

PUBLIC WORKS COMMISSION
MEETING OF WEDNESDAY MARCH 8, 2023
8:30 AM

Present: Ronna Rowe Garrett, Chairwoman
 Donald L. Porter, Vice Chairman
 Evelyn O. Shaw, Secretary
 Christopher Davis, Treasurer

Others Present: Mick Noland, Interim CEO/General Manager
 Mayor Mitch Colvin
 Deno Hondros, City Council Liaison
 Derrick Thompson, City Council Member
 D. J. Haire, City Council Member
 Media

Absent: Jimmy Keefe, Cumberland County Liaison

ADMINISTER OATH OF OFFICE:

Mayor Mitch Colvin administered the Oath of Office to Christopher Davis as Commissioner of the Fayetteville Public Works Commission. Commissioner Davis was appointed Commissioner of the Public Works Commission by the Fayetteville City Council on Monday, February 27, 2023.

REGULAR BUSINESS

Chairwoman Ronna Rowe Garrett called the meeting of March 8, 2023, to order at 8:37 am.

Election of Officers for Fiscal Year 2022-2023

❖ Treasurer

Commissioner Evelyn Shaw motioned to elect Commissioner Christopher Davis as Treasurer of the Public Works Commission. Motion was seconded by Commissioner Donald Porter, and unanimously approved.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Commissioner Evelyn Shaw motioned to approve the agenda. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Donald Porter, and was unanimously approved.

CONSENT ITEMS

Upon motion by Commissioner Donald Porter, seconded by Commissioner Evelyn Shaw, Consent Items were unanimously approved.

A. Approve Minutes of meeting of February 22, 2023

END OF CONSENT

COMMISSION CONSIDERATION OF RECOMMENDED WATER/WASTEWATER AND ELECTRIC RATES AND PURPA REQUIREMENTS

Commissioner Donald Porter motioned to adopt the water, wastewater, and electric rates and the resolution regarding PURPA considerations as proposed by PWC staff at the meeting on February 22, 2023, with the rates to be effective on the dates proposed by PWC staff. Motion was seconded by Commissioner Evelyn Shaw, and unanimously approved.

GENERAL MANAGER REPORT

Mr. Mick Noland thanked Mayor Colvin for being present for Commissioner Chris Davis' Oath of Office.

He also thanked the Commissioners for approving the rates. There was a lot of work from staff to make sure it was as tight as possible.

Ms. Justice-Hinson stated we will have our 19th Power and Water Conservation Expo on March 24th in Downtown Fayetteville. The expo is a great opportunity for customers to come in and talk to our conservation specialists and find ways to reduce their bills.

COMMISSIONER/LIAISON COMMENTS

Mayor Mitch Colvin

Mayor Colvin thanked the Commission for being so gracious to the City Council; improving the working relationship and welcoming our liaison, Council Member Hondros

Council Member Hondros

Council Member Hondros stated he previously shared his frustration with government and the lack of speed for which to work sometimes, however he offered congratulations to Commissioner Davis, it took us four or five months to get there, but we came to a consensus.

He stated he appreciates the Commission for always listening and always willing to consider how we can partner the City and PWC together. He stated he failed to mention that the County is switching to ad valorem; that hit for the City will compound the City's budget challenges.

Commissioner Evelyn Shaw

Commissioner Shaw stated she had opportunity to visit with the employees during the Employee Appreciation event. It was absolutely wonderful. She also stated PWC has the best security guard. He (Officer Brewington) is always so gracious and cordial, and he represents PWC very well, with a smile on his face. She stated she had an opportunity to have a conversation with everyone in the room, which she feels is important. Commissioner Shaw thanked Mr. Russell, Ms. Justice Hinson, and their teams for putting the event together.

Commissioner Donald Porter

Commissioner Porter welcomed the Mayor, Council Members Haire and Thompson. He also welcomed our new Commissioner Davis. He stated also had the honor and pleasure to visit with the employees during Employee Appreciation Day. He is proud to be a part of the team.

Commissioner Ronna Garrett

Commissioner Garrett stated it did take a long time for Chris Davis to get here, and Commissioner Fowler is exiting upon an 8 ½ year tenure here. The way she likes to think about things is everything is a point in time. And we have a point of departure here. We huddle as a team, officially sworn in. She appreciates that those who live here are very passionate and care about where they live. Sometimes it is frustrating when you have passionate voices who have opposing views of what you might think is the proper thing. She stated for certain, this board, the team and the city all want what is for the greater good of this community.

Commissioner Chris Davis

Commissioner Davis thanked God, his wife, his support team, and this community who do the hard work of deliberating what is best for our city and our area. That is what makes Fayetteville unique, regardless of where you reach from in the community we genuinely care about the prosperity and continued growth of this region. He is glad to be a part of the team. He has been able to watch it from the sidelines for years, and it is a dynamic and amazing team, and he is proud to be a part of it.

REPORTS AND INFORMATION

Commission acknowledges receipt of the following reports and information.

- A. Personnel Report – February 2023
- B. Career Opportunities
- C. Financial Statement Recaps – January 2023
 - Electric
 - Water/Wastewater
- D. Actions by City Council during the meeting of February 27, 2023, related to PWC:
 - Phase 5 Annexation Area 23 Section 2 and Area 24A Resolutions Declaring Costs, Ordering Preparation of Preliminary Assessment Roll, and Setting Time and Place for Public Hearing on Preliminary Assessment Roll

CLOSED SESSION PURSUANT TO NORTH CAROLINA GENERAL STATUTES 143-318.11(A)(3) FOR LEGAL MATTERS

Commissioner Shaw motioned to enter closed session pursuant to North Carolina General Statutes 143-318.11(a)(3) to discuss legal matters. Motion was seconded by Commissioner Porter at 8:50 am.

There being no further discussion, upon motion by Commissioner Donald Porter, seconded by Commissioner Evelyn Shaw, and unanimously approved, the Commission returned to open session at 10:03 am.

ADJOURNNEBT

There being no further discussion, upon motion by Commissioner Evelyn Shaw, seconded by Commissioner Donald Porter, and unanimously approved, the meeting adjourned at 10:03 am.