



GreenvilleWater

**MINUTES OF REGULAR MEETING  
COMMISSIONERS OF PUBLIC WORKS  
407 West Broad Street  
Commission Room, Level Two  
Greenville, South Carolina  
April 10, 2018  
8:15 a.m.**

Commissioners of Public Works in attendance:

Chairman Phillip A. Kilgore, Debra M. Sofield, Mayor Knox H. White, and George Fletcher.

Absent: Vice-Chairman James W. Bannister. A quorum was present.

Greenville Water Staff in attendance:

Chief Executive Officer David H. Bereskin, Chief Financial Officer Phil Robey, Chief Operations Officer Rebecca West, Controller Jondia Berry, Director of Engineering Michael Sharpless, I.T. Director Joe Beineke, Human Resources Director Richard Posey, Water Resources Director Rick Pfeleiderer, Business Process Analyst Jane Arrington, Manager of Field Operations Wayne Benson, Communications Manager Olivia Vassey, Facilities Maintenance Fleet Manager Allen White, and Commission Attorney David Ward.

Other Guests in attendance:

Greene Finney, LLP CPA and Partner Larry Finney

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

**1. WELCOME**

**2. PUBLIC COMMENT**

No comments were presented at this time.

**3. CONSENT AGENDA**

Chairman Kilgore listed the items of the Consent Agenda which were the meeting minutes of the Regular Commission Meeting February 6, 2018 and March 15, 2018, the Water Resources Report, the Financial Update, New Development, and New Annexation Covenants. There being no questions or comments regarding the consent agenda, the items were deemed approved.

**4. 2017 YEAR-END AUDIT REPORT**

Chairman Kilgore welcomed Larry Finney of Greene Finney, LLP to provide an overview of Greenville Water's Audited Financial Statements for 2017. Mr. Finney reviewed Greenville Water's responsibilities which include maintaining effective internal controls through limitation of internal control systems and regular risk assessment.

Greene Finney, LLP issued an unmodified opinion for the year ending December 31, 2017. This opinion provides reasonable assurance that the financial statements are materially correct and does not address the financial condition of Greenville Water. An unmodified

opinion is the best opinion Greenville Water can receive. Mr. Finney congratulated Chief Financial Officer Phil Robey, Controller Jondia Berry and the Finance Staff for a job well done.

Mr. Finney shared there are no future significant changes in auditing principles; however, there will be a future significant change in accounting principles. The Governmental Accounting Standards Board issued a new statement in June 2015 (GASB #75) that Greenville Water will have to implement for Fiscal Year 2018. This change will make Other Post-Employment Benefits (OPEB) accounting to be very similar with Pension accounting. The net OPEB liability must be recorded on the Statement of Net Position.

In summary, Greenville Water is in very good financial condition as of December 31, 2017, had received the best opinion given, an unmodified opinion, and the Finance Staff was great to work with. Chairman Kilgore thanked the Finance Staff on behalf of the Commission for the glowing report.

#### **5. CAPACITY FEES RULES AND REGULATIONS CHANGES**

Chairman Kilgore invited Chief Operations Officer Rebecca West to present a proposed change in procedure for requests for new water service for existing commercial or industrial parcels with water meters one-inch or above in size. These changes do not apply to irrigation meters. The proposed Rules and Regulations changes would apply to properties that were not affected by the requirement for capacity fees in February 2006. There are a number of parcels within the system where capacity fees have been not been assessed and paid. As changes with redevelopment of the community are taking place, Greenville Water is currently being asked to consider a credit for those capacity fees for existing services even though capacity fees were never paid. Greenville Water would like to modify its procedures so any parcels that were developed before February 1, 2006, that have more than two consecutive years of non-service on the account, will be required to pay capacity fees. The meter will be removed after two years and the parcel will be managed as a new parcel requesting water service. Parcels with intermittent service during a two year period will be treated as an existing service, however, if the size of the meter is changed there will be no credit for capacity fees.

Chairman Kilgore stated this request had been before the Commission before and input was provided to Staff. This recommendation is the product of that discussion. Chief Executive Officer David Bereskin confirmed this. This is a procedural change. Commissioner Sofield asked why the two year window. Ms. West stated Greenville Water wanted to mirror the current policy in place at Renewable Water Resources, as to not confuse customers served by both utilities. Commissioner Sofield moved, seconded by Mayor White, to approve the recommendation as presented. The motion passed unanimously.

#### **6. ANNEXATION RULES AND REGULATIONS CHANGES**

Ms. West presented another request for modification of Greenville Water Rules and Regulations. This is in support of agreements for annexation for the City of Greenville. Any new water service that is requested within a one mile radius of the Greenville City limits that is unincorporated currently would be affected by this policy. Ms. West recapped the current

policy, as provided in the Agenda package. The proposed changes request modifying the Rules and Regulations to reflect and support the recent changes made by the City of Greenville where the properties classified as single family residential that contain a maximum of 5 family residential units would be exempt from completing a Customer Connection Agreement and a Declaration Covenant. Commissioner Fletcher pointed out the City approved and asks that Greenville Water consider approving the maximum of 4 family residential units in exemption (b). The proposed changes presented remove the current exemptions (a) and (c) because they are no longer applicable and modifies exemption (b) to include the maximum of 4 family residential units.

