

JOINT MUNICIPAL WATER AND SEWER COMMISSION

MINUTES

September 13, 2023

The Joint Municipal Water and Sewer Commission held its Wednesday, September 13, 2023, meeting at the Commission office at 5:30 PM.

MEMBERS IN ATTENDANCE

Steve MacDougall, Chairman - Town of Lexington
Joseph Hardee, Vice-Chairman - Gilbert-Summit Rural Water District
Bobby Keisler, County of Lexington
Viola McDaniel, Town of Swansea
Bobby Porter, Town of South Congaree
Juston Ricard, Town of Springdale
Lancer Shull, Town of Batesburg-Leesville
Frank Shumpert, Town of Pelion

OTHERS IN ATTENDANCE

Jay Nicholson, General Manager	Gene House, Operations Manager
Stephanie Morton, Clerk to Commission	Guy Schmoltze, Engineering & Const.
Ashton Blocker, Finance	Brittany Harmon, Finance
Madeline Zimmerman, Finance	Randy Davis, Davis/Frawley Attorneys
Amy Hill, Richardson/Thomas	Will Lewis, Richardson/Thomas
Will Kerr, Raftelis	Ted Luckadoo, Batesburg-Leesville
Matt Dewitt, Batesburg-Leesville	Jim Drennan, South Congaree
Jeff Friedman, Friedman/Dazzio & Zulanas,P.C.	Nate Stanley, News 19
Jay Friedman, Friedman/Dazzio & Zulanas,P.C.	

The Chairman called the meeting to order.

The Chairman confirmed the media had been notified.

Chairman MacDougall addressed item three (3) regarding consideration of minutes from the 7/12/23 meeting. Mr. Bobby Keisler made the motion to accept the minutes as submitted. Mr. Bobby Porter seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

The Chairman stated that item seven (7) Executive Session was being moved up to the next item. Chairman MacDougall stated he would entertain a motion to go into Executive Session regarding personnel, legal, contractual matter, PFAS Litigation and discussion of contractual matter related to neighboring municipal utilities. Mr. Joseph Hardee made the motion to go into Executive Session. Mr. Bobby Keisler seconded the motion and the motion passed unanimously.

Coming out of Executive Session the Chairman stated that the only motion made during Executive Session was the motion to adjourn. The Chairman stated that Mr. Frank Shumpert made the motion to adjourn, and Mr. Juston Ricard seconded the motion, and it was unanimous.

The Chairman addressed item eight (8) possible action in follow up to Executive Session. Mr. Joseph Hardee made the motion to allow Mr. Jay Nicholson to proceed with engaging attorneys related to the PFAS litigation. Mr. Bobby Porter seconded the motion, and it was unanimous.

Mr. Lancer Shull made a motion to allow Mr. Jay Nicholson and the Commission's attorney to enter into discussions of a contractual matter relating to neighboring municipal utilities as discussed in Executive Session. Mr. Bobby Keisler seconded the motion. The motion passed with Mayor McDaniel recusing herself from the vote.

The Chairman addressed item four (4) Executive Report. Mr. Jay Nicholson presented an informal report to the board. A full copy of the report is attached as an addendum to the minutes.

Chairman MacDougall addressed item five (5) consideration to waive fees for water service connection to Lexington County Emergency Services Shelter and Storage Facility on Ball Park Road (old gym building). Mr. Nicholson stated that back in 2010-2011 Lexington County approached the Commission about partnering with the Commission to build a water line to provide water service to the 911 Facility on Ball Park. The Commission has some monies in this line and the County provided CDBG money towards this line also. The Commission already serves the 911 Facility, and now the County would also like to tie in the Emergency Shelter and Storage Facilities building. The County currently has water service with Blue Granite for the Emergency Services Facility. The County has gotten a quote for connection to tie in the line and set the two-inch meter for approximately \$7,000. Mr. Nicholson stated that the County has not asked for anything, but he considers this to be part of the 2011 project. Mr. Nicholson proposed that the Commission waive the connection costs and not charge them a tap fee (approx.. \$10,000 value). The County would be responsible for setting the backflow and having it tested at their own expense. Mr. Frank Shumpert made a motion to waive the tap fee and connection cost for the Emergency Services Shelter and Storage Facility on Ball Park Rd. Mr. Bobby Keisler seconded the motion, and it passed unanimously.

The Chairman addressed item six (6) Tap Fee Study presentation and Proposed Policy Revision. Mr. Nicholson introduced Mr. Will Kerr with Raftelis Financial Consultants. Mr. Kerr gave an extensive presentation on the Commission's current tap fees and tap fee policy, and how the proposed recommendations were calculated. Mr. Kerr presented the proposed changes to be made to current tap fees and changes proposed to the Commission's tap fee policy. After several questions the board decided to take the proposed information under advisement and bring it back for consideration next month.

