

REGULAR MEETING OF THE COMMISSIONERS OF THE BAMBERG BOARD OF PUBLIC WORKS ON MONDAY, AUGUST 25, 2003 AT 5:15 P.M. AT CITY HALL. MEMBERS PRESENT: Chairman Bob Clary, Commissioner Carl Kilgus, and Commissioner Marion Dwight. MANAGER: Bruce Ellis. CLERK: Bruce Watson. VISITORS: Will Martin, Gene Searson and Jerry Durgan.

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

Commissioner Kilgus thanked Clerk Watson for report he gave concerning the Income and Expense Statements at the last meeting.

Commissioner Kilgus then made the motion to approve the minutes of the July 28, 2003 meeting as received. Commissioner Dwight made the second. All approved. The motion carried.

During the discussion of the Income and Expense Statements, Commissioner Kilgus said he had noticed that the wastewater treatment plant chemical costs were higher than the month of July the previous year. He asked what had caused this.

Manager Ellis explained that the increase in chemical costs was due to the pretreatment of Rockland's wastewater which was now in full operation.

Commissioner Kilgus said he had also noticed that community promotion costs and vehicle expense costs were down as compared to last year this time but that miscellaneous operating expenses were up from last year.

Commissioner Kilgus asked Manager Ellis to explain the line items named SCAT Park and D.A.F. Plant Expenses which were now being reported on the Expense Statements.

Manager Ellis explained that the SCAT Park Expenses were expenses incurred for the water and wastewater treatment plants at the Tri-County Alliance SCAT Park in Barnwell. He explained that the D.A.F. Plant Expenses were expenses incurred to operate the pretreatment portion of the plant for Rockland's wastewater.

Commissioner Kilgus asked what the Professional Service Expenses covered.

Manager Ellis explained that the expenses covered engineering costs and auditors costs during the year.

Commissioner Dwight said he had noticed that Hay Revenues were up as compared to last year's revenues which he felt was due to the wet weather.

Commissioner Kilgus informed the Commissioners that he had also noticed that Employees Insurance Costs in the Electric Department were down as compared to last year's. Commissioner Kilgus asked if any grant money had been received since last month's report.

Manager explained that \$400,000.00 had been reimbursed to the BPW since last month.

Under Manager's Report:

Manager Ellis presented a power point presentation to the Commissioners highlighting Well 9 and Water Treatment Plant 3. He explained that the new well cost \$176,561.00 and that the new treatment plant cost \$1,723,703.00. Manager Ellis explained the various flow rates for the new well and the treatment process for the new plant.

Manager Ellis informed the Commissioners that he was now looking at the process to remove arsenic from the drinking water if needed.

Commissioner Kilgus asked Manager Ellis to explain the BPW's position concerning drinking water.

Manager Ellis explained that the BPW could now serve Bamberg County with drinking water if needed. He informed the Commissioners that DHEC is looking at consolidating the Bamberg area at this time.~~me.~~

Manager Ellis presented the Commissioners with plans from Force & Associates to have Govan served with BPW water which he said was suggested by DHEC.

Manager Ellis reported that the floors for the pits at the wastewater plant would be poured this week as part of the 2.7 million dollar wastewater expansion project which was a funded by the Tobacco Grant.

Manager Ellis informed the Commissioners that the BPW Electric Department had been very busy trying to provide electric service to all the new businesses in Bamberg. He explained that he had met with Commerce Department Officials who wanted to help locate more medical profession jobs at the Eubanks Property Site.

Commissioner Kilgus asked if anyone had heard anything about the status of the Veterans Nursing Home which was suppose to be built in Walterboro.

Manager Ellis informed the Commissioners that he had heard nothing at this time.

Manager Ellis explained that \$900,000.00 in Tobacco Funds had been set aside to remove the sludge from the wastewater plant but that only \$300,00.00 would be needed. He said the remaining money would be used for other upgrades to the plant.

Manager Ellis said the Tobacco Grant Projects should be completed by February.

Chairman Clary commended Manager Ellis for the grants he had acquired for the BPW and the City and went on to say other areas were envious of his accomplishments. Chairman Clary said several places wanted to hire Manager Ellis just to have him acquire grants for them. Chairman Clary voiced that Manager Ellis was doing an excellent job.

Commissioner Dwight said he wanted to second Chairman Clary's comments.

Commissioners Kilgus asked Manager Ellis if the BPW would serve the new Bar-B-Q House.

Manager Ellis explained that the new Bar-B-Q House which was being built at the corner of the Charleston Augusta Road and Highway 301 would be served with water and gas by the BPW. He said it would be up to the owner if he wanted to be served with electricity by the BPW since he would be locating in an unassigned area.

During some discussion of the new Bar-B-Q House, Manager Ellis informed the Commissioners that he would like to make a power point presentation to City Council concerning the BPW rates for electricity. He went on to say that a councilperson was misinforming everyone about the BPW rates and that false information had been given out.

Commissioner Kilgus asked about the BPW's demand charges.

Manager Ellis explained that the BPW had the best electric rates of anyone in the area. He explained that demand charges are used to pay for the fix costs like transformers, wiring, and meters that must be used to build services for new businesses. He said these costs must be paid for regardless of whether the business operates three days a week or seven days a week. Manager Ellis said the demand charges are there to pay the utility company for their investment in those fixed costs which have to be recouped.

Commissioner Kilgus said he told Mr. Way he was glad for him even if he was leaving his building but that he hated to see the City miss out on the tax revenues.

Chairman Clary asked Manager Ellis to explain the BPW's rate structure to City Council so that no more incorrect information would be given to the public.

With no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 5:55 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

