

Water Committee  
Minutes  
October 28, 2020  
8:00 A.M.

Committee Members Present: Pete Frisina, Chairman  
Vanessa Tigert, Vice Chairman  
Steve Rapson, County Administrator  
Charles Oddo, Commissioner  
Jimmy Preau

Committee Members Absent: Frank Destadio

Committee Non-Voting Members: Dennis Davenport, County Attorney  
Jason Bodwell, Jacobs

Other Staff: Russell Ray, John Caldwell, James Munster  
Capri Reeves  
Carrie Gibby, Water Committee Clerk

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Pete Frisina at 8:06 A.M.

I. APPROVAL OF MINUTES FROM THE JULY 22, 2020 MEETING

Jimmy Preau made the motion and Vanessa Tigert seconded to approve the minutes from the meeting on September 23, 2020. The motion passed unanimously.

II. DEVELOPMENT STANDARDS

Vanessa Tigert started by presenting questions to Dennis Davenport on how to move forward with the Development Standards. Ms. Tigert's questions relate to whether or not the document should be an ordinance, the rate structure for plan review, and enforcement of these standards in other jurisdictions. Mr. Davenport recommends we adopt the standards as an ordinance for enforceability and put it in our code as it as it pertains to the Water System. This will enable the department to enforce the code for those who are not following the standards. Since the fees tend to change over time, Mr. Davenport's recommendation is to refer to the fees as being on a structure of fees kept in the Water System so when the fees change, you simply adopt a resolution to change the fees and the language of the ordinance stays the same. As it pertains to enforceability, this is a unique situation. Generally, Mr. Davenport would say that the enforceability would be limited to the unincorporated Fayette County but this is different because you are dealing with a water service area. These Standards would apply across jurisdictional lines from the perspective to providing potable water. If someone wants to build a subdivision in Peachtree City that is going to be connected to Fayette County's Water System, they would need to follow these Standards.

Ms. Tigert asks if the Water System will need to develop a mechanism within our organization to collect plan review fees. Mr. Davenport confirms that if the Water System has an activity of reviewing plans, there is a cost involved and the Water System sets those fees.

Once the document is in final form, Mr. Davenport encourages the Water System to reach out to the all jurisdictions in Fayette County and request they adopt this ordinance as well so the Water System is able to enforce these standards in all other Fayette County jurisdictions.

The department will review the document for information that may change periodically. These will be removed from the document and referred to as schedules. When these schedules change, they are adopted as a new resolution to the so the ordinance document always remains the same.

Mr. Davenport asks that critical thinking and review of the document takes place. The document should not be general but should be objective.

### III. SYSTEM UPDATES

Jason Bodwell states the tank project is complete. The Chlorine Dioxide project at South Fayette is still going well. The contractor has had a delay and is requesting an additional thirty-three days. \$16,500 of liquidated damages could be charged for these additional days. Mr. Rapson has requested the contractor provide clarification as to why there is a delay. Jason states with additional days comes additional project management in which JACOBS is asking for an additional \$24,500 to oversee the project. Lakeshore has agreed to pay the project management fees. Mr. Rapson said he will need substance on what is driving the cost on both sides before moving forward. The Sludge Collector design project is now 60% complete and a meeting will be set up to review the design.

Mr. Rapson requests to schedule the grand opening for the South Fayette Chlorine Dioxide System project. This regularly scheduled Water Committee on December 9, 2020 will be moved to Thursday, December 10, 2020 located at the South Fayette Water Plant and will be paired with the ribbon cutting of the Chlorine Dioxide System.

Ms. Tigert continues that the final comments on the technical memo for the Crosstown Plant Yard Piping is taking place. This will provide the operators more flexibility in operations. As it relates to the Water Selectors, the Project Manager and the owner of IXOM have come onsite to discuss ongoing problems with getting the Sonde instrument calibrated which is the unit that reads all water quality parameters. This has been an ongoing issue with both Water Selectors.

