



CITY OF HENDERSONVILLE WATER SEWER ADVISORY COUNCIL

Operations Center - Assembly Room | 305 Williams St. | Hendersonville NC 28792
Monday, August 15, 2022 – 6:00 PM

MINUTES

Present: County Commissioner & Chairman Daniel Andreotta, City of Hendersonville Council Member & Vice Chair Jerry A. Smith Jr. J.D., City of Hendersonville Water/Sewer Customer Representative Chuck McGrady, Henderson County Water/Sewer Customer Representative Andrew Riddle, Village of Flat Rock Council Member David Dethero, Town of Fletcher Council Member Sheila Franklin, Town of Laurel Park Council Member Paul Hansen, City of Saluda Council Member Stan Walker, Town of Mills River Mayor Pro-Tem Randy Austin Chamber of Commerce Business Representative Wade Anderson, and Partnership for Economic Development Representative Carsten Erkel

Staff Present: Assistant City Manager Brian Pahle, City Clerk Angela Reece, Communications Manager Allison Justus, Budget Manager Adam Murr, Brent Detwiler, City Engineer, Lee Smith, Utilities Director, Adam Steurer, Assistant to Utilities Director, Drew Finley, and others.

Others Present: Laurel Park Town Manager Alex Carmichael, Henderson County Engineer Marcus Jones, City of Saluda City Manager Steve Orr

1. CALL TO ORDER

Chair Daniel Andreotta called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m. and welcomed those in attendance.

2. PUBLIC COMMENT

There were no comments.

3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

A. Approval of the April 25, 2022 Minutes - Angela Reece, City Clerk

Council Member Jerry A. Smith Jr., J.D. moved to approve the minutes of April 25, 2022, as presented. Council Member Chuck McGrady seconded. A unanimous vote of the Council Members present followed. Motion carried.

4. OLD BUSINESS

A. Halfway Tree Mobile Home Park Sewer Project – Brent Detwiler, City Engineer

City Engineer Brent Detwiler presented updates regarding the Halfway Tree Mobile Home Park sewer project to the Council. Mr. Detwiler discussed ongoing septic issues and advised staff has acquired easements and has taken ownership of several new lots. Mr. Detwiler stated the project is progressing and said the projected completion date with connections is the beginning of September. He clarified the connections would be first followed by septic tank removal.

5. NEW BUSINESS

A. Adoption of Annual Schedule of Meetings 2023

Council Member Chuck McGrady moved to approve the annual schedule of meetings as amended. Council Member Jerry A. Smith Jr., J.D. seconded. A unanimous vote of the Council Members followed. Motion carried.

The following Regular Meetings of the City of Hendersonville Water & Sewer Advisory Council are held **Quarterly on the fourth Monday of July, October, January, and April at 6:00 p.m.** in the Assembly Room of the City Operations Building located at 305 Williams St. Hendersonville NC unless otherwise noticed. The regular meetings will be conducted in person.

The following Water & Sewer Advisory Council meetings have been scheduled for the remainder of 2022 and 2023.

October 24, 2022

January 23, 2023

April 24, 2023

July 24, 2023

October 23, 2023

B. Capital Projects Update - Various Staff

Utilities Engineer Adam Steurer discussed capital projects and provided updates to Council. Mr. Steurer recalled construction beginning in the spring of 2022 on the French Broad River intake and pumping station. He reminded everyone the \$23.5M project is funded through a State Revolving Fund (SRF) low-interest loan and said the estimated completion for this project is mid-2024.

Mr. Steurer discussed the Ewart Reservoir #2 project stating the estimated completion is summer 2022 with a total cost of \$740,000. He said the project consisted of installation of a flexible membrane liner which will extend the service life and improve operations and maintenance.

Mr. Steurer discussed repairs and replacements to the Wastewater Treatment Facility (WWTF) ultraviolet (UV) improvements and aeration basin no.2 repair and rehabilitation projects stating bidding on both projects will begin in the fall. He said the approximate cost is \$1.8M for the WWTF and \$3.5M for the aeration basin repairs and said both projects will be funded through the American Rescue Plan (ARP) \$5.0M direct grant allocation

Mr. Steurer discussed the Wastewater Treatment Facility (WWTF) master plan stating this will be funded through a \$400,000 grant and the results will be used to inform the capital improvement plan through the year 2050.

