

REGULAR MEETING OF THE COMMISSIONERS OF THE BAMBERG BOARD OF PUBLIC WORKS ON MONDAY, JULY 25, 2005 AT 5:15 P.M. AT CITY HALL.

MEMBERS PRESENT: Chairman Bob Clary and Commissioner Carl Kilgus.

MANAGER: Bruce Ellis. CLERK: Bruce Watson. VISITORS: Will Martin, Gene Searson, and Joe Evans.

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

Chairman Clary informed the Group that the agenda had been changed to include an executive session to discuss negotiations incident to a contractual arrangement

Commissioner Kilgus made the motion to approve the minutes of the May 23, 2005 meeting as received. Chairman Clary made the second. All approved. The motion carried.

The Income and Expense Statements for May and June were received as presented.

Manager Ellis informed the Commissioners that the 2005-2006 Budget included some material additions that were actually a carry over from last year's budget. He explained that the electrical upgrade work would begin within two weeks at a cost of around \$800,000.00 which was still included in the 2005-2006 Budget.

Manager Ellis informed the Commissioners that the costs for a operations building were once again included in the budget. He told the Commissioners that he was still pursuing grants to help build a meeting room in the operations building which could be used by the public.

Commissioner Kilgus asked Manager Ellis to explain the other receipts line items in the budget?

Mr. Martin informed Commissioner Kilgus that the other receipt line items consisted of revenues coming from the operation of the DAF Plant for Rockland Industries and from the BPW plants at the Barnwell SCAT Park.

Manager Ellis informed the Commissioners that the budget included the starting of an automated meter reading program. He explained that initially 50 customers would be put on the system.

Manager Ellis explained how the automated meter reading process worked.

Chairman Clary asked Manager Ellis who was utilizing such a system close to them.

Manager Ellis informed him that Allendale was presently using such a system.

Manager Ellis informed the Commissioners that the budget included a cost of living raise of 4% just like the state. He said the budget would involve a slight increase in electrical rates of 2% which would generate around \$65,000.00 this year.

Commissioner Kilgus voiced that the BPW rates were still very low as compared to others in the state.

Manager Ellis voiced that the BPW is a small utility company that gives great service.

Chairman Clary praised Manager Ellis, Gene Searson and Joe Evans for doing a good job. He said the Commissioners were satisfied with the job the BPW employees were performing.

Manager Ellis informed the Commissioners that Rockland Industries was paying directly to the DAF Plant which meant things would be looking better this year.

Commissioner Kilgus made the motion to approve the 2005-2006 BPW Budget of \$10,526,043.00. Chairman Clary made the second. All approved. The motion carried.

During the manager's report, Manager Ellis informed the Commissioner that work was being done on the water treatment plant behind City Hall. He said once the work was completed that plans were to perform some work on the old water treatment plant.

Manager Ellis assured the Commissioners that the BPW had plenty of water and he said they could even provide water to Denmark.

Chairman Clary asked if Denmark was paying for the water on time?

Manager Ellis said Denmark was paying on time.

Manager Ellis told the Commissioners that the BPW would soon begin trimming trees again in order to protect the electrical system.

Commissioner Kilgus informed the Commissioners that he had noticed the SCDOT doing some tree trimming around town.

Chairman Clary asked when the electrical voltage upgrade to the system would take place?

Manager Ellis said the upgrade would not be a voltage upgrade but that it would be a system upgrade. He explained that Santee Cooper was not willing to help with the costs of the voltage upgrade at this time.

Chairman Clary asked what the SCDOT needed from the BPW at this time for the 301 Widening Project.

Manager Ellis informed the Commissioner that at present the SCDOT was planning to do the Weimer Street to Intersection 301/78 phase first.

Commissioner Clary asked if the phase along Highway 78 had been mentioned.

Manager Ellis said the Highway 78 phase would come later. He explained that the SCDOT was paying for the engineering work necessary for the removal of all utilities. He said SCDOT would then include the moving of all utilities into one contract except electrical utilities which would be let to a separate contractor. He informed the Commissioners that SCDOT had agreed to pay for all the costs associated with the moving of utilities.

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

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

With no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 5:50 p.m.

ATTEST:

Clerk

Chairman-BPW

Commissioner-BPW

Commissioner-BPW