

Denton Utility Commission

Meeting Minutes

June 18, 2025

4:00 PM

- I. Mr. Woomer called the meeting to order at 4:00 pm and thanked all that were in attendance
- II. Those in attendance were Leroy Woomer, Scott Getchell, Mark Chandler, Ann Jacobs, Lee Tillery, and Councilman Lister.
- III. Waterworth joined the meeting virtually. Calvin Coles from Waterworth showed various rate increase scenarios to the UC. The UC unanimously voted to recommend an 18% increase to the sewer rate in FY2026, and a 2% increase every year thereafter. The UC also unanimously voted to recommend a 25% increase to the water rate for FY2026, and a 2% increase every year thereafter.
- IV. Previous UC meeting minutes from May 25, 2025 were approved on motion from Lee Tillery, seconded by Leroy Woomer, and unanimously approved with no discussion.
- V. Open Issues
 - i. **Sludge Management Upgrade:** Nothing to report, still waiting for application for grant funding from MDE
 - ii. **Water / Sewer Budgets:** Drafts were distributed to UC Members previously. Mr. Woomer made a motion to accept the drafts; Lee Tillery seconded the motion, budgets were unanimously approved.
 - iii. **Simple Fiber:** Nothing to report
 - iv. **Lead Line Revision:** Nothing to report
 - v. **Talkie Agreement:** Mr. Getchell stated Talkie has decided not to install equipment on our water tower at this time.
- VI. New Business: Getchell informed the UC of a home on Lincoln Street that had an unknown water leak underneath their house for several months, resulting in a high-water bill. The sewer portion of their bill was abated by the Town, leaving a balance of \$3,000 for the water portion. It was explained that this is normal practice since the water was verified to not have entered the sewer system. The resident has asked for an abatement of the water also. Abating the water portion

due to a hardship has not been the Town's policy. Getchell asked the UC if they were interested in changing the Town's existing policy. The UC agreed to keep the policy as it is. Getchell also reported that Choptank Electric Trust would likely help this person with their water bill.

- VII. **Adjournment:** Mr. Tillery made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 5:17 pm. Mrs. Jacobs seconded the motion and the meeting was adjourned.