adjourn**

The meeting was adjourned at 3:50 PM on a motion by Chauncey Clark, second by Susan Middaugh, carried by unanimous vote.

**Approved 7-15-2014**