

MINUTES
July 13, 2017
SPECIAL COUNCIL MEETING WITH
THE WATER AND SEWER COMMITTEE
10:30 A.M.

Town of Edisto Beach
Town Hall
2414 Murray Street
Edisto Beach, SC 29438

Present: Jane S. Darby, Mayor, Susan Hornsby, Mayor Pro Tempore, Jerome Kizer, Crawford Moore, and Patti Smyer, Council Members; *Quorum of Council Present.*

Water and Sewer Committee Members Present: Bob Sandifer, Bob Renner, Charles Kerekes, Laurie Sanders. Absent: Jody Kleckley

Representing Wharton and Smith: Tim Smith, Sean Sanford and Davis Rizer.

Representing Thomas and Hutton: Lindy Cummins.

Town Administrator Iris Hill and Utilities Director Bob Doub were also in attendance.

Administrator Hill opened the meeting by stating that part of the Progressive Design-Build process is that everybody understands throughout this process where we are and where we're going so that we can accept input and make sure that we're not having any missteps along the way. The Town, along with the Town Attorney, are working on the Phase II contract with Wharton and Smith, which provides for 100% plans, the permitting and construction of the project. On June 29, 2017 the Town issued and presold bonds. On Friday, July 7, the Town was served with a lawsuit from McKenzie, McLeod, Gadsden and Benson that stayed the Town from doing anything further on the two lots proposed for the R/O plant. The lawsuit will have to be resolved before the Town can proceed with the construction of the plant. The Town Attorney has said the suit will take at least 18 months. Closing on the bonds will take place on July 18 and the Town has to spend the funds within three years.

Lindy Cummins went over the plans for the R/O building and system.

Administrator Hill asked Patrick Brown if there were any problems with the trees that were scheduled for removal. Mr. Brown stated a lot clearing permit would be necessary. Bob Renner asked Mr. Cummins if all three of the R/O skids would run at the same time. Mr. Cummins said they would not, they would operate on demand according to the water level. The three skids will alternate in the winter months and all three will be used during peak periods. Administrator Hill asked how the three skids would be kept from being completely inactive during winter months. Mr. Cummins said they would be run intermittently so they would not "dry out." Administrator Hill asked if this would require extra maintenance and be more expensive. Mr. Cummins said that it should not cost any extra. Patrick Brown asked if there was a handicapped-accessible parking space next to the walkway. Mr. Cummins

stated they had not designed parking. A note was made on the Town's set of plans about accessible parking.

Administrator Hill asked if the emergency generator would be housed inside the building. Mr. Cummins said it would be. Mayor Darby asked about the noise factor of the generator. Mr. Cummins said that the generator would not be able to be heard from a house next door. He stated that the R/O facility at the Isle of Palms is similar and they have no noise complaints. Mr. Sanders asked if the generator would be fully automatic and transferable. Mr. Smith answered that it would be. Mr. Renner asked about fuel storage for the generator. Mr. Smith stated the fuel would be diesel and stored under the generator. Tommy Mann, an Edisto resident in attendance, asked if the new well planned for the project is going to be located inside the building with the R/O plant. Mr. Cummins said it was not, but could be located within a different building. Mr. Mann said that from a noise standpoint it should be. Mr. Cummins said the well would be submersible. Mayor Darby said that for esthetic purposes it would be housed in a building. Bob Sandifer asked if there would be personnel at the R/O plant full time. Administrator Hill said it would not be necessary to have someone at the plant at all times since the SCADA system can be run remotely. Mr. Sandifer asked if office space would be available inside the plant. Mr. Doub said there would be.

The Water and Sewer Committee members present were in agreement with the proposal to keep wells #4 and #5 as emergency backup wells.

Mr. Mann said, "You're going to fill the ground storage, Bob said, during the off season and pump back through the booster pumps from that. You'll have to do it more often than off season." Mr. Doub said, "Off **peak** is what I said."

Mr. Sandifer asked how the 1200-foot distance for the concentrate discharge line was determined. Mr. Cummins said it was tentatively accepted by DHEC. Mayor Darby asked if it would be a marine hazard. Mr. Sandifer wanted to make sure it was ok to have the discharge go into the ocean, and DHEC did not have a problem with it. Mr. Cummins said, "We have an initial submittal into DHEC showing that concept and they said, 'It's no problem'... There was a problem with Big Bay and the creeks. They don't want you disturbing anything in the creeks... This concentrate water is going to be almost identical to the ocean water." Mr. Sandifer asked if the temperature of the discharge would be different in summer or winter. Mr. Cummins stated if it was a different temperature, it would not be noticeable. Administrator Hill asked if the Town would have to treat the discharge line so that it would not get clogged or have things growing on it. Mr. Cummins said that there would not be a need for the line to be treated.

