

# JOINT MUNICIPAL WATER AND SEWER COMMISSION

## MINUTES

**October 9, 2024**

The Joint Municipal Water and Sewer Commission held its Wednesday, October 9, 2024, meeting at the Commission office at 5:30 PM.

### MEMBERS IN ATTENDANCE

Frank Shumpert, Chairman - Town of Pelion  
Joseph Hardee, Vice-Chairman - Gilbert-Summit Rural Water District  
Troy Bivens, Town of Gaston  
Cindy Campbell, Town of South Congaree  
Tim James, City of Cayce  
Bobby Keisler, County of Lexington  
Hazel Livingston, Town of Lexington  
Tem Miles, City of West Columbia  
Lancer Shull, Town of Batesburg-Leesville

### OTHERS IN ATTENDANCE

Jay Nicholson, General Manager	Gene House, Operations Manager
Stephanie Morton, Clerk to Commission	Guy Schmoltze, Engineering & Const.
Ashton Blocker, Finance	Anthony Self, Engineering
Lindsay Jumper, Customer Service	Rita Shumpert, Customer Service
Senator Nikki Setzler	Barry Leaphart, Operations

The Chairman called the meeting to order.

Ms. Hazel Livingston gave the invocation. The pledge of Allegiance was said.

The Chairman confirmed the media had been notified.

Chairman Shumpert addressed item four (4) regarding consideration of minutes from the 9/11/24 meeting. Mr. Joseph Hardee made the motion to accept the minutes as submitted. Mr. Bobby Keisler seconded the motion, and it passed unanimously.

The Chairman addressed item five (5) proclamation recognizing Senator Nikki Setzler. Mr. Jay Nicholson recognized Senator Nikki Setzler and stated that he had been an integral part in the Commission's growth in the beginning in bringing Michelin onto the Commission's system and continues to advocate for growth throughout the community. Mr. Nicholson read the proclamation and presented it to Senator Setzler. Senator Setzler thanked everyone for their service to their community. Mr. Tem Miles made a motion to approve the proclamation recognizing Senator Setzler. Mr. Tim James seconded the motion, and it passed unanimously.

Chairman Shumpert addressed item six (6) Executive Report. Mr. Jay Nicholson presented an informal report to the board. A full copy of the report is attached as an addendum to the minutes.

The Chairman addressed item seven (7) Executive Session. There were no items to discuss.

Chairman Shumpert addressed item nine (9) announcements. Mr. Jay Nicholson stated that the next scheduled meeting would be November 13, 2024. The groundbreaking for the JMWSC and Batesburg-Leesville water system expansion project will be held Tuesday, October 29<sup>th</sup> at 11:00am.

As there was no other business, Mr. Tem Miles made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Mr. Tim James seconded the motion, and the motion passed unanimously. The meeting adjourned at 6:25pm.