Chairman MacDougall addressed item nine (9) regarding announcements. Mr. Jay Nicholson stated the next Commission meeting will be held Wednesday, October 11th. The Commission's Christmas Party will be held Thursday, November 30th. Mr. Barry Leaphart has had neck surgery, please keep him in your prayers. Donna West welcomed her first grandchild.

As there was no other business, the Chairman adjourned the meeting. The meeting adjourned at 7:55pm.



PROGRESS THROUGH COOPERATION

Executive Report

July 12 – September 13, 2023

Legislative/Regulatory Update



- **Batesburg-Leesville project**
- Bid openings held on 8/29
- JMWSC portion – approximately \$22M
- B-L portion – approximately \$10M

- **Swansea**
- COG finalizing the scope for the RFP; advertising soon



Legislative/Regulatory Update

- **LCRI (Lead and Copper Rule Improvements)**
 - Service Line Inventory complete (one year ahead of regulatory requirement)
- **PFOA/PFOS (Per and Polyfluoroalkyl Substances)**
 - Class action litigation settlement options discussed this meeting

Professional Engagement

- **Water Utility Council met 8/30/23**
- **Saluda River Basin Council – State Water Plan**
 - Group continues to meet monthly
- **SC Water Quality Association met 9/7/23**

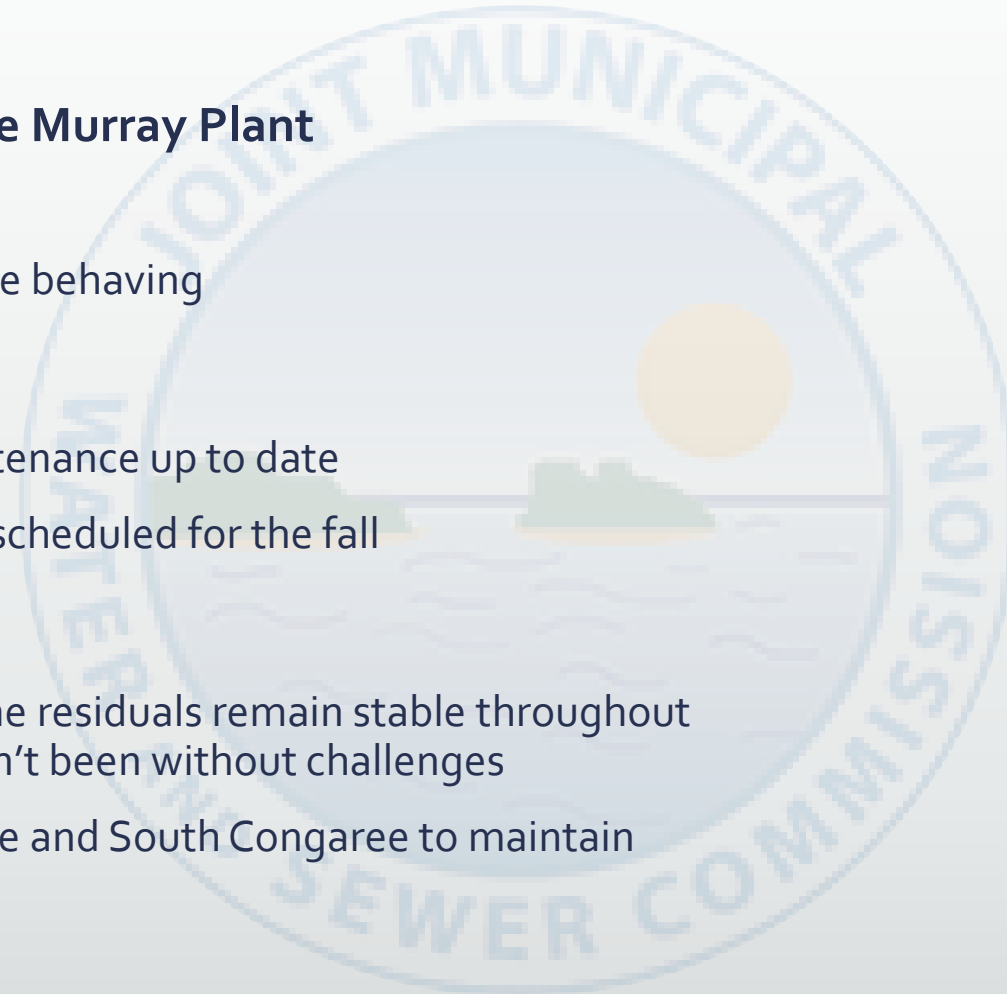
Workforce

- **Training and Education**
 - Emergency preparedness and main response/repair – Ops staff
- **Staffing**
- **Operations**
 - Summer/Fall intern
 - Tech/Operator position open
- **Engineering**
 - Engineering position filled; Anthony Self starts 10/9
 - GIS & CMMS Specialist position advertised/open
- **Customer Service**
 - CSR position advertised/open
- **Finance**
 - Fine tuning job description



