

PUBLIC WORKS COMMISSION
MEETING OF WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 14, 2024
8:30 AM

Present: Donald L. Porter, Chairman
Christopher G. Davis, Vice Chairman
Ronna Rowe Garrett, Secretary
Richard W. King, Treasurer

Others Present: Timothy L. Bryant, CEO/General Manager
Adam Lindsay, Assistant City Manager
Derrick Thompson, City Council Liaison (VIA WEBEX)
Media

Absent: None

I. REGULAR BUSINESS

Chairman Donald Porter called the meeting of February 14, 2024, to order at 8:30 am.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Commissioner Ronna Rowe Garrett motioned to approve the agenda. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Christopher Davis, and unanimously approved.

II. PRESENTATION

PRESENTATION OF AREA WIDE OPTIMIZATION AWARD

Presented by: Mick Noland, Chief Operations Officer, Water Resources
Jason Green, Water Treatment Facilities Manager

Mr. Timothy Bryant, CEO/General Manger introduced Mr. Noland, the Chief Operations Officer of Water Resources. He stated the Area Wide Optimization Program (AWOP) was established by the EPA and the NCDEQ and it aims to enhance drinking water in NC by ensuring its cleanliness and safety. This program was initiated in response to the need for better handling of water turbidity (cloudiness) and other quality issues.

It educates personnel at water treatment plants in removing sediment and bacteria and viruses in removing turbidity. The program establishes stringent goals for water clarity and rigorously checks to ensure the objectives are met. These goals are significantly more stringent than we are required to meet by our permit. It is a step higher.

Clean water is fundamental to everyone's health, and for safeguarding against illness.

He then introduced Mr. Jason Green. Mr. Green stated PWC has won this award for 9 consecutive years for Hoffer. We have won it three consecutive years for Glenville, though we have won it in previous years as well.

Mr. Green gave an overview of the purpose of the award. He stated it is a great honor to receive it, as it is regulated and awarded by the State.

The Commissioners thanked and congratulated Mr. Noland, Mr. Green, and their teams for receiving this very important award.

III. CONSENT ITEMS

Upon motion by Commissioner Christopher Davis, seconded by Commissioner Ronna Rowe Garrett, Consent Items were unanimously approved.

- A. Approve Minutes of meeting of January 24, 2024
- B. Approve the Chairperson and Vice Chairperson of the Fayetteville Public Works Commission, serving in their capacities as PWC's Commissioner and Alternate Commissioner of ElectriCities to automatically be appointed as Commissioner and First Alternate Commissioner on the Non-Power Agency Board of Commissioners.
- C. Approve bid recommendation to award bid for the purchase of 540 each, Sensus 1-1/2 Water Meter Replacement to Sensus USA, Uniontown, PA, the lowest, responsive, responsible bidder, in the total amount of \$203,520.00, and forward to City Council for approval.

The Sensus 1-1/2 Water Meter Replacement is budgeted in Warehouse Inventory.

Bids were received January 17, 2024, as follows:

<u>Bidders</u>	Manufacturer	Total Cost	Delivery
Sensus USA, Uniontown, PA	Sensus USA	\$203,520.60	30 Weeks

COMMENTS: Notice of the bid was advertised through our normal channels on December 20, 2023, with a bid opening date of January 17, 2024. Bids were solicited from two (2) vendors and one (1) bid was received. **MWDBE/SLS Participation:** Sensus USA, Uniontown, PA, is not a MWDBE or local business. Sensus is the manufacturer of this purchase and intends to perform the contract with its own workforce.

- D. Approve bid recommendation to award bid for the purchase of one (1) 33,000 GVWR Regular Cab and Chassis, and one (1) 33,000 GVWR Crew Cab and Chassis to Cleveland Freightliner, Inc., Parma, OH, the lowest, responsive, responsible bidder, in the total amount of \$226,118.00, and forward to City Council for approval.

The purchase of one (1) GVWR Regular Cab and Chassis, and one (1) 33,000 GVWR Crew Cab and Chassis is budgeted in Water Construction/Fleet Maintenance

Bids were received January 25, 2024, as follows:

<u>Bidders</u>	Manufacturer	Total Cost	Delivery
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Cleveland Freightliner, Inc., Parma, OH	Cleveland Freightliner, Inc.	\$226,118.00	22-26 Wks.
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COMMENTS: Notice of the bid was advertised through our normal channels on January 12, 2024, with a bid opening date of January 25, 2024. Bids were solicited from one (1) vendor and one (1) bid was received. **MWDBE/SLS Participation:** Cleveland Freightliner, Inc., Parma, OH, is not a small local business and is not classified as a MWDBE business.

