

PUBLIC WORKS COMMISSION
MEETING OF WEDNESDAY, JULY 8, 2015
8:30 A.M.

Present: Michael G. Lallier, Chairman
Lynne B. Greene, Vice Chairman
Wade R. Fowler, Jr., Secretary
Darsweil L. Rogers, Treasurer

Others Present: Steve Blanchard, Interim CEO/General Manager
Nat Robertson, Mayor
Kristoff Bauer, Deputy City Manager
Jay Reinstein, Assistant City Manager
Brian Meyer, Assistant City Attorney
James Arp, City Council Liaison
Chalmers McDougald, City Council Member
Robert Hurst, City Council Member
Mitch Colvin, City Council Member
Wilson Lacy
PWC Staff
Media

Absent: Karen McDonald, City Attorney
Glenn Adams, County Liaison
Mike Bailey, Hope Mills Liaison
John Ellis, Hope Mills Liaison

Chairman Lallier called the meeting of July 8, 2015, to order.

Chairman Lallier acknowledged the presence of Mayor Nat Robertson, Members of the City Council and Dr. Wilson Lacy, former PWC Chairman.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Upon motion by Commissioner Rogers, seconded by Commissioner Fowler, the agenda was unanimously approved.

CONSENT ITEMS

Upon motion by Commissioner Rogers, seconded by Commissioner Fowler, the following Consent Items were unanimously approved.

A. Minutes of Meeting of June 24, 2015

B. Interlocal Agreement with Cumberland County that commits the Commission to financial participation equal to 25% of the total cost of the water main extension, not to exceed \$110,000, to serve customers on Bullard Circle to address the contaminated wells in the area and forward to City Council for approval at their August 10, 2015 meeting.

ANNOUNCEMENT AND INTRODUCTION OF NEW CEO/GENERAL MANAGER

Presented by: Michael G. Lallier, Fayetteville Public Works Commission Chairman

Michael Lallier, Chairman of the Public Works Commission gave the following comments as he introduced the new CEO/General Manager of the Fayetteville Public Works Commission.

“The Commissioners and Steve have spent several years planning for Steve’s retirement and choosing a successor. The beauty of this succession planning has been the very deliberate actions of careful thought and appropriate planning to choose only the 8th manager of the 110 year history the Fayetteville Public Works Commission.”

“We are indeed fortunate to have had the leadership of Steve Blanchard. He joined Fayetteville PWC in 1972, after completing his engineering degree from North Carolina State. He led the construction and management of the Butler Warner Generation Plant beginning in 1980 and then served as director of Generation and Power Supply beginning in 1988. In 1994, Steve was promoted to the position on CEO/General Manager. He continued to serve honorably and with great distinction for more than 20 years in this capacity. The awards and accolades he has brought to this utility are simply too numerous to cite. But they are nevertheless among the most notable in the industry.”

“In October of last year, Steve announced his retirement. The Commissioners accepted his decision reluctantly to retire after 42 years. And we began the process of finding his successor. We felt a nationwide search was in order and we contracted with the pre-eminent utility search firm of Mycoff, Fry and Prouse. Scott Fry was no stranger to the Fayetteville Public Works Commission and knew we would have many qualified candidates interested in this position. We developed a timeline and a plan to seek out the best and brightest to lead our 600 team members who we count on each and every day to serve our community with our electric, water and wastewater needs. Scott’s efforts on our behalf generated 28 capable applicants. After initial interviews and screening we reduced this list to 9 semi-finalists. In this round the commissioners utilized video resumes and additional screenings by Scott and his firm to come up with three extremely capable finalists. Recognizing that this utility is likely the single biggest asset of the City of Fayetteville and its citizens the Commissioners invited our Mayor Nat Robertson, our liaison Council Member Arp, and our City Manager Ted Voorhees to participate in a meet and greet of the finalists and at the kick-off of their final interviews.”

“The Commissioners, Scott and our director of HR, Bobby Russell participated in a day and a half of structured interviews to help determine the most capable leader for the future of

this utility. After thoughtful consideration and considerable deliberation we reached a unanimous decision.”