PROGRESS THROUGH COOPERATION

# Executive Report

September 11 – October 9, 2024

# Legislative/Regulatory Update

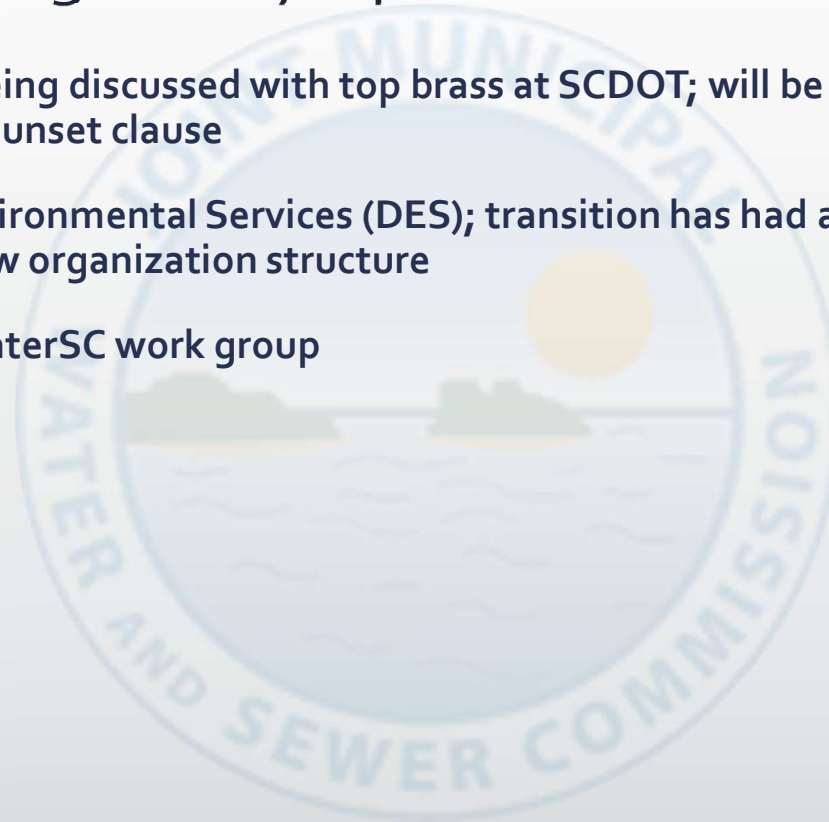


- **Batesburg-Leesville project**
- Project is full steam ahead
- Groundbreaking ceremony scheduled for 10/29/2024
  
- **Swansea**
- Project making good progress
- Draft report anticipated before end of calendar year



# Legislative/Regulatory Update

- Utility Relocation law being discussed with top brass at SCDOT; will be targeting sponsors to extend the sunset clause
- New Department of Environmental Services (DES); transition has had a few bumps but progressing with new organization structure
- Governor announced WaterSC work group



# Professional Engagement

- **Conferences/Meetings**
  - WEASC Capital District Golf Tournament held 10/8/24
- **Saluda River Basin Council**
  - Meeting next week
  - Draft plan under review
- **WUC call tomorrow**
- **Meeting with Cayce leadership to discuss current and future capacity needs**



# Workforce

- **Training and Education**
  - Trenching and shoring
  - In-house training scheduled for 10/14
- **Staffing**
- **Operations**
  - Full staff
- **Engineering**
  - Full staff
- **Customer Service**
  - Open position; interviewing candidates
- **Finance**
  - IT position being covered through VC3 temp service



# Operations

- **Tank Maintenance**

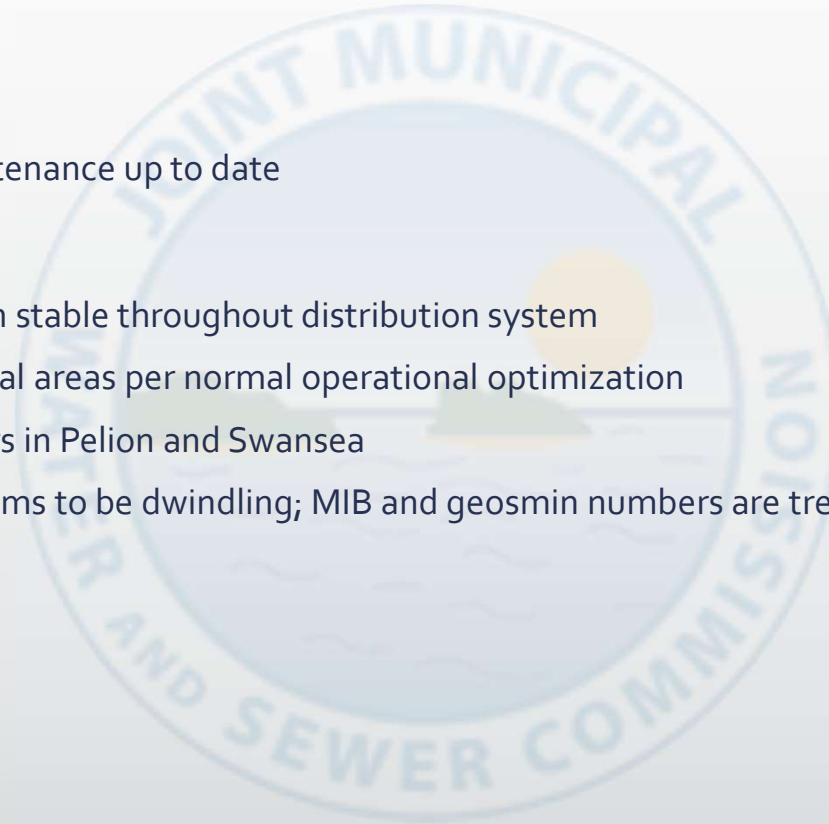
- All inspections and maintenance up to date