E. Adopt PWC Ordinance – PWCORD2024-01 – FY24 Electric and Water/Wastewater (W/WW) Fund Budget Amendment #6

The above budget ordinance Amendment #6 to the Electric Fund and W/WW Fund decreases the Electric Fund by \$2,825,500 to \$304.4 million. There is no effect to the W/WW Fund.

This amendment includes two reclassifications with a net zero effect. Intergovernmental Revenue for relief fund repayment was reclassified as a Notes Receivable, and Debt Service for lease related payments was reclassified as Operating Expenditures. An explanation of other amended items is listed below.

Electric Fund

- Electric Fund Revenues: Total Electric Fund Revenues decreased by \$2,825,500. Intergovernmental Revenue decreased by \$2,666,700 and Total Budgetary Appropriations decreased by \$158,800 due to the net effect of the relief fund repayment reclassification and decreasing the Appropriation from Electric Net Position as a result of lowered expenditures below.

Electric Fund Expenditures: Total Electric Fund Expenditures decreased by \$2,825,500. Operating Expenditures decreased by \$6,472,100 due to the reclassification of two gas turbine overhauls from expense to capital and fund reallocation for property insurance. One gas turbine overhaul will be funded by the Electric Fund and the other will be funded by bonds.

- Debt Service increased by \$44,700 due to cost of issuance for refunding revenue bonds, Series 2024.
- Capital increased by \$3,601,900 due to the reclassification of one gas turbine overhaul.

W/WW Fund

- W/WW Fund Revenue: Total W/WW Fund Revenue is not affected.
- W/WW Fund Expenditures: Total W/WW Fund Expenditures has a net zero effect. Operating Expenditures decreased by \$529,800 due to funds available through the AIA Grant Project Fund for asset inventory and assessment contractual services and fund reallocation for property insurance.
- Debt Service increased by \$748,500 due to cost of issuance for the Big Rockfish Creek Outfall and Lift Station Elimination State Revolving Loan and refunding revenue bonds, Series 2024.
- Total Budgetary Appropriations decreased by \$218,700 due to decreasing the Appropriation to W/WW Net Position as a result of the lowered expenditures above.

Staff recommends that the Commission adopt the attached budget ordinance amendment PWCORD2024-01.

END OF CONSENT

IV. Community Engagement/Ambassador Program Presentation

Presented by: Carolyn Justice-Hinson, Communications/Community Relations Officer

Ms. Justice-Hinson introduced PWC's newest engagement and outreach program, the PWC Ambassador Program. She stated we began to discuss this concept in 2021, and in 2023 we moved forward with the ambassador program and developing it.

She stated by default, by working at PWC or serving on the board, we are all ambassadors. This new program will train employees to represent PWC, be a liaison specifically at community meetings such as community watch, neighborhood HOAs and more. Our goal is for them to become a trusted source of PWC information. The ambassadors will be coordinated by our Communications/Community Relations Office.

Ms. Justice-Hinson shared the benefits of the Ambassador Program; how they are developed; topics discussed; training the Ambassadors received, and next steps.

Benefits of the Ambassador Program

- Connect with customers
- Increase community engagement
- Proactive engagement
- Increase staff's knowledge of PWC operations
- Provide ongoing staff development

Developing Ambassadors

- PWC-Wide Call for Ambassadors
- Ambassador interest meetings
- Application/Reference
- Supervisor support/recommendation
- Training classes
- Mock Meeting/Preparation
- Encourage independent development

Discussion Topics

- Bill/Usage Inquiries & Rates
- Customer Programs & Conservation
- Service Reliability/Water Quality
- Storm Preparation
- Special Projects (i.e., Operation Clean & Clear)

Ambassador Training

- PWC 101
- Customer Service & Billing
- Electric Generation

- Electric Construction
- T/D Operations & Emergency Dispatch
- Drinking Water Treatment
- Water Reclamation
- Water Testing Lab
- Water Construction
- Lift Stations

Moving Forward

- Introduce Inaugural Class of Ambassadors
- Mock Meetings/Preparation
- Match Ambassadors with meetings/organizations
- Ongoing training, outreach opportunities
- Monthly check-ins & feedback
- Recruitment

