

MINUTES

The Commissioners of Public Works of the City of Spartanburg, SC, Regular Meeting, held at 200 Commerce Street, Spartanburg, SC, March 22, 2022, at 3:00 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 Ms. Viney, Mr. Littlejohn, and Mr. Montgomery. No one was absent.

The meeting was opened with the following statement:

This is a regular meeting of The Commissioners of Public Works of the City of Spartanburg, SC. 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 forwarded to local and nearby news media, at least 24 hours prior to this meeting.

1. APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF REGULAR MEETING OF FEBRUARY 22, 2022

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

2. WATER FLUORIDATION QUALITY AWARD

The Spartanburg Water System R.B. Simms Treatment Facility has been awarded the 2020 Water Fluoridation Quality Award from the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) and the South Carolina Department of Health and Environmental Control (SC DHEC). This award recognizes the public water systems that achieve a monthly average fluoride level that is in the optimal range to be effective in preventing tooth decay for 12 consecutive months in a year.

Spartanburg Water System has been committed to fluoridating drinking water since August 1968 and is one of twenty-seven systems in South Carolina to receive this award for 2020.

Studies continue to show that for every \$1 a community invests in water fluoridation, \$20 are saved in dental treatment cost. Community water fluoridation has been recognized by the CDC as one of 10 great public health achievements of the 20th Century.

Bobby Walden provided the Commission with an overview of the Water Fluoridation Quality Award, noting that this award recognizes the public water systems that achieve a monthly average fluoride level that is in the optimal range to be effective in preventing tooth decay for 12 consecutive months in a year.

The above was provided as information to the Commission.

3. PUBLIC COMMENT

Mr. Montgomery noted there were three public comment requests to speak. The allotted time is two minutes for each.

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Mr. Montgomery recognized Mr. Sandy Lunsford for public comment. Mr. Lunsford stated he is a Cherokee County resident and has been a permit holder for Lake Bowen for a number of years. The permit rate increase affects out of County residents the same as out of State residents. The rate increase for him was \$175 to \$500. He is a senior citizen and this type of increase prices him off the lake. The State allows him to have a fishing license for a reduced rate. Spartanburg and Cherokee County work together on projects, and Spartanburg Water supplies water to parts of Cherokee County; therefore, Mr. Lunsford feels Spartanburg Water should reconsider Cherokee County permit fees.

Mr. Montgomery recognized Ms. Jan Esakov for public comment. Ms. Esakov stated her concern is the 500% price increase for the permit fee per kayak for Spartanburg County residents. Ms. Esakov noted that when setting the fee structure, the environmental impact should be considered. Kayaks do not cause erosion or impact the environment. Ms. Esakov has been an adjoining property owner for over 30 years and appreciates the wardens and those that maintain the water reservoirs, but would like to see the fees reduced for kayaks to encourage enjoying nature and the outdoors, including the reservoirs.

Mr. Montgomery recognized Mr. Kyle Joslin for public comment. Mr. Joslin stated that Spartanburg Water has no authority to charge anyone that is on the lake. They are required by legislature and the South Carolina Constitution to allow the public on these navigable waters. It has never been approved for Spartanburg Water to tax people for using the public's natural resource. Mr. Joslin stated that he goes on the lake all the time and doesn't pay for a permit. There is no law that he could be cited for.

Mr. Montgomery stated that concludes the Public Comment period.

4. MONTHLY FINANCIAL REPORT

Newt Pressley presented a financial summary of SWS 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.

5. HEALTH AND DENTAL INSURANCE RENEWAL

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

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2021 - 2022 Per Pay Period Contribution	Consumer Choice Plus Medical Plan	Consumer Choice Medical Plan	Basic Medical Plan	Dental Plan
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.

Mr. Littlejohn moved and Ms. Viney seconded the motion to ratify the action taken in the SSSD meeting and 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.

6. 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:

Insurance Carrier	Annual Premium
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: \$78,847.72 for SWS and \$24,899.28 for SSSD.

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Mr. Littlejohn moved and Ms. Viney 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.

7. WATER QUALITY REPORT

Bobby Walden provided the Commission with an update on water quality.

Reservoir #1 Intake Structure: Geosmin – ranged from 13 to 16 PPT and MIB – is less than detect. Finished Water entering the distribution system: Geosmin – ranged from 7.4 to 19 PPT and MIB – is less than detect. The average raw water temperature ranged from 52-55 degrees Fahrenheit. There has been a total of 15 water quality complaints throughout the distribution system. Based on historical trends and current water quality data, the next preventative maintenance application will be the first week in April.

Spartanburg Water recently received notice from SCDNR in their annual aquatic plant management plan, that they have included additional stocking of sterile triploid grass carp in 2022 for both Lake Bowen and Reservoir #1. The carp will be released as soon as possible, in early spring.

The above was provided as information to the Commission.

8. REPORT ON DRINKING WATER RESERVOIRS

Ms. Schneider provided an update on watercraft permits. In 2008, SWS sold 4,519 watercraft permits and in 2021 a total of 7,705 watercraft permits were sold. This reflects more than a 70% increase in watercraft permit sales. 2008 was the last year that SWS increased the boating fees for Lake Blalock and Lake Bowen. The current rate increases will capture some of the increased costs of maintaining the reservoirs.

Staff continues to monitor land transfers and provide assistance along with information to the new adjoining property owners, including assistance with transferring permits into their name.

