

REGULAR MEETING OF THE COMMISSIONERS OF THE BAMBERG BOARD OF PUBLIC WORKS ON MONDAY, JANUARY 31, 2005 AT 5:15 P.M. AT CITY HALL. MEMBERS PRESENT: Chairman Bob Clary, Commissioner Carl Kilgus, and Commissioner Dr. Marion Dwight. MANAGER: Bruce Ellis. CLERK: Bruce Watson. VISITORS: Mayor Alton McCollum, Jerry Durgan, Will Martin and Phyllis Overstreet.

Chairman Clary called the meeting to order and Commissioner Kilgus gave the invocation.

Commissioner Dwight made the motion to approve the minutes of the November 29, 2004 meeting as received. Commissioner Kilgus made the second. All approved. The motion carried.

During the discussion of the Income and Expense Statements, Commissioner Dwight asked Manager Ellis if there was anything major that the Commissioners needed to be aware of.

Manager Ellis said there was nothing major to disclose but told the Commissioners that they would receive additional reporting information beginning at the next meeting.

Commissioner Kilgus asked if the increase in the bank balance of \$1,000.00 was due to interest income.

Clerk Watson explained that the bank balance just happened to be that close for November and December but that thousands upon thousands of dollars come in as revenues and also go out as expenses each month.

After some discussion of the SCDOT's need for .02 acres of right of way from the BPW on Elm Street for the 301 Widening Project, Commissioner Kilgus made the motion to sell the SCDOT .02 acres of right of way along Elm Street for \$1,000.00. Commissioner Dwight made the second. All approved. The motion carried.

Under Manager's Report.

Manager Ellis informed the Commissioners that Mr. Graham Edwards had been removed as president of Santee Cooper by Governor Sanford. Manager Ellis told the Commissioners that Governor Sanford wanted to collect revenues from Santee Cooper that were generated from Bamberg, Georgetown and cooperatives throughout the state only to spend the revenues in areas for economic development purposes that never contributed to those revenues.

Manager Ellis said Governor Sanford was only supporting large growth areas like Spartanburg, Greenville, Columbia and Charleston. He said a lot of things were worrying him concerning Santee Cooper and the governor.

Manager Ellis informed the Commissioners that Hal Johnson was leaving Orangeburg to take a position as an economic development director in the upstate. He said they worked together closely and that Mr. Johnson would be missed.

Manager Ellis told the Commissioners that the BPW may need to consider implementing new policies concerning deposits for commercial establishments. He said the BPW has not required deposits for chain stores. Manager Ellis then informed the Commissioners that Kentucky Fried Chicken had changed hands leaving the BPW with a \$5,000.00 unpaid utility bill. He told the Commissioners that he would have more information for them at the next meeting.

Commissioner Dwight asked Manager Ellis if there was any recourse for the BPW to get the \$5,000.00 paid.

Manager Ellis explained that the past owner of Kentucky Fried Chicken had issued a check and he immediately cancelled the check. He said the BPW was presently seeking criminal action against the owner.

Commissioner Dwight asked if other utility companies required deposits for commercial customers.

Manager Ellis explained that some companies required escrow accounts to be set up.

Manager Ellis also explained to the Commissioners that the BPW needed a good policy dealing with the cut off of utilities for nonpay. He explained that the BPW did not cut off utilities for residential customers in bad weather for nonpay but that the commercial customers were being cut off. Manager Ellis said the state legislators were talking about passing legislation to address how utilities could be disconnected. Manager Ellis said that the liabilities associated with disconnecting utilities worked both ways.

Commissioner Dwight asked Manager Ellis to meet with an attorney to draft a policy dealing with the disconnecting of utilities and to then come back to the Commissioners with a proposed policy.

Manager Ellis informed the Commissioner that the BPW also needed a policy to charge for connecting customers to the BPW's gas system. He explained that the BPW was investing a lot of money connecting people to the BPW's natural gas system to be used only in times of emergency. He said the BPW in these cases were investing in equipment that would never be recouped from such usage

Manager Ellis also informed the Commissioners that he was working with the Bamberg County Fire Service consultant to plan a county water system. He said money was available to develop such a system.

Commissioner Dwight made the motion to go into executive session to discuss negotiations incident to a contractual arrangement. Commissioner Kilgus made the second. All approved. The motion carried.

Commissioner Dwight made the motion to come out of the executive session. Commissioner Kilgus made the second. All approved. The motion carried.

Chairman Clary informed the audience that no decision had been made in executive session.

With no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 6:15 p.m.

ATTEST:

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Clerk

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Chairman-BPW

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Commissioner-BPW

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Commissioner-BPW