



GreenvilleWater

**MINUTES OF REGULAR MEETING
COMMISSIONERS OF PUBLIC WORKS
407 West Broad Street
Commission Room, Level Two
Greenville, South Carolina
March 4, 2014
8:15 a.m.**

Commissioners of Public Works in attendance:

Chairman Phillip A. Kilgore, Vice-Chairman James W. Bannister, Debra M. Sofield, J. David Sudduth and Knox H. White. A quorum was present.

Greenville Water Staff in attendance:

Chief Executive Officer David H. Bereskin, Chief Operations Officer Murray Dodd, Chief Financial Officer Phil Robey, Chief Administrative Officer Dennis Porter, Director of Engineering Mike Sharpless, Director of Water Resources K.C. Price, Director of Human Resources Susan Rector, Director of Business Services David Hughey, Controller Jondia Berry, Information Technology Director Joe Beineke and Commission Attorney David Ward.

The Regular Meeting of the Commissioners of Public Works was called to order at 8:15 a.m. by the Chairman, Commissioner Kilgore.

1. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Commissioner Sudduth moved, seconded by Commissioner Bannister, to approve the regular meeting minutes of February 4, 2014. The motion carried unanimously.

2. PUBLIC COMMENT

No comments were presented.

3. WATER RESOURCES UPDATE

Director of Water Resources K.C. Price presented highlights from the Water Resources report as provided in the Commissioner's Agenda packet. Mr. Price reported reservoirs are still at full pond. Production is very similar to last year. Please note we have put more of a load on Stovall this year for financial reasons. Rainfall amounts in the Commissioner's Agenda packet are for the month of February. Year to date rainfall through February are 9 inches for Table Rock and 7.5 inches at North Saluda and 6.5 inches at Adkins.

4. FINANCIAL UPDATE

Chief Financial Officer Phil Robey presented highlights from the January Financial Report. Revenue reflects a low demand period. A noteworthy item under expenses, there is a principal payment on outstanding debt once a year on January 31st. This expense is reflected in this month's report. There will be one more interest payment which will be made the last day of the fiscal year. This has an impact on financials in the month of January when it is paid. As we go through the year the effect of that big lump sum payment will be mitigated as time goes by and revenues pick up.

Commissioner Sudduth asked how many open positions there are currently. Mr. Bereskin replied twenty-four. The hiring process has already begun to fill eleven of these vacant positions.

5. ENGINEERING CIP UPDATE

Director of Engineering Mike Sharpless provided an update on major capital projects and water main projects as provided in the Commissioner's Agenda packet.

The scope of work for the Rehabilitation of the 72-inch main, Phase III is changing. There is much less rehabilitation required, so the cost could be well under budget, in the \$500,000 range. Commissioner Kilgore asked for an explanation of the change. Mr. Sharpless replied the preliminary results from an inspection done a month ago indicate there are only as many as four pipes (-72 ft.) that need replacement, whereas the previous jobs had 700 feet and 300 feet of pipe that needed replacement. There is much less bad pipe in this section of the 72-inch main. We are still awaiting final results.

Commissioner Kilgore asked for the purpose behind replacing the 24-inch Augusta Road Water Main. Mr. Sharpless shared the 24-inch main is in the master plan. Also, there are low pressure and capacity problems feeding water to the south. The replacement is to alleviate these issues.

Mr. Bereskin called to attention the fact Greenville Water has four or five different engineering firms engaged currently so work is being spread amongst local and national firms which is a positive note.

6. GREENVILLE WATER CAMPUS DESIGN PRESENTATION

Chief Operations Officer Murray Dodd introduced Jay Martin of Arbor Engineering who was retained as a Landscape Architect to assist in the design of the educational component of the Greenville Water Campus Design project. Mr. Dodd then introduced the architectural team of MCA Architects and turned the presentation over to Mr. Mike Kissam of MCA Architects.

Mr. Kissam and Mr. Martin detailed the New Field Operations Facility presentation as provided in the Commissioner's Agenda packet. Park Concepts A through D were presented with a recommendation of Concept D.

Commissioner Sudduth shared he likes the fact there is a lot going on in a fairly confined space which is what we want because it has a potential to be more attractive to people if there are different things to do. Mr. Martin responded in the "creation of place", you want to create as many opportunities for people to have activity. Once you create activity within a space, people are drawn to the space.

Commissioner Kilgore referenced the West Broad Streetscape slide and clarified there is a recommendation to go with this streetscape regardless of the other park concepts. Mayor White noted his approval of the West Broad Streetscape. The connectivity needs to work with the whole campus, not just the park area. There will be a lot of people walking in this area all the time.

Mr. Bereskin referenced Park Concept 'B', to mention the desire to close off the entrance and exit on Washington Street to benefit the entire area and allow for all parking to be on the parking deck. Commissioner Kilgore asked whether closing this entrance/exit would compromise Greenville Water operations. Mr. Bereskin responded if the Washington Street entrance/exit is added traffic mitigation will have to be added in the median of Washington Street. Mr. Dodd referred to a meeting held with South Carolina Department of Transportation (SCDOT) regarding obtaining an encroachment permit for this entrance. SCDOT is requiring "right in/right out" only

on Washington Street, along with plastic breakaway bollards in the middle of the road so people do not queue back through the intersection at Broad Street trying to turn into Greenville Water. These would be minor improvements, not a big expense for Greenville Water. Mr. Martin pointed out if the entrance and exit is right in right out only based off the conversations with SCDOT, only a car traveling east on Washington could turn in any way. Mayor White added it would be rarely used; removing the entrance is a good solution. There was a consensus from the Commission to approve removing the Washington Street entrance from the design.

