

## MINUTES

Spartanburg Sanitary Sewer District Commission, Regular Meeting, held at 200 Commerce Street, Spartanburg, SC, March 22, 2022, at 2:15 p.m.

Copies of the agenda were forwarded to the following news media: Spartanburg Herald-Journal, The Spartan Weekly, Greenville News, The Greer Citizen, Hometown News, WSPA-TV 7, WYFF-TV 4, WLOS-TV 13, WHNS Fox Carolina, WORD News Radio, WOLT-FM Radio, Tribune Times, and the Times Examiner.

Commissioners present were Mses. Barnes and Viney and Messrs. Blanton, Horton, Littlejohn, Montgomery, and Rice. No one was absent.

The meeting was opened with the following statement:

This is a regular meeting of the Spartanburg Sanitary Sewer District Commission. Written notice of the date, time, and place for this meeting, along with the agenda, has been posted in the lobby and on the Spartanburg Water website, and copies mailed to local and nearby news media, at least 24 hours prior to this meeting.

### 1. PRAYER

Mr. Blanton called the meeting to order and Ms. Viney opened with a prayer.

### 2. APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF REGULAR MEETING OF FEBRUARY 22, 2022

Mr. Montgomery moved and Ms. Barnes seconded the motion to approve the minutes as written. The motion passed unanimously.

### 3. CHAMBER OF COMMERCE – ONESPARTANBURG VISION PLAN 2.0

Allen Smith, President and CEO, of the Spartanburg Area Chamber of Commerce, and Todd Horne, Vice President of OneSpartanburg Vision Plan, provided a presentation covering the community-wide success and future path for OneSpartanburg and the OneSpartanburg Vision Plan 2.0.

Mr. Smith thanked the Commission for an opportunity to provide an annual update of the OneSpartanburg Vision Plan and for the support of Spartanburg Water for this program. This community and economic development strategy has focused on four key areas – talent, place, image and economy, and has brought both national notoriety through successful social media initiatives, as well as continued economic interest and growth in the community as a whole. The success of these areas were presented to the Commission.

Mr. Smith stated that OneSpartanburg is continuing the momentum with another 5-year action strategy, Vision Plan 2.0. This strategy will advance 15 Key Initiatives in three focus areas in pursuit of six primary goals. These goals are: raise levels of prosperity, increase educational attainment, attract and retain talented individuals, diversify Spartanburg County's economy, improve quality of life for residents, and reduce racial equity gaps in entrepreneurship and business ownership. The implementation budget for Vision Plan 2.0 is \$6.3 Million.

Mr. Smith again thanked the Commission for the opportunity to provide an update from OneSpartanburg and for the opportunity to introduce the new Vision Plan 2.0.

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The above was provided as information to the Commission.

#### **4. PUBLIC COMMENT**

Mr. Blanton noted that the Commission had received one request to speak and noted the allotted time is two minutes.

Mr. Blanton recognized Mr. Kyle Joslin for public comment. Mr. Joslin stated Spartanburg Water is willfully and intentionally breaking the law. The South Carolina Constitution refers to navigable streams as common highways. Every person has the right to use Lake Bowen and Lake Blalock without a tax. There are three pages of laws that the General Assembly has passed for Lake Bowen and Lake Blalock and nowhere does it give Spartanburg Water the authority to tax anyone to use a natural resource that is declared the people's by the State Constitution. Mr. Joslin also stated that Ms. Schneider has ignored all FOIA requests that he has submitted, and that is against the law.

Mr. Blanton stated that concludes the Public Comment period.

#### **5. EXECUTIVE SESSION**

Mr. Montgomery moved and Mr. Horton seconded the motion to enter into executive session to discuss personnel matters at 2:41 p.m. The motion passed unanimously.

Mr. Littlejohn moved and Mr. Montgomery seconded the motion to come out of executive session at 3:24 p.m. The motion passed unanimously.

Mr. Blanton noted that no action was taken.

#### **6. MONTHLY FINANCIAL REPORT**

Newt Pressley presented a financial summary of SSSD expenditures and revenues for the eight-month period ending February 28, 2022. An explanation was provided for the favorable and unfavorable budget variances.

The above was provided as information to the Commission.

#### **7. HEALTH AND DENTAL INSURANCE RENEWAL**

Management proposes the following design plan recommendation for the upcoming health insurance plan year that is effective May 1, 2022.

- Hearing Aid Benefit - increase to \$3,000 every 3 years in place of the current \$2,500 every three years

These recommendations will be in effect with no changes to the employee contributions.

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<b>2021 - 2022 Per Pay Period Contribution</b>	<b>Consumer Choice Plus Medical Plan</b>	<b>Consumer Choice Medical Plan</b>	<b>Basic Medical Plan</b>	<b>Dental Plan</b>
Employee Only	\$ 47	\$ 36	\$ 15	\$ 7
Employee plus child	\$ 61	\$ 50	\$ 28	\$ 10
Employee plus children (2 or more)	\$ 91	\$ 70	\$ 33	\$ 12
Family	\$ 118	\$ 93	\$ 48	\$ 14

Management recommended that the Commission approve the above mentioned design change to the Spartanburg Water Health Insurance Plan that will become effective May 1, 2022.

