

**Denton Utility Commission**  
**Meeting Minutes**

October 12, 2022

4:00PM

- I. Mr. Woomer called the meeting to order at 3:55 PM and thanked all that were in attendance.
- II. Those in attendance were Councilperson Lister, Leroy Woomer, Adam Jones, Scott Hollingsworth, Scott Getchell, Don Mulrine.
- III. Minutes for August 10<sup>th</sup> Meeting was approved on motion by Mr. Woomer and seconded by Mr. Jones. No discussion and unanimously approved.
- IV. Open Issues
  - a. **Water Main Replacement Project** – Mr. Mulrine provided the update on Franklin St. and noted that he talked to Daniel from ECM and he is putting new rates together for material costs. At this point we have not heard back, Mr. Mulrine to follow up this week.
  - b. **Water & Sewer Budgets** – Mr. Getchell stated that the budgets are not ready yet. The Town Administration is in transition and the finance department is working diligently to get them done. There is a draft, but it is not ready for review yet. Mr. Getchell is hopeful that it should be ready by next meeting.
  - c. **WWTP Sludge Management Project** – Mr. Getchell stated that the project is currently under development. The engineering firm has been on site a few times during the study period so they can provide recommended actions or options that the town can take to upgrade the management process.
  - d. **Capital Improvement Plan** – Mr. Mulrine stated that one of the main items on the plan are getting mixers on the towers. The already purchased grit machine was due to ship on 09/09/2022. We already have the other blowers on hand and Mr. Chandler is working on the installation. Both of the mentioned items were being funded with ARPA funding. The town is also looking at maybe a couple pumps for older pump stations and a vehicle as well from a capital improvement plan.

- e. **ARPA Funding** – Please see above, most has been covered in previous discussion. Sewer lines also on funding plan including Foy, Sharp and Camp Road which were on the original plans, but the town is looking at all options.
- f. **Simple Fiber** – There is a fiber initiative in which Kirk (from Simple Fiber) will come in and give a presentation. The town is looking at possibly setting up simple fiber as a franchise operation to supply fiber to residential. The thought would be that we would bring fiber to a specific spot and the developer would take it to each home. Still in the beginning stages for planning on infrastructure buildout.
- g. **CCHS** – Mr. Getchell discussed last meeting about buying back capacity from CCHS. Upon research, complications arose from a buyback perspective. Mr. Getchell is still researching what we may be able to do if anything.
- h. **Well #6** – Mr. Getchell stated that well #6 has been out of service now for a few months. It will be expensive to replace and failed because of an electrical issue. The town is working on fixing current electrical issues first before just replacing motor. The electrical issues need to be addressed first before the motor installation as it could likely cause the same issue on another motor.
- i. **iWorq Software** – It was noted that the asset management software (iWorq) is currently developed. While we are using the software currently it is still under development and not fully implemented yet. It will greatly improve efficiencies.
- j. **Natural Gas Discussion** – Councilperson Lister stated that he had a meeting with Chesapeake Utilities Eastern Shore (NG supplier for Delmarva). Chesapeake Utilities gave us certain metrics which provided what they would need for it to be profitable. They are currently looking at a study to see if they want to build a gas line to Denton. We as a town are interested and want a partner in the town to help from a NG perspective which may be beneficial to drive down energy costs. In addition, there is also an opportunity to maybe do a franchise partnership to help supply NG as an option for Denton.
- k. **Other Open Issues** - None

V. New Business

a. **Other New Business**

- i. Mr. Chandler is acting superintendent of public works. This was effective 1st week of September as a 6-month trial.

VI. Adjournment

- a. Meeting adjourned at 4:47 PM. The next meeting will be scheduled by Mr. Getchell with the Commission. It is planned to be an in person meeting with a virtual meeting option.

Respectfully Submitted,

Adam Jones, Secretary