Ms. Tigert states that four of five Surface Water Withdrawal Permits have been signed and issued by the Environmental Protection Division (EPD). These are ten year permits. Mrs. Tigert states we are not upgrading our permits and we are staying at the same withdrawal rate. The Water System worked with EPD on the language of permits. EPD is ramping up compliance to ensure all are in compliance with the Metropolitan North Georgia Water Planning District (MNDWPD) requirements. In addition to that, we updated our Water Conservation Plan which must illustrate the water conservation steps we are taking in our system as efforts to ensure efficiency and conservation progress is ongoing. This could be introducing AMI to our system,

etc. Submitting additional annual reports for this effort is now a requirement of the permits. Ms. Tigert asked EPD to reduce the permits biological monitoring as required since 2008 for the Lake McIntosh permit. The purpose of this monitoring is to illustrate the before and after effects on Line Creek from Lake McIntosh construction. We have done this and eliminating this as a requirement would save the Water System \$20,000 annually. Mr. Rapson states that this permit renewal process is equivalent to a clean audit of the financial statement. EPD is enforcing water conservation and water loss tracking through requirements of the permit. This ultimately pushes utilities smart metering technology, etc.

Ms. Tigert has made public comment to MNGWPD as it relates to City of Fayetteville's request to increase their groundwater withdrawal rate. City of Fayetteville will be letting go of their surface water withdrawal permit from Gingercake Creek and have requested to increase groundwater withdrawal rate from .837MGD to 1.3 MGD. Two of their groundwater wells are on the unincorporated Fayette County lines. Mrs. has commented to MNGWPD requesting the repercussions for the increased withdrawal on the residents who have private residential wells surrounding the City of Fayetteville wells. EPD was unaware there are private wells surrounding their groundwater well and do not know what effects this will have on any of the residents.

Ms. Tigert commented that Fayette County Water System once had five groundwater withdrawal permits that were closed because the yield wasn't significant enough for us to make it a viable option. Ms. Tigert states she appreciates the City of Fayetteville wanting to become more self-sufficient in their water supply. 20% of the unincorporated area have their own water supply wells and this could have a negative effect on the residents who would simply think their well went dry.

Ms. Tigert states the first phase of maintenance downstream of Lake Horton dam has taken place. We need to lower the water that is below Lake Horton Dam and is being backed up by beavers. We are trapping the beavers, moving the dams and going back and doing the same again. We are incorporating regular maintenance on our dams

#### IV. PUBLIC COMMENT

No public comment.

Dennis Davenport followed up on a visitor to the Water Committee several months back, Mr. Bowen. Mr. Bowen came to the Committee wanting the County to sell his property back to him because we did not build the reservoir on it. Mr. Bowen contacted Mr. Davenport in October requesting a follow-up on his visit. Mr. Davenport explained to him that he located a deed from 1993 where Mr. Bowen and his wife conveyed the fourteen plus acres to Fayette County and that the property was bought for wetland mitigation purposes and we have to keep it as perpetuity for the reservoir. Once Mr. Bowen understood the purpose of the land, Mr. Bowen was fine with it.

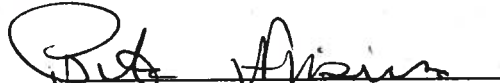
Carrie Gibby suggested to the Water Committee to receive the Water Committee packet the day prior to the meeting electronically instead of receiving the packet via hard copy the morning of the meeting. This electronic process will take place moving

forward. Hard copies will be provided for special circumstances.

V. ADJOURNMENT

Vanessa Tigert made the motion and Steve Rapson seconded to adjourn the Water Committee meeting on October 28, 2020. The motion passed unanimously.

There being no further business the Water Committee was adjourned at 8:46 a.m.

  
Peter A. Frisina

The foregoing minutes were approved at the regular Water Committee meeting on the 20<sup>th</sup> day of January, 2020.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Carrie Gibby

Next Scheduled Meeting Date: November 11, 2020