



GreenvilleWater

**MINUTES OF THE BUDGET WORKSHOP  
COMMISSIONERS OF PUBLIC WORKS  
407 West Broad Street  
Commission Room, Level Two  
Greenville, South Carolina  
November 19, 2014  
11:00 a.m.**

Commissioners of Public Works:

Chairman Phillip A. Kilgore, Debra M. Sofield and J. David Sudduth;

Absent: James W. Bannister and Knox H. White. A quorum was present.

Greenville Water Staff:

Chief Executive Officer David H. Bereskin, Chief Operations Officer Murray Dodd, Chief Financial Officer Phil Robey and Chief Administrative Officer Dennis Porter.

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The Workshop Meeting of the Commissioners of Public Works was called to order at 11:15 a.m. by the Chairman, Commissioner Kilgore.

**1. CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM 2015-2019**

Chief Financial Officer Phil Robey presented the proposed budget for the Capital Improvement Program (CIP) for 2015 – 2019 as provided in the Commissioners Agenda package, stating the most significant change in the CIP is the increase in the Central Campus Project due to bids coming in above projected costs. The Central Campus Project proposed budget is the worst case scenario but staff is working to bring costs down. Items that have been removed since the last CIP discussion were:

1. North Saluda Pump Station Capacity Improvements & Pumps - \$12,200,000 (based on recommendations of North Saluda Pump Station Upgrade Study presented to Commission at October meeting)
2. Valve Exercising Truck - \$103,000 (further assessment determined not needed)
3. In-Line Pipe Hydroturbine - \$950,000 (feasibility analysis determined that system hydraulics not well suited for project)
4. Roper Mountain Reservoir Dome Repair - \$500,000 (further monitoring needed)

The only additional item was Clearwell Dehumidifiers - \$195,000 which was in the operating budget, but scope changes moved it to the CIP.

Staff proposed most of the CIP projects, as well as normal system improvements, be funded using capacity fees in 2015. Beyond 2015 a more normal financing plan would resume. Chairman Kilgore questioned if the capacity fee monies would be used for anything unrelated to system improvements. Chief Executive Officer David Bereskin explained Mr. Robey had reviewed the language and the definition of the legality of what a capacity fee can and cannot be used for. Staff has been careful to budget capacity fee dollars to water system projects such as main replacements, not building infrastructure, designating it only for water related capacity issues.

Mr. Bereskin brought attention to the Alkalinity Improvements at the Treatment Plants is included in the proposed budget. Commissioner Sudduth asked what changed this project from the time it was first brought up until now. Mr. Bereskin answered the alkalinity study is complete, the

Commission was briefed on the study and in the briefing there was a price point from the consultant to change the alkalinity.

Chairman Kilgore asked if the manufacturing sector prefer Greenville Water to have water with higher alkalinity and would this improve the quality of our water. Mr. Bereskin shared alkalinity will benefit reactions in the pipe. By raising the alkalinity, phosphate compounds will be changed. No one will notice a change in the taste, but there could be more sudsing when washing. Commissioners approved moving forward with the alkalinity improvements, with a robust plan to communicate the changes to customers.

## **2. OPERATING BUDGET**

Mr. Robey provided an overview of the proposed FY 2015 Annual Operating Budget as provided in the Commissioners Agenda package which included the following breakdown of department and division budgets:

1. Executive Management - including CEO, COO, and Community Relations
2. Human Resources
3. Finance - including Purchasing, Building and Grounds, and Garage
4. Business Services – including Customer Service, Field Services, and Billing
5. Information Technology
6. Engineering
7. Field Operations – including Management, Locating, Maintenance and Construction
8. Water Resources – including Management, Labs, Watersheds/Reservoirs, Maintenance, Stovall and Adkins Plants


Mr. Robey reviewed the policies and plans put in place in the last couple of years that are the guiding principles for this budget.

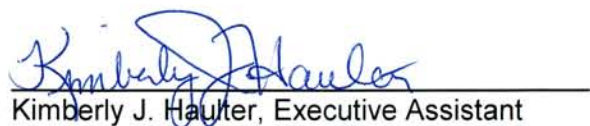
In review of capital projects, Commissioner Sudduth expressed dissatisfaction with Greenville Water's sign on the water wall at the Peace Center. Chairman Kilgore and Commissioner Sofield agreed. The Commissioners requested a bigger sign in the middle of the water wall and to be included on the wall of giving inside the Peace Center.

Commissioner Sofield asked what is on track for the next month. Mr. Bereskin pointed out the budget would be presented to the Commission at the December 2, 2014 regular commission meeting with a request for approval. Also, to be presented for approval in the December meeting will be the contract for construction for the central campus project.

## **2. ADJOURNMENT**

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 1:40 p.m.

  
Phillip A. Kilgore, Chairman

  
Kimberly J. Hauter, Executive Assistant