Ms. Barnes moved and Mr. Littlejohn seconded the motion to approve management’s recommendation for the above mentioned design change to the Spartanburg Water Health Insurance Plan that will become effective May 1, 2022. The motion passed unanimously.

**8. WORKERS’ COMPENSATION INSURANCE RENEWAL**

Spartanburg Water’s Workers’ Compensation insurance renews annually on April 1. For the 2022 renewal, staff utilized the current agent, McGriff Insurance Services, to obtain quotes from insurance carriers on behalf of Spartanburg Water. The current policy is written through Amerisure at an annual cost of \$101,171.

The results of the quotes received are tabulated below:

<b>Insurance Carrier</b>	<b>Annual Premium</b>
Amerisure	\$103,747
Eastern Alliance	\$103,845
Summit	\$162,554

Based on the pricing received, management recommended approval of the quote submitted by Amerisure as the carrier for Workers’ Compensation insurance at the annual premium cost of \$103,747.

The Workers’ Compensation premium will be allocated as follows:  
 \$24,899.28 for SSSD and \$78,847.72 for SWS.

Mr. Littlejohn moved and Mr. Montgomery seconded the motion to approve management’s recommendation for approval of the quote submitted by Amerisure as the carrier for Workers’ Compensation insurance. The motion passed unanimously.

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**9. RECEIPT OF BIDS – LITTLE THICKETTY CREEK PUMP STATION REHABILITATION PROJECT**

Bids were received on March 10, 2022, for the Little Thicketty Creek Pump Station Rehabilitation Project. The pump station was originally constructed in 1979 and the original pumps are still in use. The pump station has reached the end of its useful life and is in need of rehabilitation.

At the December 7, 2021, SSSD regular meeting, the Commission approved the pre-purchase of the pumps and controls associated with this rehabilitation project to shorten the timeframe needed to complete construction.

The bid was advertised publically in the Herald-Journal, SCBO, as well as our website. In addition, staff invited all of the 2020-2022 prequalified contractors to submit a bid. Twenty-three contractors were provided the bid documents for the project and four contractors submitted a bid. The bids are as follows:

<u>BIDDER</u>	<u>AMOUNT OF BID</u>
Turner Murphy Company, Inc. Rock Hill, SC	\$898,862
Greenstone Construction, LLC Seneca, SC	\$944,000
T.P. Howard’s Plumbing Co., Inc. Fairview, NC	\$1,165,000
The Harper Corporation Greenville, SC	\$1,191,000

Management recommended awarding the contract to the lowest responsive bidder, Turner Murphy Company, Inc., of Rock Hill, SC for the amount of \$898,862. This project will be funded by depreciation funds.

Bobby Walden provided the Commission with an overview of the Little Thicketty Creek Pump Station Rehabilitation Project agenda item.

Ms. Barnes moved and Mr. Littlejohn seconded the motion to approve management’s recommendation to award the contract to the lowest responsive bidder, Turner Murphy Company, Inc. The motion passed unanimously.

**10. LAWSONS FORK CREEK BASIN SEWER IMPROVEMENTS**

Bids were received February 10, 2022, for the rehabilitation and improvement of approximately 7,400 LF of gravity sewer pipe. The existing 8-inch and 12-inch pipe will be increased in size to 12-inch and 16-inch by a trenchless technology known as pipe bursting. The project will also include the rehabilitation and replacement of 40 manholes and the contractor will be responsible for re-establishing 15 service line connections. The pipeline work

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will start at Lawsons Fork Creek near the Drayton Mills community and will end at Doctors Park Drive near Skylyn Drive. The gravity sewer line is also known as the Mary Black Gravity Sewer Interceptor.

The existing Capital Improvement Plan (CIP), for improving the sewer collection system facilities, identified and prioritized a list of projects within the Lawsons Fork Basin. The projects are designed to defer capital investment or increase sewer line capacity. The Lawsons Fork Creek Sewer Improvements Project will increase capacity as well as replace gravity sewer lines that have reached the end of their useful lives.

The bid was advertised publically in the Herald-Journal, SCBO as well as our website. In addition, staff invited all the 2020-2022 prequalified contractors to submit a bid. Bid information was distributed to 12 contractors and three contractors submitted a bid. The bids are as follows:

<u>BIDDER</u>	<u>AMOUNT OF BID</u>
Portland Utilities Construction Co., Inc. Portland, TN	\$2,445,827.66
McClam & Associates, Inc. Little Mountain, SC	\$2,736,615.00
T.P. Howard’s Plumbing, Inc. Fairview, NC	\$3,268,500.00

Management recommended the award of the contract to the lowest responsive bidder, Portland Utilities Construction Co., Inc., of Portland, TN, in the amount of \$2,445,827.66. The project will be funded by the SSSD capital fund.

Bobby Walden provided the Commission with an overview of the Lawsons Fork Creek Basin Sewer Improvements agenda item. Ms. Viney asked for a description of the pipe bursting process, and Mr. Walden reviewed that process.