Ms. Justice-Hinson introduced the Inaugural Class of Ambassadors

- Mina Foy, WR Engineering
- Christina Gilmore, Customer Service
- Sonya Griffin, Customer Programs Call Center
- Dan Kai, Information Technology
- Danielle Rea, Generation Plant
- Shellie Shaver, Customer Programs Call Center
- Liz Testa-Vasser, WR Engineering
- Thomas Urbanek, WR Facilities Maintenance
- Teddy Warner, Key Accounts
- Levita Winborn, Customer Programs Call Center

Chairman Porter thanked the Ambassadors for taking on this responsibility in addition to their regular assigned duties. Commissioner King agreed with Chairman Porter. There are a lot of voices out there in the public, he said, and they are not correct, and it is good to put the truth out there. Commissioner Davis also congratulated the Ambassador team. Commissioner Ronna Rowe Garrett stated this speaking to the agility of PWC, meeting the needs of the community. She thanked them for all they do and shared “we consider you Commissioners in the making.”

Council Liaison Thompson asked if the Ambassadors will be assigned to a district or will they move around throughout the districts. Ms. Justice-Hinson replied they will be assigned to individual areas, so they will become the person that the group is most familiar with. So, in essence, they will be like a Mark Brown.

V. Electric Rates and Electric, Water, and Wastewater Fees and Surcharges Presentation Presented by: Jason Alban, Director of Financial Planning and Capital Projects

Ms. Haskins stated today the Commission will be presented with the results and recommendations of the electric rates and the cost-of-service review.

Mr. Jason Alban with his team leads this effort for PWC. She recognized the team members that were present: Ms. Lisa Buffaloe (Manager of Financial Planning and Analysis), Ms. Lisa Barbee (Rates Manager), and Ms. Josie Titus (Senior Financial Rates Analyst). She reiterated this is a very collaborative effort across all divisions of PWC.

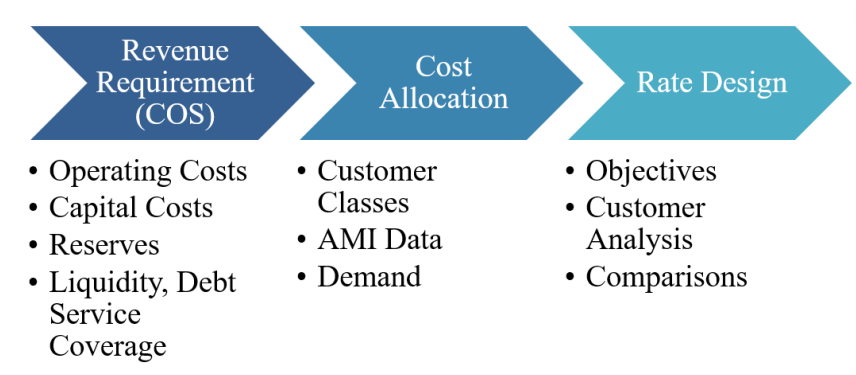
Mr. Alban also thanked his team, our Cost of Service (COS) and Rates Consultant, NewGen Strategies, as well as the management staff who helped to bring all this information together.

Mr. Alban gave a history of the power supply contract with DEP in 2019, as well as milestone change dates that would go into effect.

He stated the purpose of today's presentation is to present to the Commission and the Public the following recommendations:

- Electric Coincident Peak (CP) retail rates for the next two years – July 1/May 1
- Electric retail rates, excluding CP rates, for the next two years – May 1/May 1
- Electric, Water & Wastewater fees & surcharges – May 1
- Proposed rate schedules and ancillary documents will be delivered to the PWC Clerk and posted on our website for the public to access when the notice of public hearing is published
- February 28, 2024 – Public Hearing (Adoption of Rates)
- Set Public Hearing (Following this Presentation)

The Electric Rates Process includes the following:



NewGen Engagement

- Model Roll with Revenue Requirement and COS Results/Update
- Update Electric Rates in Existing PWC Structure
- Update Coincident Peak (CP) Rates
- Review Fixed Cost Recovery
- Review Time-of-Use (TOU) Periods to CP's
- Perform Area Lights Study

Financial Model – Electric

- Financial Model updated for FY's 2025-2034. PWC's fiscal year begins July 1.
- Based on FY24 Budget and CIP, with updates from FY25 CIP planning

- Considers revenues, growth, operating/capital costs, debt & funding sources
- KPIs and rate triggers:
 - Operating Reserve > 120 days cash
 - Debt Service Coverage > 2.50
- Bond issuances even years starting in FY 2024
- Additional Revenue Requirement has decreased:

	2023 Off-Cycle	%	2024 2-year Cycle	%
Electric	\$13M	>6%	\$9M	2%

- Primary Driver is Power Supply costs:

