

Water and Sewer Committee Meeting
June 27, 2014
10:30 a.m.

The following were in attendance:

Ray Johnson, Charlie Kerekes, Bob Sandifer and David Whitten (via conference call), Committee Members; Bob Doub and Iris Hill, ex-officio members. Ray Archibald was excused.

Mr. Johnson called the meeting to order and the Committee discussed step one of a two-step process, the Request for Qualifications for a Progressive Design Build Procurement document submitted to the Committee members by Town Administrator Iris Hill. Mr. Johnson asked for comments and suggestions were made. Administrator Hill asked the Committee to provide her with the specific language each member would like to have in the document and she would make sure it was included.

Mr. Robert Sandifer had questions about the average daily demand numbers provided in previous studies and asked wouldn't it be more logical to base the future demand growth projections for the next ten years on the last ten years? Also, wouldn't it be more logical to base the level of future "build out" on the last ten years of modest "build out" rather than 100% "build out" as proposed in Attachment E? Mr. Sandifer also questioned why conservation measures such as staggered landscape irrigation are not being considered. Mr. Sandifer questioned whether the peak day demand is a one day total or an average of several days. Mr. Sandifer also asked why the procurement process outlined in the Progressive Design/Build Procurement document, recently issued for comment, had the total system upgrade completed in 2016? It is implied in the body of the text that a phased approach could be considered but clearly the direction of the document is to do it all now. He further stated that the majority of the current Town Council seems to be interested in a phased/incremental implementation process as the initial focus where the most urgent need is addressed rather than a total upfront development plan. If the phased approach is preferred, then the procurement document should be structured accordingly rather than its current upfront focus or doing it all now. Although language was included in the document that allowed flexibility, this could be explained in greater detail, if needed. Administrator Hill re-emphasized to the Committee that she would make whatever changes they wanted in the Request for Qualification document. Mr. Sandifer also asked that consideration be given to asking for Town Council direction on their preferred approach, phased or total system upgrade now. Administrator Hill stated that although the process had been approved by a previous Council, this item had been brought before the new Councilmembers.

Bob Doub demonstrated the SCADA system to all in attendance. Mr. Doub showed the Committee the usage pattern for the last few days. It was recommended that when replacing the SCADA system later this year to find one that would provide more information than the current system.

Administrator Hill informed the Committee that the Town was re-evaluated by Standard and Poors using new criteria. She was pleased to report the Town of Edisto Beach's credit rating has been upgraded three levels from an A+ to an AA+. This upgrade would make interest rates more favorable if the Town needed to secure another bond to improve the water situation. A conversation about promoting conservation of water followed.

The Committee discussed the issue of irrigation. Administrator Hill informed the Committee that over the Memorial Day weekend, there was an issue with the supply of water that is usually not seen until July 4th weekend. The Committee discussed various ways to address the supply including enforcing the Town's Irrigation Ordinance or changing the Ordinance. The Committee decided that dividing the beach area into two zones and having each zone irrigate on certain days and having a certain time period of the day (3:00 a.m. to 9:00 a.m.) designated as irrigation hours would decrease the strain on the current system. Administrator Hill told the Committee she would adjust the Ordinance scheduled for a second reading before Council on July 9th to reflect those changes.

The meeting was adjourned by comment consent at 12:25 p.m.

The media/public was informed of the date, time and place of the meeting on Thursday, June 19, 2014.

APPROVED BY THE WATER AND SEWER COMMITTEE