Operations

- **High Service Pumps/Lake Murray Plant**
 - Jockey pump is down
 - Meter station seems to be behaving
- **Tank Maintenance**
 - All inspections and maintenance up to date
 - Hwy 6 and Platt Springs scheduled for the fall
- **Water Quality**
 - Water quality and chlorine residuals remain stable throughout distribution system; hasn't been without challenges
 - Flushing on the south side and South Congaree to maintain chlorine residuals



Engineering & Construction

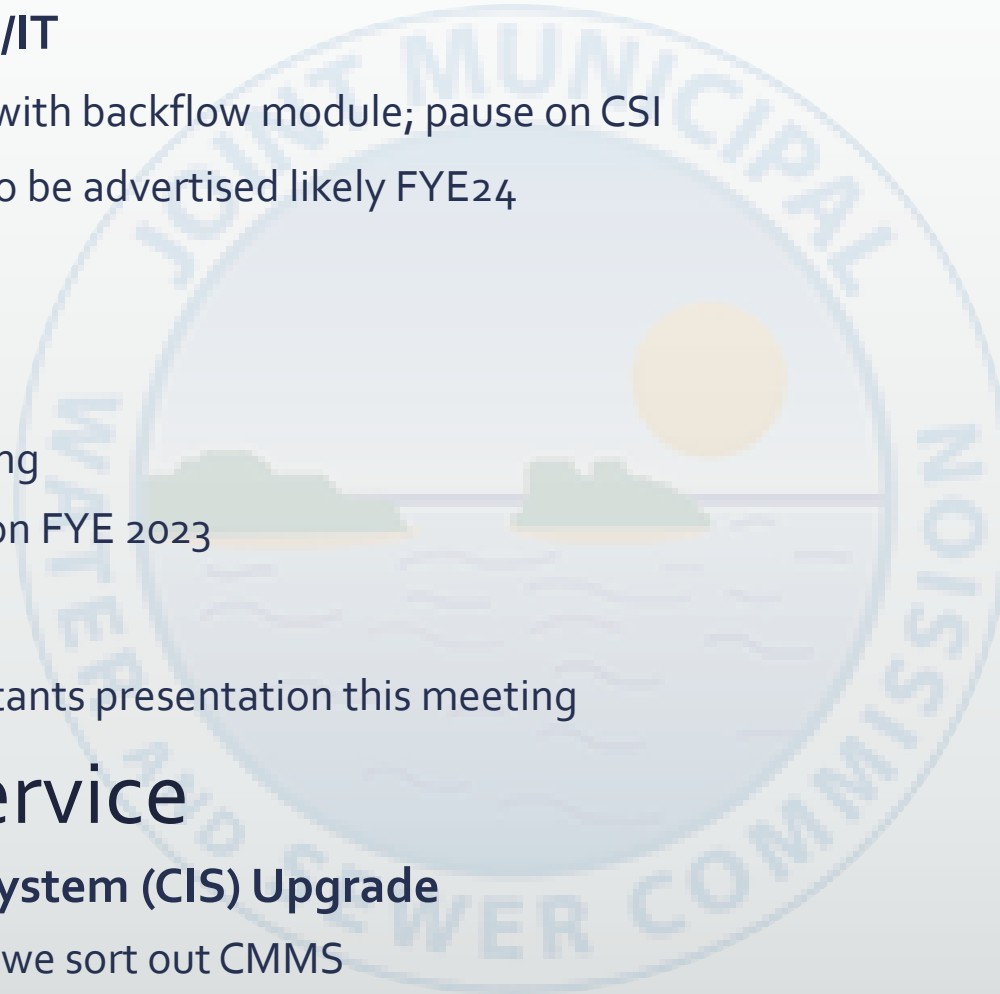
- **Technology – GIS/CMMS/IT**
 - CMMS – CityWorks; live with backflow module; pause on CSI
 - RFQ for AMI assistance to be advertised likely FYE24

Finance

- **Investments**
 - Investments remain strong
 - Auditors continue work on FYE 2023
- **Tap Fee Study**
 - Raftelis Financial Consultants presentation this meeting

Customer Service

- **Customer Information System (CIS) Upgrade**
 - SpryPoint on pause until we sort out CMMS