- **Water Quality**

- Chlorine residuals remain stable throughout distribution system
- Minimal flushing in several areas per normal operational optimization
- Several minor leak repairs in Pelion and Swansea
- Taste & odor episode seems to be dwindling; MIB and geosmin numbers are trending downward

- **Sewer Collections**

- No SSOs in September





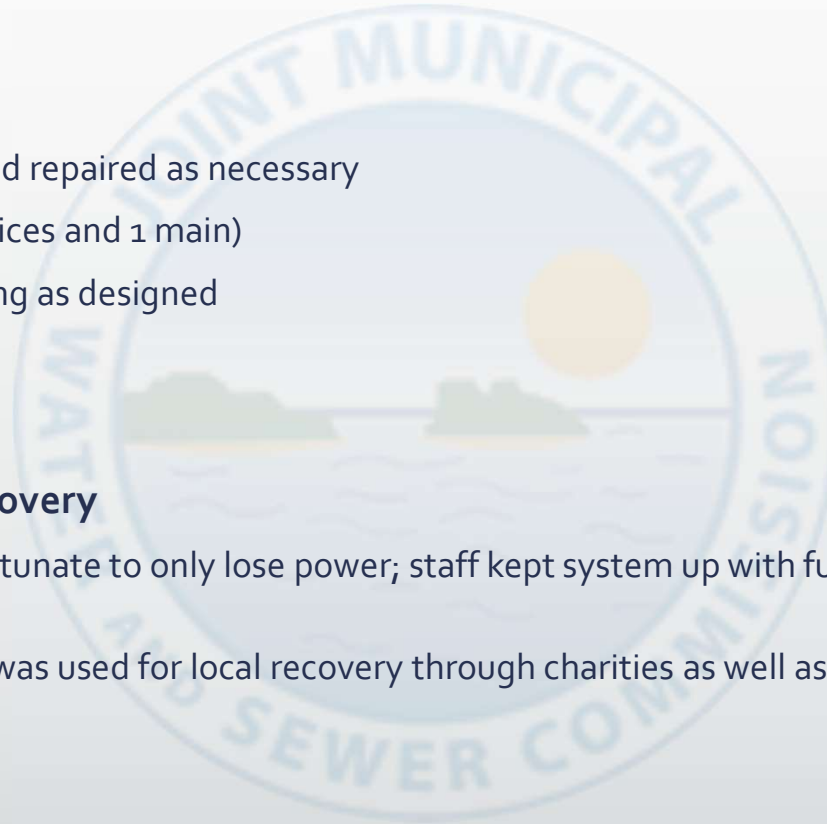
# Operations

- **Swansea**

- Lift stations inspected and repaired as necessary
- Five water repairs (4 services and 1 main)
- Chloramine feed operating as designed

- **Helene response and recovery**

- Commission was very fortunate to only lose power; staff kept system up with fuel delivery and equipment checks
- Bottled water inventory was used for local recovery through charities as well as western NC recovery efforts



## Engineering & Construction

- CMMS – CityWorks flushing and valve maint programs developed
- RFQ for AMI assistance to be advertised soon; some initial discussions with consultants
- Project Portal development continues
- CIP added to website

