

Denton Utility Commission
Meeting Minutes

August 20, 2025

4:00PM

- 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, Lee Tillery, Adam Jones, Mark Chandler, and Scott Getchell.
- III. Minutes for June 18, 2025, were reviewed and on motion by Mr. Tillery and seconded by Mr. Woomer, the minutes were moved for approval. No discussion was had and the motion carried unanimously.
- IV. **Open Issues**
 - a. **Waterworth** – Mr. Getchell spoke regarding the Waterworth analysis. The potential increase has the potential to be substantial. Because of this, the Commission is revisiting the increase to make sure that it can be not as steep of an increase to the users. Mr. Getchell went back to the drawing board and looking at the numbers to help soften the increase and presented options. Originally the commission had recommended a 6-month reserve, Mr. Getchell is proposing that we look at a 3-month reserve bring down the steep rate increase. Doing so, would drop the increase in roughly half. There will still need to be increases to make sure that we can have sustainability in our W/S budgets. There was a motion by Mr. Woomer that recommending to Town Council that we reduce the increase to Sewer to 21% and Water to 3.5% which help to balance out income and revenues to meet sustainability going forward with the noted 3-month reserve vs. an original recommended 6-month reserve. Additionally, annual increases of 3.50% to both Water and Sewer rates to be disclosed to the town users in November. Second by Mr. Jones, Unanimously Approved.
 - b. **Sludge Management Upgrade** – Mr. Getchell reported that there is no update on the funding for the project. There is a draft plan to distribute money but nothing yet from MDE as far as dollars committed.
 - c. **Water & Sewer Budgets** – Mr. Getchell reported that this has been completed.
 - d. **Fiber Optic/Broadband** – Mr. Getchell reported that there are no updates to on this item.

e. **Lead Service Line Inventory** – Mr. Getchell reported that there are no updates on this one. It was also noted that there is no funding in sight to help the town with the mandated improvements. It was mentioned that at this point there is annual testing done for lead levels.

f. **Other Open Issues** - None

V. New Business

a. **Solar simplified mailer** – Mr. Getchell discussed that the town has partnered with Solar simplified out of Chicago which have solar fields on Delmarva (not locally, but southern Delmarva). Through a state initiative they can provide credits to participants of Delmarva Power. Mr. Getchell signed the town up for the available credits and then wanted to pass this on to the local homeowners. The letters sent out made it look like the town sent out the documents, we did not, but we as a town do support the opportunity to receive credits. All payments and credits would show up on the bill and payments would still be paid to Delmarva Power.

VI. **Adjournment** – Motion to adjourn at 4:56 by Mr. Jones, second by Mr. Tillery. Unanimously approved.

Respectfully Submitted,
Adam Jones, Secretary