Mr. Littlejohn moved and Mr. Horton seconded the motion to approve management’s recommendation to award the contract to the lowest responsive bidder, Portland Utilities Construction Co., Inc. The motion passed unanimously.

**11. ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT REPORT**

Management provided the Commission with an update on economic development activity by Spartanburg Water during the 2021 calendar year.

Mr. Jackson shared highlights from the report. For every dollar SSSD spends, equals \$31 in economic investment. In 2021 there were a number of commitments to include, 26 new projects, 2,611 new jobs, and over \$750 Million invested in the SSSD service area. There were 78 new development projects that included 50.9 miles of sewer line, 1,338 new manholes, and sewer service to 5,943 lots. This will have a future revenue impact of \$2.76 Million annually.

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Mr. Jackson noted on the SWS highlights that for every dollar that the Commission of Public Works spends, equals \$16 in economic investment. In 2021 there were 16 new projects, 1,676 new jobs, that equaled to over \$398 Million invested in the water service area. There were 63 new projects, 23.9 miles of water line, 99 new fire hydrants, 37 fire services, and water service for 3,251 lots. There were 4 new participation projects that included water service for 12 lots. This will have a future revenue impact of \$1.52 Million annually.

The above was provided as information to the Commission.

## **12. OWNERSHIP AGREEMENT – HOLLAND PARK SEWER PROJECT**

Falcon Real Estate Development proposes to construct approximately 7,589 linear feet of 8-inch gravity sewer line, a 205 GPM pump station, and 2,396 linear feet of 6" force main to provide service to 189 residential lots and an amenity center in Holland Park located off of Old Canaan Road. The sewer line will connect to the existing SSSD infrastructure. The domestic waste will be treated at the A. Manning Lynch Wastewater Treatment Facility. The developer will bear all costs.

The line will be constructed according to District-approved plans and specifications, with District inspection provided. The owner will provide all necessary right-of-way and easement agreements for this project. The form of the agreement transferring ownership of the gravity sewer to the District has been reviewed by the District's attorney and executed by Falcon Real Estate Development. Under the terms of the resolution adopted by the Commission on May 29, 1990, this agreement has been executed on behalf of the Commission by the Chief Executive Officer.

The above was provided as information to the Commission.

## **13. OWNERSHIP AGREEMENT – OLIVIA SPRINGS TOWNES**

Mark III Properties, LLC proposes to construct approximately 448 linear feet of 8-inch gravity sewer line to provide service to 16 residential lots in Olivia Springs Townes located off of Cedar Springs Road. The sewer line will connect to the existing SSSD infrastructure. The domestic waste will be treated at the A. Manning Lynch Wastewater Treatment Facility. The developer will bear all costs.

The line will be constructed according to District-approved plans and specifications, with District inspection provided. The owner will provide all necessary right-of-way and easement agreements for this project.

The form of the agreement transferring ownership of the gravity sewer to the District has been reviewed by the District's attorney and executed by Mark III Properties, LLC. Under the terms of the resolution adopted by the Commission on May 29, 1990, this agreement has been executed on behalf of the Commission by the Chief Executive Officer.

The above was provided as information to the Commission.

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**14. OWNERSHIP AGREEMENT – TRINITY POINT**

Boiling Springs Road Apartments, LLC proposes to construct approximately 290 linear feet of 8-inch gravity sewer line to provide service to a future development located off of Boiling Springs Road. The sewer line will connect to the existing SSSD infrastructure. The domestic waste will be treated at the A. Manning Lynch Wastewater Treatment Facility. The developer will bear all costs.

The line will be constructed according to District-approved plans and specifications, with District inspection provided. The owner will provide all necessary right-of-way and easement agreements for this project.

The form of the agreement transferring ownership of the gravity sewer to the District has been reviewed by the District's attorney and executed by Boiling Springs Road Apartments, LLC. Under the terms of the resolution adopted by the Commission on May 29, 1990, this agreement has been executed on behalf of the Commission by the Chief Executive Officer.

The above was provided as information to the Commission.

**15. NEGOTIATIONS AND MISCELLANEOUS ADMINISTRATIVE MATTERS**

- A. Ms. Schneider noted that the Commission received the Business Strategic Plan in their packet of information.
- B. Ms. Schneider reminded the Commission that the State Ethics filing deadline is March 30.
- C. Ms. Schneider stated that the Criterium annual bike race hosted by PAL will be held on April 22. Spartanburg Water will be on hand with the Choose Tap Oasis, and will provide reusable water bottles and Choose Tap coolers for event attendees and participants.
- D. Ms. Schneider noted that the TATT Upstate Summit, Focus on the Future, will be held on May 10 with Keynote Speaker, Richard Florida.
- E. Ms. Schneider stated that the Upstate SC Alliance 2022 Annual Meeting/Luncheon will be held on May 13 with Mike Mansuetti, President of Bosch in North America, as the guest speaker.
- F. Ms. Schneider noted that the ACE Conference would be held June 12-15 in San Antonio, Texas.

Meeting adjourned at 3:47 p.m.

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G. Newton Pressley  
Secretary-Treasurer