Changes effective July 1 - Amended PSCA	\$ Impact
190 MW Demand Credit	(\$42M)
\$2.50 Capacity Credit Ends	\$10M
BWGP Lease Payment Ends	\$12.5M
BWGP Fuel Cost net of Performance Credits	\$1.5M
Net Financial Impact (Benefit)	(\$18M)

- Electric Rate Stabilization Fund:
 - ▶ FY24 Budgeted draw of \$19.3M
 - ▶ No ERSF draws modeled in FY25 and FY26
 - ▶ “Bridged the Gap” to these FY25 Changes

Cost Allocation

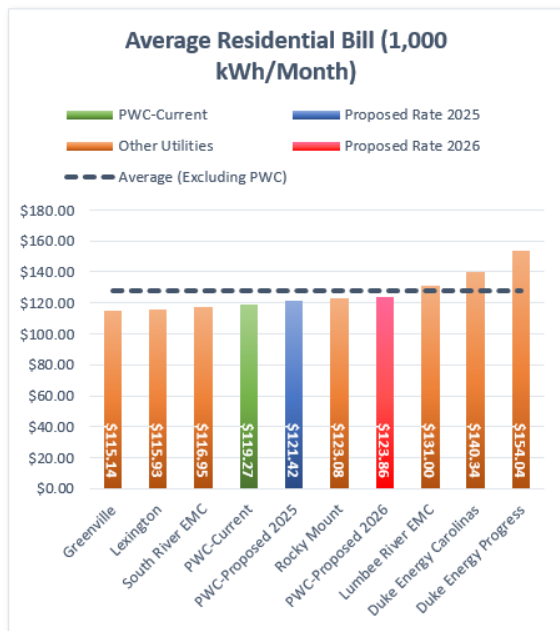
- Functionalization of costs across Production, Transmission, Distribution, Customer Care
- Cost allocations to customer classes and their contributions to Demand to determine the most accurate costs for serving each class
- Look at fixed cost recovery in determining Basic Facility and Demand charges
- Continued use of PWC’s AMI (Advanced Metering Infrastructure) data and FERC accounting
- Interclass equity and movement to COS by class; or “across-the-board” to minimize rate impacts to any particular customer class

Electric Rate Plan & Recommendations

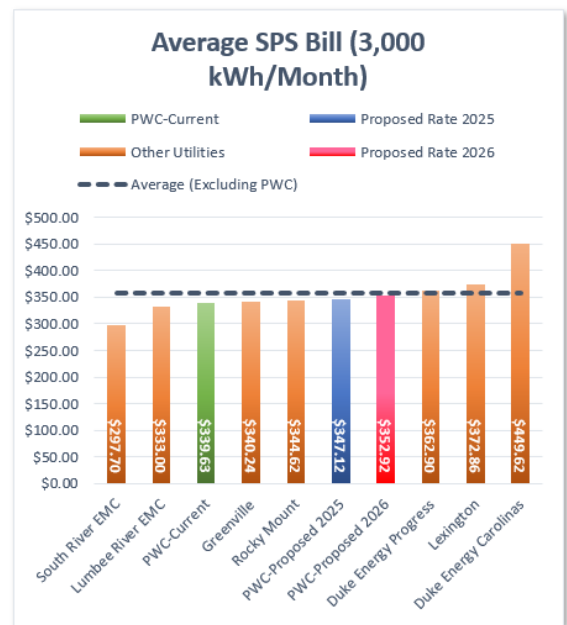
- 2% across-the-board total system revenue growth in FY25 & FY26
- Thru increases to Basic Facility, Demand and Energy charges; continuing shift to fixed cost recovery as COS indicates
- Residential Basic Facility charge to increase \$1 in both years, and proportional or COS for other classes
- Additional increase generally falling in either the Energy charge (RES/SPS) or Demand charge (MPS/LPS); and maintain on/off-peak differential
- Adjust TOU periods FY26
- Remove Coal Ash Rider FY26
- Update Area Light rates to COS

