

REGULAR MEETING OF THE COMMISSIONERS OF THE BAMBERG BOARD OF PUBLIC WORKS ON MONDAY, JULY 28, 2003 AT 5:15 P.M. AT CITY HALL. MEMBEERS PRESENT: Chairman Bob Clary, Commissioner Carl Kilgus, and Commissioner Marion Dwight. MANAGER: Bruce Ellis. CLERK: Bruce Watson. VISITORS: Will Martin and Gene Searson.

Chairman Clary called the meeting to order and Clerk Watson gave the invocation.

Commissioner Kilgus made the motion to approve the minutes of the June 30, 2003 meeting as received. Commissioner Dwight made the second. All approved. The motion carried.

During the discussion of the income and expense statements, Commissioner Dwight said he had noticed that revenues were down as compared to last year.

Manager Ellis explained that lower revenues were mainly due to Rockland's use.

Commissioner Dwight asked what the gas prices were doing at this time.

Manager Ellis explained that gas prices were continuing to climb which was hurting everyone.

Clerk Watson explained to the Commissioners that the income and expense statement for June was a year end report. He went on to explain that once grant monies received were backed out of the report and once depreciation was added to the report that expenses could exceed revenues by \$200,000.00. He explained that the auditors would do this which could put the BPW \$200,000.00 in the red for the year. Clerk Watson also explained that since \$600,000.00 is due to be reimbursed through the grant projects that the BPW's cash really stood at \$4,962,000.00 at the end of June.

Under Manager's Report:

Manager Ellis presented the Commissioners with figures on the 2003-2004 budget. He explained that a lot more money was put in the electric department this year in order to upgrade the electric system to a 7200 voltage system. Manager Ellis explained the reasoning for the upgrade. He informed the Commissioners that Santee Cooper would be helping with the engineering for the upgrade.

Manager Ellis explained that the BPW could not serve customers electricity outside their assigned area.

Chairman Clary asked if an area is annexed could the BPW serve the newly annexed area if the area was outside the service area before it was annexed.

Manager Ellis explained that once an area is annexed that the BPW could serve the area.

Manager Ellis went on to explain that the budget called for purchasing new vehicles this year since none were purchased last year in the midst of all the projects that were going on.

Manager Ellis explained that the budget could be adopted now or that the Commissioners could wait until he presented the power point presentation on the budget. He said everything was pretty general.

During some further discussion, Manager Ellis said the City was ahead of the game but that the BPW could be sucking wind do to its transfer to the City each year.

Commissioner Kilgus voiced that the BPW was owned by the City and he felt the transfer should continue.

Manager Ellis reminded the Commissioners that deregulation will require utilities to be separated from tax based operations. He said the argument is that utility customers should not be subsidizing taxpayers which he said occurs when monies are transferred.

Commissioner Kilgus said he was surprised to see the headlines that the City had an excess in revenues for the year.

Manager Ellis explained that there were no raises for the Commissioners in the new budget.

Commissioner Kilgus voiced that he had never asked for the salaries of the Commissioners to be raised but that it was Commissioner Bunch who asked for the raises.

Commissioner Kilgus presented the Commissioners with an article that talked about other water systems that had received money to put fluoride in their drinking water. He asked where the BPW stood in placing fluoride in their drinking water.

Manager Ellis explained that the BPW is presently feeding fluoride in their system. He said the new water system was up and running.

Manager Ellis informed the Commissioners that the contractor is moving equipment and material to begin the upgrade for the wastewater plant which would be part of the Tobacco Grant Projects.

Chairman Clary asked how much damage had the BPW received during the terrible storm of last week.

Manager Ellis explained that the BPW substained several lightning strikes and had a few lines taken down by falling trees.

Commissioner Dwight then made the motion to approve the 2003-2004 BPW Budget of \$12,618,354.00 as presented. Commissioner Kilgus made the second. All approved. The motion carried.

With no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 5:40 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