Mayor White moved, seconded by Commissioner Fletcher, to approve the proposed Rules and Regulations change as presented. The motion passed unanimously.

## **7. COMMUNITY ROOM UPDATE**

Chairman Kilgore welcomed Communications Manager Olivia Sloan to present an update on Community Room Rental. Ms. Sloan made known the room has been very well received in the community. Eleven events are scheduled between February 13 and May 30, with four being after-hours events. Two additional requests had to be denied due to availability.

In January, the Commission approved standard rental agreement language including damages, capacity, clean-up, and specifying a security fee of \$30 per hour with a minimum of 3 hours (security to be covered by off duty Greenville Police Officer). Currently, Greenville Water requires after hours users to discuss IT needs with our staff and meet for a training session prior to the event. These training sessions can be scheduled Monday thru Friday, 9 am to 4 pm. Staff is asking the Commission to consider implementing an IT assistance fee for after-hours events. The proposal is \$50 per hour with a minimum of two hours, payable directly to the employee. The purpose of this fee is to protect the Community Room audio visual equipment and to compensate the employee for afterhours work. Ms. Sloan reviewed fees from comparable room rental agreements. This fee would be charged only if the assistance is requested. If the person renting the room feels comfortable with the training, the fee will not be assessed. Commissioner Sofield asked for a rundown on the cost to Greenville Water of renting out the Community Room. After a brief discussion, Mr. Bereskin proposed coming back to the Commission in a future meeting with a cost rundown and a proposal for the I.T. fee and damage deposit.

The Commission voiced concern over the room appearing to be in competition with other venues by allowing for profit companies to use the space to make a profit. This space is not in competition with other venues. The purpose of the space is to be an amenity for the Community.

Ms. Sloan provided an update on alcoholic beverage service in the Community Room, explaining there had been some inquiry about serving alcohol during after-hours events. Information from Greenville Water's insurance provider and comparable room rental agreements were presented. Chairman Kilgore asked if there was a motion to approve alcoholic beverage service in the Community Room. There was no motion to approve; therefore, the proposal failed for lack of a motion.

## **8. COMMUNITY PLAN FOR SCHOOLS AND DAYCARES FOR PREMISE PLUMBING**

Chairman Kilgore invited Ms. Sloan to present on Communication with Schools regarding premise plumbing issues after long periods of nonuse. Ms. Sloan reviewed current legislation and how these work together to minimize lead in drinking water, lead exposure at outlets in schools and public drinking water systems.

In 2004 Greenville Water reached out to Greenville County School's Director of Operations to offer free sampling and testing as well as follow-up sampling if results were above Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) action level. Again, in 2016, Greenville Water Staff reached out to Greenville County Schools' Director of Maintenance to offer free sampling and testing as well as follow-up sampling if results were above EPA action level. Also a proper flushing and sampling plan was developed for the schools.

In 2018 Greenville Water is considering sending a letter to Greenville County Schools Superintendent and Director of Operations and Maintenance. The letter would include tips on re-opening a school following a summer break, flushing lines and present the possibility of a training opportunity for Principals and/or facilities employees. Enclosures provided with the letter would be a summary of results from our Lead and Copper Rule sampling over the past few years, an annual Consumer Confidence Report, the EPA brochure "Lead in Drinking Water: What You Should Know to Protect Children in Your School or Child Care Facility" and a list of labs approved to offer lead and copper testing. The training opportunity would consist of a suggested protocol on re-opening a school after a long period of inactivity and a presentation by Greenville Water's Lab Staff on how to take an EPA approved sample to test for Lead contamination. Mr. Bereskin added the same information would be shared with the private schools throughout Greenville.

Chairman Kilgore thanked staff for the information and added the communication is a great idea.

## **9. CHIEF EXECUTIVE REPORT**

Mr. Bereskin began the Chief Executive Report announcing that the Purchasing Department has set up a connection for GovDeals.com which handles Government Surplus Auctions. With permission from the Commission, Staff would like to auction a printer and an inserter, and later discuss possibly moving the annual auction to GovDeals.com versus a live auction. Outsourcing bill printing has been a great success and has eliminated the need for this printer and inserter.

Commissioner Sofield moved, seconded by Commissioner Fletcher, to go into Executive Session for the purpose of discussing legal issues associated with pensions that might rise to a dispute. The motion carried unanimously.

(Executive Session)

Commissioner Fletcher moved, seconded by Commissioner Sofield, to go out of Executive Session. The motion carried unanimously. No action was taken.

Mr. Bereskin stated Greenville Water's permit to install solar panels has been held up because the City of Greenville will not issue a construction permit until approval is given from Duke Energy. Duke Energy has to provide a letter stating Greenville Water may move forward. Mr. Bereskin is working on the issue.

Legislative Liaison Bob Knight stated several bills have been passed out of the House of Representatives, but none out of the Senate yet. Only 15 Legislative days remain and the budget is being taken up this week. Mr. Knight mentioned that Mr. Bereskin now sits on an important advisory committee for water planning. The steering committee is comprised of people from agriculture, business, water and environmentalists. Mr. Bereskin assured the Commission he would keep them apprised of committee activities.

**10. COMMISSION COMMENTS**

No comments were presented.

**11. ADJOURNMENT**

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 9:53 a.m.

  
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Phillip A. Kilgore, Chairman

  
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Kimberly J. Haulter, Executive Assistant