“The individual we have chosen to lead this great organization is no stranger to the utility industry, having been employed in various positions for 30 plus years. He completed college with both a bachelor degree and a MBA in engineering. He has previously led organizations with a large customer base and also with more than one utility. In addition to his extensive utility work he has found time to give back to the community by serving on various volunteer boards. This individual has demonstrated outstanding acumen in performing his current job and is certainly ready to assume new responsibilities. He is well liked and respected by his peers and direct reports. The Commissioners believe we have found the most qualified candidate possible to succeed Steve and lead this utility in the manner to which this utility has grown accustomed.”

“On behalf on my fellow Commissioners, it is my distinct pleasure and great honor to announce the new Chief Executive Officer and General Manager for the Fayetteville Public Works Commission. Ladies and gentlemen I ask you to please join me in welcoming Dave Trego as the new Chief.”

Chairman Lallier welcomed David Trego and Steve Blanchard to the podium. Steve Blanchard passed his CEO/General Manager hard hat to David Trego. He also passed the Comprehensive Emergency Plan Position Notebook for the General Manager.

David Trego, new Chief Executive Officer and General Manager thanked the Commission, the Mayor, Council Liaison Arp and Ted Voorhees for participating in the process. He stated “I am honored and humbled with the opportunity. To only be one of eight is quite an honor and to follow in the footsteps of Steve who has been a wonderful leader for this organization, this community and the employees of PWC is a daunting task, yet one I know am up to.”

Mr. Trego thanked Mr. Blanchard and the Commissioners once again and stated he is looking forward to working with the citizens of Fayetteville, the customers and most of all continuing to work with the wonderful employees at PWC. He stated we have a great legacy here at PWC; we are a great organization and he looks forward to continuing this legacy.

ADDITIONAL REMARKS:

Mayor Nat Robertson welcomed Councilman McDougald and Hurst and congratulated Steve Blanchard on his ‘re-retirement’. He stated Steve Blanchard ran perhaps the best utility in the country. They completed a nation-wide search to find the best candidate in the country to operate the best utility in the country. He expressed his delight that they found that person here at home. David Trego.

Mayor Robertson spoke to the expectations of the City Council as well as the citizens of Fayetteville in regards to the General Manager. He stated they would like to continue the great name PWC has in the community, the state and the country in retaining the high level of utility service that has been provided. He stated the residents do not care very much about the inside politics that has been going on, but they want to know that when they turn the faucet the water comes out and when they turn on the switch the lights turn on. He asked for the General Manager to make this is his number one priority.

Mayor Robertson also stated that competitive rates are a priority as well as the exceptional customer service that PWC is known for. He stated they appreciate how active PWC is in the community. He then congratulated Mr. Trego again and stated he looks forward to working with him.

Council Liaison James Arp, Commissioners Lynne Greene, Darsweil Rogers and Wade Fowler also gave comments and words of congratulations to Mr. Trego.

Mr. Blanchard stated he expected Mr. Trego to be a great CEO/General Manager and he is looking forward to their short transition period.

MOTION

Commissioner Lynne Greene moved that the month of July 2015 be declared a transition period and to allow the signature on all legal documents for the Fayetteville Public Works Commission for this period of time to be either David Trego, the new CEO/General Manager or Steve Blanchard, the Interim CEO/General Manager. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Darsweil Rogers and unanimously approved.

REPORTS AND INFORMATION

The Commission acknowledges receipt of the following reports and information.

- A. Purchase Orders
 - October 2014
 - November 2014
 - December 2014
- B. Monthly Incident Summary for June 2015
- C. Position Vacancies
- D. July 2015 Wholesale Power Cost Adjustment
- E. Actions by City Council during meeting of June 22, 2015, related to PWC:
 - Approved the establishment of a Purchasing Office
- F. Letter of Congratulations from Senator Wesley A. Meredith
- G. Open Commission Requests

There being no further business, upon motion by Commissioner Rogers, seconded by Commissioner Fowler and unanimously approved, the meeting was adjourned at 8:47 a.m.

(A brief reception was held immediately following the meeting.)