## Finance

- Investments remain strong
- ACH rollout on small sample of vendors continues to grow
- Working with GP consultant to improve efficient use of modules
- Auditors onsite this month; presentation of ACFR in January

## Customer Service

- Customer Information System (CIS) Upgrade
- SpryPoint testing continues; go live is still anticipated for late fall



# Capital Improvements Program

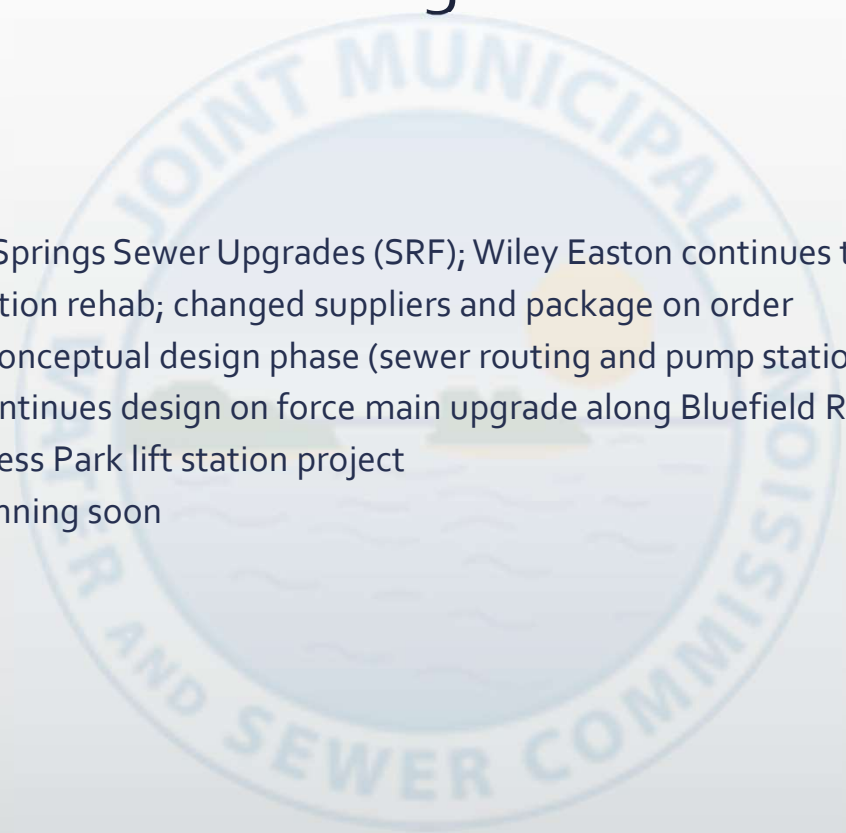
## ▪ Water Projects

- PER submitted for the Pelion Main Street Water Main Replacement
- Working on engineering selection for second Pelion Water System Upgrade (PF)
- Black Jack Oak Lane; we have requested additional information prior to reimbursement
- Muddy Springs Water Main Extension; have not received information for reimbursement
- B-L Project; full steam ahead; project updates on website
- Fort's Ridge subdivision (Pelion) to extend main along Lydia Dr for improved flows; project has been permitted for construction
- Calico Farms; working with project engineers on long term water plan in this area
- Working with GMC on water main improvements at the Platt Springs Tank; submitted for permitting
- Traffic circle relocation projects – Bethany Ch/Boiling Springs, Meadowfield/Hwy 6

# Capital Improvements Program

- **Sewer Projects**

- Old Orangeburg/Platt Springs Sewer Upgrades (SRF); Wiley Easton continues to make progress
- Lexington Hills Lift Station rehab; changed suppliers and package on order
- Calico Farms project; conceptual design phase (sewer routing and pump station)
- Highfill Engineering continues design on force main upgrade along Bluefield Rd
- GHD working on Business Park lift station project
- Master Plan work beginning soon