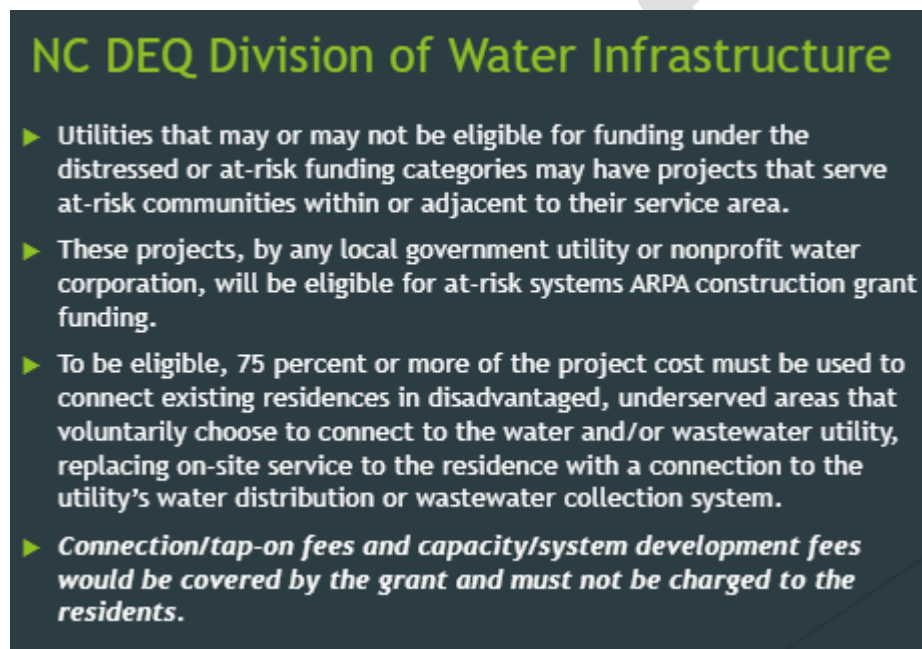
Mr. Steurer discussed the North Greenwood Neighborhood Water Replacement in Etowah stating this project will begin in early fall and said the project will replace approximately 5,600 feet of existing water main due to excessive pipe breaks/maintenance burdens in the project area.

C. Presentation Regarding Grant Application for Dana Community Water Project – Brent

Detwiler, City Engineer

City Engineer Brent Detwiler discussed the Dana Community water project and said grant funding has become available for underserved areas through the NCDEQ Division of Water Infrastructure. Mr. Detwiler discussed the Academy Road area and well contamination from pesticide use. Mr. Detwiler advised there may be additional contamination in other area wells and said samples collected by NCDEQ consisted of elevated nitrates which may indicate septic or animal waste that has an effect. He said the project size would consist of approximately 250 to 350 sites and said the connection fees would be paid by grant funding if awarded. He said the approximate project cost is \$300-\$400M.

Grant application project criteria are as follows:



NC DEQ Division of Water Infrastructure

- ▶ Utilities that may or may not be eligible for funding under the distressed or at-risk funding categories may have projects that serve at-risk communities within or adjacent to their service area.
- ▶ These projects, by any local government utility or nonprofit water corporation, will be eligible for at-risk systems ARPA construction grant funding.
- ▶ To be eligible, 75 percent or more of the project cost must be used to connect existing residences in disadvantaged, underserved areas that voluntarily choose to connect to the water and/or wastewater utility, replacing on-site service to the residence with a connection to the utility's water distribution or wastewater collection system.
- ▶ *Connection/tap-on fees and capacity/system development fees would be covered by the grant and must not be charged to the residents.*

Mr. Detwiler reminded everyone that the Dana area is unincorporated (not in ETJ). After much discussion Chuck McGrady clarified the motion before Council is for staff to seek permission to apply for the grant but said the County would also need to grant permission pursuant to the current agreement.

Mr. McGrady and other Council members expressed reservation due to the land being open farmlands and agreed that any water extension project would bring growth to the area. Mr. Andreotta restated objection to county residents being charged more due to the grant funding.

Council Member Chuck McGrady moved that the Water and Sewer Advisory Council endorse the grant application for the Dana Community Water Project. Council Member Jerry A. Smith Jr., J.D. seconded the motion. A unanimous vote of Council members followed. Motion carried.

Updates – Chair Daniel Andreotta reiterated his preference to protect farmlands and discussed a sewer project in the eastern part of county.

Andrew Riddle agreed with Chairman Andreotta and expressed his preference for infill of lots within the city to capitalize upon the water and sewer that is already in place. He stated he supports density and not adding to the maintenance.

6. **ADJOURNMENT**

There being no further business the meeting was adjourned at 6:47 p.m.

ATTEST:

Angela L. Reece, City Clerk

Daniel Andreotta, County Commissioner & Chairman