Mr. Kissam then described various options for the placement of a fountain concept at the corner of Washington and Broad Streets. He discussed various fountain features beginning at the watershed fountain, the creek, the interactive feature at the corner park and finished up at the building at the rain harvesting fountain.

In the first option, the watershed fountain would be located at the top of the park has a back drop so a more natural fountain could be created which is representative of the Table Rock Reservoir. The design has a natural rock formation in the back and then a series of water falls that lead down to a reservoir feature representing rainfall coming into the watershed. Examples of educational Images were provided that could be placed around the park to explain to visitors what a watershed is. The fountain is designed to have a shallow pond rock basin which will hold about two inches of water, so it is not a deep body of water at the base. The area will be nicely landscaped to be more of a natural feature with an outflow structure to mimic a riverbed. This will be used to give the impression of connecting the watershed fountain from the spillway through the riverbed to the creek in the park.

The creek will meander through the park with opportunities to cross the creek. The lower area, with a proposed interactive fountain, conveys the idea water is fun. There are opportunities for the public to engage with water, where local neighbors can come and enjoy the park. The Interactive fountain itself would be two sided in that on the interior there is an exterior wall that is six feet tall built up from the grade to create a block from the interior of the park to the corner and then the interior lower wall is lower to allow the water to flow out of the trough and down the face of the wall. There is a series of jumping water fountains, vertical fountains and an interactive splash pad which will be a nice place for local neighbors to come enjoy the park, have a place for kids and direct access to a covered shelter.

The last fountain would be next to the new building which is the rain harvesting fountain with the idea the main central portion of the building will be inverted almost like a gutter to collect the water which will flow off the roof onto rain chains that terminate into a collection vessel. The water then flows into a small pool with a series of fountains that are aligned to start addressing a green wall of a lattice and cable system. As the water flows in it is collected into a cistern with a well feature to look down into to tell the story of collecting water to use for irrigation and the fountains.

Commissioner Kilgore asked for a projection of the annual maintenance and operational cost. Mayor White requested someone talk with the school district to see if someone will contract it out where the school makes it their project.

Mr. Kissam then presented a second fountain concept option that would replace the interactive fountain at the corner of the park. This concept would offer a more dynamic feature so visitors to Greenville want to come to Greenville Water to see the fountain. In order to create this fountain,

the two sided wall in the previous depiction is broken down so the entire fountain itself is water. The idea is to have natural stone, stone walls and an elevated marble fountain that has water features that are shooting and jumping and everything is cascading off the sides of the fountain to create a nice dynamic water fountain.

Mr. Bereskin explained both concepts, Concept D and the dynamic fountain concept, have educational components with different irrigation systems, different grasses, the zero scape native plants for the area and a good component of capturing rain and reutilizing it. Commissioner Sofield asked about the feasibility of blending the two concepts. Mayor White agreed. It should be a nice area for the neighborhood to want to go for a picnic or something. This is where the watershed fountain is particularly nice.

In review, Commissioners requested the design be a blend of a modest event space plus a walk through concept. There was a consensus among the commissioners not to have an interactive feature with the fountain design, for cost and liability risk reasons. While discussing fountains Commissioner Kilgore asked if there is a way to take something of the scale of the more modern fountain and make it less modern, soften it and make it more natural. Mayor White recommended more plant material, stone, a pleasant place to be for pedestrians on the park side of the fountain. Commissioner Kilgore suggested that the design should take into account the traditional nature of the current building, the somewhat traditional design of the new building and the fact that Greenville Water's heritage is in the mountains where the reservoirs are. Commissioner Sofield remarked the modern fountain does appear to be stark, especially on the park side. Mr. Martin suggested the base could be softened with stone to be more natural.

Commissioner Kilgore recommended the design team come up with three renderings of what Commissioners agree on with the competing concepts, providing the cost with peel backs. Mr. Bereskin thanked all five Commissioners for participating in the discussion, emphasizing how important it is to get feedback from all Commissioners.

7. CHIEF EXECUTIVE REPORT

Mr. Bereskin presented the Government Finance Officers Association's Distinguished Budget Presentation Award to Commissioner Kilgore, Mr. Robey and Controller Jondia Berry. Commissioner Kilgore noted that this award was the result of the hard work of Mr. Robey, Ms. Berry and all the others on the finance team.

Mr. Bereskin introduced Government Liaison Bob Knight to provide an update on bills going before the House of Representatives. Mr. Knight shared there were five bills that came up on the Water Utility Councils report, two of which were discussed in the legislative agenda in March. The three that were not on the agenda are from 2013 and are provided in the Commissioner's Agenda packet.

Another issue mentioned is the House of Representatives Ways and Means Committee has passed a budget which did not include any additional money for water planning for this year in the Department of Natural Resources (DNR) budget, but there is a move a foot where DNR is requesting \$700,000 in the Senate to make another installment on water planning.

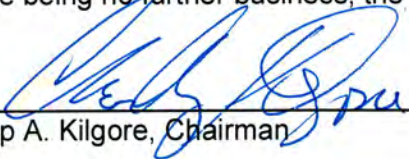
Mr. Bereskin invited the Commissioners that would like view the brick and the block to be used in Field Operations facility to look at the wall rendering once the meeting is adjourned.

8. COMMISSION COMMENTS

No comments were presented.

9. ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 9:45 a.m.



Phillip A. Kilgore, Chairman



Kimberly J. Haulter, Executive Assistant