

Denton Utility Commission
Meeting Minutes

April 26, 2023
4:00PM

- I. Mr. Woomer called the meeting to order at 3:57 PM and thanked all that were in attendance.
- II. Those in attendance were Councilperson Lister, Leroy Woomer, Adam Jones, Scott Hollingsworth, Scott Getchell, Mark Chandler and Don Mulrine.
- III. Minutes for March 29, 2023 meeting was approved on motion by Mr. Woomer and seconded by Mr. Hollingsworth. No discussion and unanimously approved.
- IV. Open Issues
 - a. **Water Main Replacement Project** – Mr. Getchell reported that the contractors are still submitting the necessary approvals for the products that they would like to use. As of today, the contractors do not have the necessary approval. They stated that the engineer has not approved the requested product approval yet and we are still in the process of getting the project moving.
 - b. **Water/Sewer Extensions (ARPA Funding)** – Mr. Getchell noted that the design is still underway. There has been a new site survey completed on S 2nd street due to some corrections to design. Once the completed design has been accepted the project will go to bid.
 - c. **Water & Sewer Budgets** – It was noted by Mr. Getchell that the town is in the process of working on the 2024 budget. The W/S budgets will hopefully be in the hands of the commission in June for review. Currently the town is getting through the general fund budget now and the highway is next.
 - d. **WWTP Sludge Management Project** – Mr. Getchell reported that we are waiting for an update on the funding application. The preliminary engineering report that came out was to be reviewed. The recommendation from the study is to add a mechanical drying device in a newly constructed building. In addition, a re-build of the existing reed beds. This is still under consideration as to the best

options. This process will continue to be discussed as we understand the funding options.

- e. **Simple Fiber** – Councilperson Lister reported that there is nothing new to report on this other than them being here weekly to continue expanding conduit and service.
- f. **Well #6** – Mr. Chandler stated that the town is still in a holding pattern as we wait for supplies. The distributor has stated that there are supply chain issues.
- g. **Natural Gas Discussion** – Councilperson Lister has sent a follow up email and reported that he had no new updates. As of today, he has not gotten any response.
- h. **Water and Sewer Rate Study Update** – The Commission discussed the reported findings on the W/S rate study updates. The finding reflected that the Water Rates remain stable while the recommendation from the rate study is that the sewer rates need to be increased. There are 3 options recommended from the results of the study which were discussed. Councilperson Lister made a motion that the sewer rate increase to \$50 base and \$8 per 1000 gallons. There was a second by Mr. Woomeer. Followed by a unanimous decision by the commission.
- i. **West Denton PER** – Mr. Getchell reported that Caroline County received bids from 5-7 firms and have awarded the report to McCrone. Mr. Getchell met with Debbie Bowden, Caroline Economic Development Director and offered advice on our existing system and other questions that may arise. There will likely be a pre-study meeting and as things unfold Mr. Getchell will report back to the Commission with details.
- j. **Other Open Issues** - None

V. New Business

- a. **Other New Business** – No other new business.

VI. Adjournment

- a. Meeting adjourned at 4:46 PM.

Respectfully Submitted,

Adam Jones, Secretary