

Commission of Public Works meeting, June 24, 2024
Regular monthly business.

Commissioners present: Trey Stephens, Jackie Keenan, Roy Shaw and Gerald McMurray

Employees present: Danny Lowe and Christy Lowe

Visitors present: Deborah Peek, Judy Graham-Dowd, Karla Roberts, Gary Gilbert,
Lynne Hendrix, Jeff Smith and Carter Rhine
Ameris Bank – Bennett Bowers, Doug Dunkelberg and Kevin Strickland

Place: New Ellenton Commission of Public Works
100 South Main Street
New Ellenton, SC 29809

Time: 7:00 PM

Chairman Mr. Trey Stephens presiding.

Mr. Trey Stephens opens with the Pledge of Allegiance and Ken Phillips said the prayer.

Mr. Trey Stephens welcomes everyone and asks that he or she state their name for the record.

Ameris Bank representatives presented some loan options to the Commissioners for some upcoming projects.

Mr. Trey Stephens opened the floor to guest comments and questions. (none)

Mr. Trey Stephens states that approving the Financial Report for May 2024 is on the agenda and asks for a motion and a second. Secretary-Treasurer Jackie Keenan made a motion to accept the Financial Report; it was seconded by Commissioner Roy Shaw and carried.

Chairman Trey Stephens states that approving the minutes for May 28, 2024 is on the agenda and asks for a motion and a second. Vice Chairman Donnie Cooper made a motion to accept the Minutes as written; it was seconded by Commissioner Gerald McMurray and carried.

Mr. Trey Stephens asks for any questions or comments. (none)

OLD BUSINESS

Director Danny Lowe reported that he, Trey and Christy recently met with RIA via Zoom conference to go over some things and meet our new Coordinator. Mr. Lowe also stated that Blair Construction has officially been approved by RIA and awarded the contract for the Chime Bell Church Rd. project. We are waiting on the Construction Permits for Florida Ave., Fern Dr. and Club Dr. projects.

Danny Lowe reported the water loss was 6.14% for the month of May.

Danny Lowe gave an update of field activities (on behalf of Ken Phillips) for May.

Jackie Keenan asked for an update on the truck from the City of New Ellenton. Danny stated that they went to them after last month's meeting about purchasing the truck and the City said they decided not to sell it.

Office Manager, Christy Lowe reported that the new sewer rate increases have been updated in the billing system so those will show up on customers bill for July 2024.

Mr. Trey Stephens asks is there any more old business. (none)

NEW BUSINESS

Trey Stephens stated that one of the items discussed during the Zoom Meeting with RIA was, they need a document from the Trustees of Oak Hill Water System that states they are all in agreement with dissolving OHWS to turn over their customers and all assets to merge with New Ellenton CPW. This document is needed before RIA will release the funds to NECPW.

Trey also stated that we have drafted a letter to be mailed out to the customers of Oak Hill explaining the process and timeline for Oak Hill customers to open up an account with NECPW. Included in the letter are the different payment options available along with the water rates. It is imperative that all Oak Hill customers who wish to have an active account and to receive uninterrupted water service with NECPW to fill out the appropriate forms and provide additional information to set up an account prior to September 1st. Chairman Stephens stated that we also need to set up a time to meet with Deborah Peek to get copies of bank statements, active customer list and any other pertinent information needed to make the transition as smooth as possible. A meeting was set for Wednesday, June 26th at 10am to meet with Ms. Peek at her office. Mr. Stephens stated that he understands there will be some final expenses that need to be taken care of like power bills, etc. but once NECPW takes over on September 1, 2024, we will not be taking over any outstanding debt owed by Oak Hill Water System. Director Danny Lowe stated that after speaking with DHEC, that Oak Hill will still operate under their current system # until there is a permanent tie in with NECPW. Once both systems are tied together, it will operate under NECPW's system number.

Trey Stephens reported that he and Danny Lowe met with CPW's attorney, Morris Rudnick, and have a Closing date set for the Oak Hill property of July 22nd at 11am. Mr. Rudnick provided a Resolution that needs to be signed by all the Oak Hill Trustees so can transfer the deed over to NECPW and have all documents ready of closing day.

Chairman Trey Stephens performed the 2nd reading of the proposed FY 2024-2025 Budget. Secretary-Treasurer Jackie Keenan made a motion to accept the 2nd reading of the FY 2024-2025 Budget; it was seconded by Commissioner Gerald McMurray and carried.

Gerald McMurray made a motion to adjourn; Roy Shaw seconds, all vote, so moved.

Attested by,



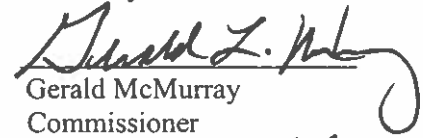
Director
Danny Lowe



Trey Stephens
Chairman

Donnie Cooper
Vice Chairman

Jackie Keenan
Secretary-Treasurer



Gerald McMurray
Commissioner



Roy Shaw
Commissioner