



Sammy Rich, City Manager
John Boyd, Director
John Minch P.E., Assistant Director
WATER AND SEWER DIVISION
Customer Service Department
Bryan Parris, Director
Operations Department
Bryan Middleton, Director
Water Reclamation Facilities
Jeff Hill, Director
Water Treatment Facilities
Wayne Stanley, Director

WATER AND SEWER COMMITTEE MEETING
City Hall, 601 Broad Street, Sam King Room
Thursday, February 5, 2025
9:00 AM

PRESENT: Mayor/Chairperson Jim Bojo
Commissioner Mark Cochran
Commissioner Harry Brock
Commissioner Jill Fisher
Mrs. Merideth Ulmer, Assistant City Manager
Mrs. Toni Rhinehart, Finance Director
Mr. John Boyd, Division Director
Mr. John Minch, Assistant Division Director
Mr. Bryan Parris, Customer Service Director
Mr. Wayne Stanley, Water Treatment Director
Mr. Bryan Middleton, Operations Director
Mr. Jeff Hill, Water Reclamation Director

VISITORS:
Citizen; Tom Couch

CALL TO ORDER

Chairperson Jim Bojo welcomed everyone and called the meeting to order.

REVIEW OF THE MINUTES

The meeting began with the approval of the minutes from the December 4th meeting. No corrections or additions were made, and the minutes were approved.

FINANCIAL REPORT

Mrs. Rhinehart reported the most current statement is from November, saying they were still working on December right now, and it would take a little while to get completely closed out for the audit. She began with revenues; comparing from 2024 to 2025 operating revenues for water services up about \$475,000, sewer services up \$589,000, discounts and penalties, which fluctuates, was up \$35,000 and connection fees were down with not much activity in that area right now. Making total operating revenues up \$969,000.

Non-operating revenues: interest revenues comparing 24 to 25 are down \$556,000, Rhinehart stated rates this year were still good between 3.8 and 4% but down from 2024 which was 4.69 to 4.76%. She also added we were getting the 4% rate across all city funds but unfortunately this was not something we could count on forever.

Rhinehart reported expenses were up some but not significantly and mostly due to just normal operating increases with things costing more and increases in payroll, insurance, and benefits. Overall expenses are up by \$913,000 from this time last year, which is about what we were up in operating revenues but if you look at total expenses and transfers out which include what will be transferred over to R&E for projects, we are up \$438,000.

Cash balance through November 2025 is at \$219 million with \$186 million being RO money. Rhinehart pointed out there has been about \$3.7 million spent on the RO project so far but none of that was taken from the RO Reserve and there will be an additional \$17 million received from the settlement over the next three years for a total of \$184 million.

Commissioner Cochran asked for clarification if the \$6 million earned in interest this year was included in these totals, Rhinehart confirmed that it was included in \$186 million RO Reserve Total shown.

OLD BUSINESS

None

NEW BUSINESS

Division Overview

Mr. Boyd introduced the division's Assistant Director John Minch: department directors; Wayne Stanley, Water Treatment Facility, Jeff Hill, Water Reclamations, Bryan Middleton, Operations, and Bryan Parris, Customer Service to new committee members. He added the division has a total of 123 staff members.

An overview of each department was given by Mr. Boyd and the director of those departments explaining the day-to-day activities and responsibilities of each department. Listings of each departments previous years accomplishments and current year goals were presented.

Aside from the primary buildings/treatment facilities and land assets, other infrastructure includes water service area of 45 square miles and 155 square miles of sewer service area serving around 17,000 active water customers and 20,000 sewer customers. Water Treatment produced

Minutes prepared by: Bryan Parris, Customer Service Director
Water and Sewer Committee/ Commission Minutes, February 5, 2025

2.433 billion gallons of water and Water Reclamation treated 4.677 billion gallons of wastewater.

In addition to water and sewer the division also maintains the cities flood control system which is made up of two separate levies and multiple pumping station.

OTHER

Adjourn

There being no further business to discuss the meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted.

John Boyd, Director
Rome Water and Sewer Division