

Denton Utility Commission

Meeting Minutes

April 23, 2025

4:00PM

- I. Mr Woomer called the meeting to order at 4:02 PM and thanked the attending members.
- II. Those in attendance were Leroy Woomer, Ann Jacobs, Councilman Lister, and Scott Getchell.
- III. Minutes for the February 19, 2025 meeting were reviewed and on a motion by Ann Jacobs and a second by Leroy Woomer lead to a unanimous approval with no discussion.
- IV. Scott Getchell introduced Katie Northam to the members of the Utility Commission. She is a Project manager for the Town and will be working numerous projects including water and sewer projects.

Open Issues

- a. *Waterworth* – When the new budget is finalized the numbers will be given to Waterworth to load into the model to assist the commission in recommending water and sewer rates.
- b. *Sludge Management Upgrade* – Mr Getchell reviewed the history of how funds have been sought to improve how sludge is handled at the WWTP. Part of this history was an appeal to the Comptroller of MD for funding. The Comptroller visited and toured the WWTP yesterday. She was impressed with the plant operations and was grateful for the tour. Funding notifications should be released in the next several months.
- c. *Water & Sewer Budgets* - The FY2026 water and sewer budgets are a work in progress according to Mr. Getchell. He also believes that a draft may be available by the May 21st UC meeting.
- d. *Fiber Optic/Broadband* – Mr Woomer asked if any members of the commission had noticed any work in town by Simple Fiber. No activity had been noted but the weather may have been a factor. Mr Getchell stated that he is checking into

an existing separate contract between the Town and Simple Fiber to provide service between a well house and the police station. To be reported on at a future meeting.

e. *Third Pillar Floating Solar* – Mr Getchell reported that the council approved an agreement with Third Pillar for lease of the old lagoon space that includes a separate entrance for security purposes with rent payment to begin immediately.

f. *Lead Service Line* – Waiting on funding per Mr Getchell.

g. *Talkie Communications* – Mr Getchell told the commission that a proposed agreement with a proposed fee has been sent to Talk Communications for their review.

h. *Other Open Issues* – None.

New Business

a. *Next Meeting* – The next Utility Commission meeting will be held on May 21, 2025 at the WWTP.

V. The meeting was adjourned by a motion by Ms. Jacobs and a second by Mr Woomer.

Respectfully Submitted by
Leroy Woomer