All irrigation permits are renewed on an annual basis and expire on December 31 of each year and with renewals completed no later than January 31 of the upcoming permit year. Renewal notices were sent on November 30, 2021, to 382 irrigation permit holders at Lake Bowen and Lake Blalock. Currently, 360 irrigation permit holders have renewed their permit. 20 irrigation permit holders have removed their irrigation systems: Lake Blalock (3) and Lake Bowen (17). There are two permit holders that have not renewed on Lake Bowen. All properties that have not renewed have been posted and watercraft permit renewal requests are on hold until all associated irrigation equipment has been removed from SWS property. If necessary, SWS will remove the equipment and dispose of at the owner's expense.

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In September 2021, Watershed staff assessed all docks on Lake Blalock and Lake Bowen and identified 26 docks that were not being maintained and in need of repair – Lake Blalock (3) and Lake Bowen (23). Letters were sent to the dock owners placing them on notice that they have until May 1, 2022, to repair, replace, or remove the non-maintained dock. Currently nine non-maintained docks remain on Lake Bowen. All owners have been notified that their boat permits will not be renewed and all other permits placed on hold until their dock has been repaired, replaced, or removed. If the dock owner fails to repair, replace, or remove by the May 1, 2022, deadline a certified letter will be sent informing them that their dock will be considered abandoned property and they will be given 15 days to remove. After 15 days, if the dock is still in place, SWS will contract the removal of the dock.

Management will continue to meet with Lakefront POA Committees. The next meeting with Reservoir #1 Stakeholders is scheduled for April 18, 2022.

The above was provided as information to the Commission.

9. AGREEMENTS EXECUTED BY THE CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER ON BEHALF OF THE COMMISSION

The following agreements have been executed on behalf of the Commission by the Chief Executive Officer in accordance with the resolution adopted by the Commission on March 28, 1989.

A. Outside City Private Fire Service Agreements

(1) Grocery at Boiling Springs FS

Grocery (aka Market) at Boiling Springs, located at 4450 SC Highway 9 in Boiling Springs, wishes to connect a 12-inch water line to the Commission's (future) 12-inch water line along Bible Church Road to serve a private fire protection system, including four fire hydrants, for the above-mentioned grocery/retail suites. CHI-Boiling Springs, LLC wishes to enter into an agreement for this service.

Annual Stand-by Revenue - \$2,273.84

B. Inside City Water Main Extension Agreements

(1) Holland Park Phase 1A

Meritage Homes of South Carolina is developing Holland Park Phase 1A located off of Old Canaan Road. The development will consist of 45 residential lots, approximately 655 linear feet of 12-inch water main, 657 linear feet of 8-inch water main, 501 linear feet of 6-inch water main, 463 linear feet of 4-inch water main, 227 linear feet of 2-inch water main and two hydrants. SWS will participate in the off-site water main construction cost in accordance with the Water Main Extension Policy.

C. Outside City Water Main Extension Agreements

(1) Hazelwood Phase 1

Great Southern Homes, Inc., is developing Hazelwood Phase 1 subdivision located off of Sunnycreek Drive and Robin Helton Drive in Boiling Springs. This development will consist of 60 residential lots, approximately 1,895 linear feet of 6-inch water main, and one hydrant. The developer will bear all costs.

(2) Thompson Creek Waterline Extension

Thompson Creek, LLC is developing Thompson Creek located off of R.C. Thompson Road. The development will consist of 44 residential lots, approximately 1,733 linear feet of 8-inch water main and one hydrant. SWS will participate in the off-site water main construction cost in accordance with the Water Main Extension Policy.

D. Encroachment Agreements

All paperwork, surveys, etc., have been completed and the encroachment agreement has been recorded.

(1) Milton A. Smith, Jr., dwelling encroachment on Lake Bowen.

10. PERMITS ISSUED AT THE RESERVOIR

Applications have been submitted and all fees have been paid on the following Lake Agreements, associated with new construction and replacement.

(1) George I. and Nancy K. Barkman, desire to construct a boat lift on Lake Blalock.

(2) Thomas R. Bockstiegel, desires to replace a dock on Lake Blalock.

(3) Daniel Vakaryuk, desires to construct a dock and hard pathway on Lake Blalock.

(4) Robert Rollins, Trustee of Robert Rollins Revocable Inter Vivos Trust under agreement dated March 24, 2010 and Wendy M. Rollins, Trustee of Wendy M. Rollins Revocable Inter Vivos Trust under agreement, desire to replace a dock on Lake Bowen.

Applications have been submitted and all fees have been paid on the following Lake Agreements, associated with acknowledgement of ownership.

(1) Angela R. Bellamy, dock replacement on Lake Bowen.

(2) Leland P. Hodge II, shoreline stabilization and dock replacement on Lake Bowen.

(3) Robert Babb, dock on Lake Bowen.

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- (4) **Alfred Eskridge**, hard pathway, dock replacement, and shoreline stabilization on Lake Bowen.
- (5) **Ray A. Earnhardt**, boat ramp, personal watercraft lift, dock replacement, and shoreline stabilization on Lake Bowen.

11. NEGOTIATIONS AND MISCELLANEOUS ADMINISTRATIVE MATTERS

There were no negotiations or miscellaneous administrative matters.

Meeting adjourned at 4:09 p.m.

G. Newton Pressley
Secretary-Treasurer

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