<b>JMWSC at a Glance</b>	Sep-23	Oct-23	Nov-23	Dec-23	Jan-24	Feb-24	Mar-24	Apr-24	May-24	Jun-24	<b>FY24 Growth</b>	<b>Previous YTD</b>	Jul-24	Aug-24	Sep-24	<b>FY25 Growth</b>	<b>Previous YTD</b>
<b>Customer Data</b>																	
Water customers	19,813	19,908	19,987	20,092	20,127	20,161	20,236	20,294	20,366	20,387	3.49%	3.14%	20,406	20,507	20,530	0.70%	0.59%
Sewer customers	6,421	6,468	6,522	6,629	6,652	6,661	6,699	6,748	6,777	6,788	6.31%	7.64%	6,802	6,887	6,894	1.56%	0.60%
New water only	29	47	36	4	31	22	26	37	9	11	294	195	5	10	11	26	71
New water/sewer	31	40	62	84	11	21	32	30	19	14	352	378	69	45	10	124	39
<b>Total new customers</b>	<b>60</b>	<b>87</b>	<b>98</b>	<b>88</b>	<b>42</b>	<b>43</b>	<b>58</b>	<b>67</b>	<b>28</b>	<b>25</b>	<b>646</b>	<b>573</b>	<b>74</b>	<b>55</b>	<b>21</b>	<b>150</b>	<b>110</b>
Start accounts	170	209	140	156	239	200	187	218	191	243			286	172	189		
Close accounts	58	54	34	45	50	45	50	53	57	54			92	60	46		
Meters read (AMR)	19,958	20,019	20,135	20,114	20,308	20,335	20,324	20,349	20,494	20,558			20,576	20,586	20,706		
Meters unread (AMR)	100	80	58	159	79	82	119	168	79	85			84	104	87		
Disconnected/nonpmt	118	137	skipped	skipped	139	147	140	160	156	125			155	58	158		
Remain disconnected	17	30	n/a	n/a	33	25	17	12	10	28			27	6	27		
<b>Water quality complaints</b>																	
Taste/odor/color	0	0	0	0	6	2	2	1	3	2			1	2	4		
Pressure	1	0	0	0	1	2	3	13	2	15			6	11	3		
<b>Total</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>17</b>			<b>7</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>7</b>		
<b>Flow Data (MGD)</b>																	
Water avg daily flows	8.20	7.80	6.02	5.35	5.46	4.78	4.97	6.20	7.50	8.64			8.53	7.27	7.51		
previous year	7.85	6.54	5.08	5.25	*4.71	4.69	5.36	6.22	7.40	8.39			9.02	9.20	8.20		
Sewer avg daily (combined)	1.52	1.42	1.46	1.52	1.52	1.53	1.61	1.502	1.6	1.49			1.48	1.76	1.58		
previous year		1.37	1.377	1.395	1.429	1.493	1.431	1.513	1.44	1.42			1.52	1.49	1.52		
<b>Current projects</b>																	
Residential	35	38		37	39		38	43	43				44	43	43	Res lots	
Commercial	24	24		24	24		24	17	19				27	31	34	water	sewer
JMWSC	8	8		9	9		9	9	9				8	9	9	3,196	2,811
<b>Total projects</b>	<b>67</b>	<b>70</b>		<b>70</b>	<b>72</b>		<b>71</b>	<b>69</b>	<b>71</b>				<b>79</b>	<b>83</b>	<b>86</b>		
Locates received	972	1099	859	707	907	1050	1268	1733	1148	903			1168	999	915		
Locates marked	596	714	584	447	590	716	891	1270	873	589			776	735	595		
Total LF marked	59,385	55,225	48,910	38,780	45,210	84,255	107,950	139,480	97,510	59,410			53,390	53,260	52,815		

<b>Revenues/Expenses thru sep 2024</b>	<b>Actual</b>	<b>Budget</b>	<b>% Budget</b>
Operating Revenues*	7,237,540	24,715,029	29%
Operating Expenses*	3,018,278	15,346,318	20%

\*Direct operating revenues/expenses only. Does not include debt service and depreciation information.



PROGRESS THROUGH COOPERATION