During a conversation concerning the water lines, Administrator Hill told Mr. Cummins that sections of Myrtle and Sunset were to be paved. She stated that, "We'd really like to put the line in before it's paved. It's going to be paved sometime this fall... It would be so much simpler." Mayor Darby said, "Previous Council, this Council, everybody has worked on getting this paved for many years now... You could put it in and cap both ends, as long as it's in the ground before we pave. It's very important." The project director for the paving project is Craig Winn.

Mr. Sandifer asked what size the trees were that would be taken down. Administrator Hill said that they were varied sizes, and that it was not definite that they would be taken down. Directional boring is being considered as an alternative to both taking down trees and cutting the newly-paved road.

Mr. Renner asked where the new well that would replace Well #3 is going to be located. Administrator Hill said it would be on Lee Street on the corner of the property owned by Colleton County.

Mayor Darby asked Mr. Cummins if it was possible to have the system tested in the off-peak season. She stated there was a date in the plans indicating the system would be tested in June or July. Mayor Darby said it needed to be done prior to Memorial Day. Administrator Hill asked if the Town should notify property owners when the changeover to the R/O plant would take place. All in attendance agreed that would be a good idea. Mayor Darby asked if there would be a noticeable change in water pressure after the changeover. Mr. Smith said there should not be. Administrator Hill reminded all in attendance that all schedules are subject to change including the testing and changeover. She also stated that due to ongoing litigation concerning the lots would probably push back the September 2018 operational date for the R/O plant. Mayor Darby wanted to make clear that the Town wanted everything possible to be done prior to the actual construction of the facility. Administrator Hill stated, "I agree, but I think it depends on if it's going to cost us a lot more money to do it piecemeal like that." Administrator Hill stated that the plaintiffs in the lawsuit have done is stayed the project and from a legal standpoint, the Town has to go through the process. Administrator Hill also told those in attendance that the bond money had to be spent within a three-year time frame or the Town would have to go through arbitrage, which could be costly.

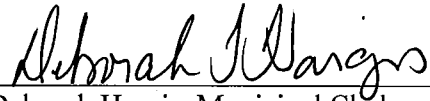
Tommy Mann asked Mr. Cummins if the blending of the water occurred in the Clearwell. Mr. Cummins replied that blending occurs prior to the water going into the Clearwell. Administrator Hill asked if the equipment in the Clearwell would need maintenance and asked what the life span was. Mr. Cummins stated, "One of those pumps should last you probably 20, 25 years." Administrator Hill asked if homeowners could anticipate any problems once the changeover to the R/O plant was complete, such as flooding due to pressure difference. Mr. Cummins stated that homeowners should not have any problems. Older homes with older pipes, however, may have problems and require a strainer to keep buildup off the old pipes from being deposited in the R/O water. Bob Doub, Utilities Director, said his main concern was a change in pressure. Currently the Town is running at approximately 65 psi. and is concerned once the storage tank is filled the Town and its residents will have increased pressure that will cause the lines to burst. Mr. Cummins said the opposite may actually be the case, that the pressure would be lessened. The hydraulic model, run by Thomas and Hutton has determined that there will be no major pressure issues for homeowners.

Administrator Hill asked Council members and Water and Sewer Committee members to email all questions concerning the plans to her and she would compile them. Mr. Cummins said that they would proceed with securing storm water permits. Permits are good for two years from issuance. Administrator Hill told those in attendance the Town would move ahead with permitting, but scheduling would be determined by the current litigation. Administrator Hill asked that comments and questions be submitted to her prior to July 31, 2017. The plan is to go forward with permitting as planned, for the R/O plant to be built on the site of the two lots currently involved in litigation. Administrator Hill asked the Committee and Council, "Is there anything else that you need, that we have not provided, so that you can fully participate in this process?" No one answered affirmatively.

The meeting was adjourned by common consent.

The media/public was informed of the date, time and location of the meeting on Friday, July 7, 2017.

APPROVED BY TOWN COUNCIL



Deborah Hargis, Municipal Clerk
August 10, 2017