Capital Improvements Program

▪ Water Projects

- Charter Oak Elevated Water Tank project significantly complete
- Phase two of water plant transmission main; installation mostly completed
- Pelion Water Main Project; contractor has completed installation – pressure testing
- Black Jack Oak Lane; waiting on permitting and closeout
- Muddy Springs Water Main Extension; waiting on permitting and closeout
- B-L Project; received bids on 8/29 – extremely favorable numbers
- Bluefield Rd Water Main extension completed; PTO has been issued
- Fort's Ridge subdivision (Pelion) to extend main along Lydia Dr for improved flows; project has been permitted for construction
- Calico Farms conceptual design phase; we have received plans; Commission will construct a tank and 24" water main on this property
- Working with GMC on water main improvements at the Platt Springs Tank

Capital Improvements Program

▪ Sewer Projects

- Old Orangeburg Sewer Upgrades (CDBG) gravity portion; closeout with County pending
- Old Orangeburg/Platt Springs Sewer Upgrades (SRF); bid 9/12 – approx. \$2.1M
- Lexington Hills Lift Station rehab; planning phase with Frazier Engineering (Cha)
- Two Notch Lift Station #2 rehabilitation; under construction
- Bluefield Pump Station; design complete
- Platt Springs Crossing project; coordinating with developers due to several sewer projects at that location
- Calico Farms project; conceptual design phase (sewer routing)
- Highfill Engineering has begun work on force main upgrade along Bluefield Rd

JMWSC at a Glance

	Jul-22	Aug-22	Sep-22	Oct-22	Nov-22	Dec-22	Jan-23	Feb-23	Mar-23	Apr-23	May-23	Jun-23	FY23 Growth	Previous YTD	Jul-23	Aug-23	FY23 Growth	Previous YTD	
Customer Data																			
Water customers	19,114	19,213	19,228	19,263	19,340	19,416	19,473	19,499	19,560	19,622	19,677	19,699	3.14%	2.89%	19,725	19,771	0.37%	0.59%	
Sewer customers	5,936	6,008	6,027	6,063	6,135	6,212	6,259	6,284	6,295	6,328	6,381	6,385	7.64%	4.99%	6,392	6,400	0.25%	1.28%	
New water only	8	41	4	6	12	6	9	5	53	30	8	13	195	250	9	33	42	49	
New water/sewer	2	67	16	36	39	86	9	19	8	44	39	13	378	266	4	4	8	69	
Total new customers	10	108	20	42	51	92	18	24	61	74	47	26	573	516	13	37	50	118	
Start accounts	251	286	208	209		153	222	184		207	160	268			224	256			
Close accounts	75	103	79	54		38	42	36		44	52	50			99	74			
Meters read (AMR)	19,300	19,316	19,349	19,439	19,398	19,361	19,084	19,433	19,539	19,646	19,824	19,907			19,798	19,943			
Meters unread (AMR)	96	89	158	94	170	278	639	331	246	205	89	65			195	78			
Disconnected/nonpmt	147	171	178	135	159		201	162	98	103	117	170				124			
Remain disconnected	31	26	27	10	23		34	18	15	14	14	17				16			
Water quality complaints																			
Taste/odor/color	2	2	1	1		0	0	2		0	1	2			1	1			
Pressure	4	3	4	6		2	1	3		1	3	3			1	5			
Total	6	5	5	7		2	1	5		1	4	5			2	6			
Flow Data (MGD)																			
Water avg daily flows	7.87	8.10	7.85	6.54	5.08	5.25	*4.71	4.69	5.36	6.22	*7.4	8.39			9.02	9.20			
previous year	6.95	7.32	6.34	5.40	4.45	4.13	4.17	4.36	4.62	5.64	7.21	9.19			7.87	8.10			
Sewer avg daily (combined)	1.42	1.38	1.45	1.37	1.377	1.395	1.429	1.467	4.431	1.513	1.44	1.42			1.52	1.49			
previous year	1.324	1.446	1.496	1.39	1.39	1.34	1.37	1.367	1.329	1.365	1.35	1.34			1.42	1.38			
Current projects																			
Residential	42	42		42		41	41	41		35		37			37		Res lots		
Commercial	27	27		29		26	23	27		21		17			21		water sewer		
JMWSC	8	8		9		9	9	9		9		8			8		2,386	1,815	
Total projects	77	77		80		76	73	77		65		62			66				
Locates received	1273	1457	1190	1198	1198	1086	1297	1191	1173	1088	1181	1041			1041	898			
Locates marked	705	897	722	729	747	620	860	755	784	693	803	609			567	539			
Total LF marked	59,070	48,750	46,620	59,310	46,795	52,353	67,830	65,690	54,954	52,690	67,310	54,925			57,630	58,815			

Revenues/Expenses thru aug 2023

	Actual	Budget	% Budget
Operating Revenues *	4,301,431	22,468,387	19%
Operating Expenses *	1,186,114	13,697,178	9%

*Direct operating revenues/expenses only. Does not include debt service and depreciation information.



PROGRESS THROUGH COOPERATION