

**Utility Commission
March 1, 2021
VIA TELECONFERENCE**

The regular scheduled meeting of the Delmar Utility Commission was called to order by Madam Chair Pase. Due to COVID-19, this meeting is taking place via teleconference. The phone number and access code has been provided to all the members as well as the public. In attendance were Commission Member Dewald, Council Member Smith, Deputy Mayor Unsell, Town Manager Bynum- King and Clerk of Council Vondell Spencer.

Madam Chair Pase took a roll call for attendance to establish a quorum and all were present.

Approval of Minutes

A motion was made, seconded (Unsell/Smith) and carried to approve the minutes as corrected from 2/1/2021. Madam Chair Pase took a roll call vote and the motion was passed 4 ayes.

Unfinished Business

Town Mgr. Bynum-King noted the sewer main replacement project is still progressing forward. The engineers are working on the design. Town Mgr. Bynum-King mentioned she needed to submit a procurement package to the state with regards to how the Town solicited for engineering RFQ's for the sewer main replacement project. She further mentioned the wastewater treatment plant is still maintaining in spite of all the recent rains. The rain itself is not helping because of all the water that is going through the plant but our superintendent, Frank Daniels is still maintaining. Town Mgr. Bynum-King said she spoke with the superintendent last Wednesday and he reported he was able to keep all the water in the plant with no spills even though our test results may vary in different areas exceeding our permit.

New Business

Town Mgr. Bynum-King reported last week the Town had a major sewer blockage on Chestnut Street in the Woodlawn area behind the Rite Aid. This blockage impacted four homes which were experiencing back-ups. Public Works was able to work with CES to unblock the main and restore resident services. The blockage occurred in the Urban Service area. Those homes are not in Town, however a number of years ago an agreement was made between the Town and Wicomico County to serve sewer to the Woodlawn area.

Town Mgr. Bynum-King referenced the earlier part of February there was a report about a cyber attack on a water treatment plant in Florida. She noted we still have to remain vigilant about protecting our water treatment facility. The Towns water treatment plant is currently operating manually and all treatment is administered manually at this time. Town Mgr. Bynum-King stated in the near future the Director of Public Works, Jerome Reid will be considering Scada Systems to do work electronically. The Town does have that SCADA system in place with our

wastewater treatment plant. Some of the components can be operated remotely away from the plant. The wastewater plant superintendent can make adjustments to the system from his laptop that he takes home every night.

Town Mgr. Bynum-King mentioned the Town is still in search of a wastewater treatment plant operator. We have advertised locally, the Guide and some other areas we would typically advertise with. She further mentioned to date we only have one applicant who is not a licensed operator but he does have some mechanical background. She added that Superintendent Daniels will probably interview that person. The wastewater treatment plant superintendent and operator are doing very well managing the plant operations.

Town Manager Report – None Reported.

Council Comments

Madam Chair Pase, Deputy Mayor Unsell, Commission Member Dewald, Council Member Smith had no comment.

Adjournment

A motion was made, second (Dewald/Unsell) and carried to adjourn. By roll call, the motion passed with 4 Ayes.

Clerk of Council
Vondell Spencer