Electric Rate Comparisons

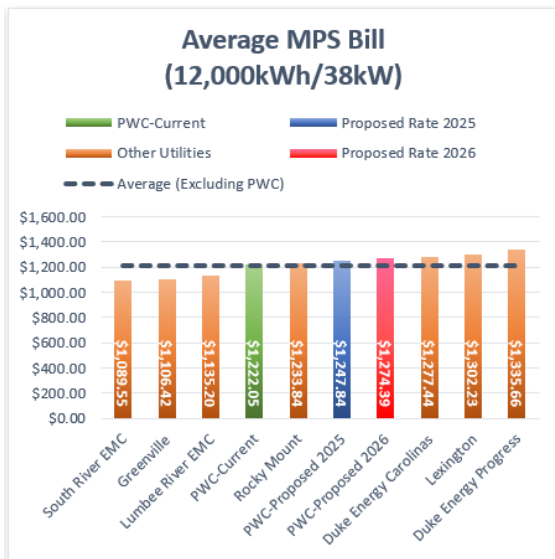
Residential



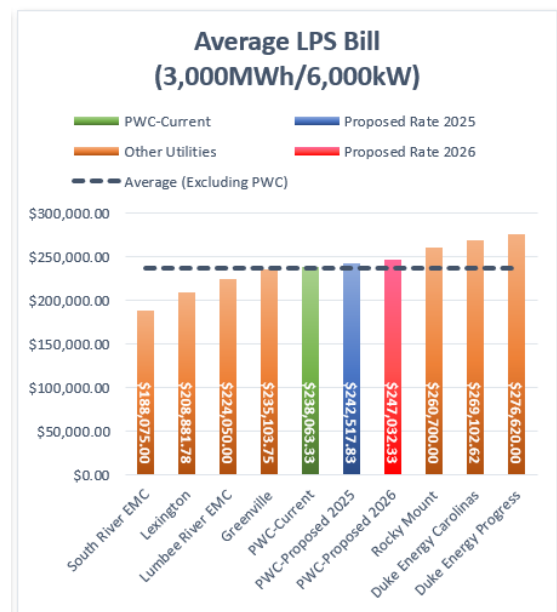
Small Power Service



Medium Power Service



Large Power Service



Small Power Consolidation

- Several rates have historical distinctions on the rate schedules, but do not have COS differences and currently have no or minimal rate difference from one another
- Staff recommends all become SPS effective May 1, 2024
- Annual Demand will determine Customer's rate class

Traffic Signal Service	Sports Field Lighting Service	Church Service	Current Small Power Service
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Formula Rate Changes

- PWC currently has formula rate schedules with Coincident Peak (CP) charges for Medium and Large Power services
- Updates are required to the formula rates in order to accommodate DEP contract changes regarding capacity credits and operation/maintenance and capital costs of Butler Warner Generation Plant (BWGP) – effective July 1
- Staff recommends changing the formula for CP portion of applicable rates to account for above items by including the Demand Credit and BWGP Costs based on PWC’s most recently completed COS study (**BWGP Credit**)

$$\{(\text{System CP Demand Cost} + \text{Ancillary Credits} + \text{Transmission Cost} + \text{BWGP Credit}) \times (1 + \text{System Loss Factor})\}$$

TOU PERIODS & Coal Ash Rider

- Staff recommends changing TOU periods effective May 1, 2025, to more closely align with historical DEP coincident peaks:
 - Peak period to include weekends and holidays (daily)
 - Peak period windows to be reduced to 3 hours per day:
 - 6am to 9am in Winter (Nov-Mar)
 - 3pm to 6pm in Summer (Apr-Oct)
- Staff recommends removing the Coal Ash Rider effective May 1, 2025:
 - Reduces Residential monthly bill by \$2.00

Proposed Rates – RES & SPS

Residential	Current	Proposed FY25	Proposed FY26
Facility Charges			
Single Phase	\$22.00	\$23.00	\$24.00
Three Phase	\$27.50	\$28.75	\$30.00
Energy Charges			
kWh - On	\$0.13845	\$0.14042	\$0.14126
kWh - Off	\$0.09024	\$0.09152	\$0.09207
Small Power Service	Current	Proposed FY25	Proposed FY26
Facility Charges			
Single Phase	\$33.00	\$34.50	\$36.00
Three Phase	\$49.50	\$51.75	\$54.00
Energy Charges			
kWh - On	\$0.14378	\$0.14572	\$0.14725
kWh - Off	\$0.09516	\$0.09644	\$0.09745

Proposed Rates – MPS

Medium Power Service	Current	Proposed FY25	Proposed FY26
Facility Charges			
Single Phase	\$40.70	\$42.55	\$44.40
Three Phase	\$57.20	\$59.80	\$62.40
Demand Charges			
Demand Charge	\$15.71	\$16.34	\$16.99
Energy Charges			
kWh - On	\$0.05325	\$0.05325	\$0.05325
kWh - Off	\$0.04793	\$0.04793	\$0.04793
Medium Power Service - CP	Current	Proposed FY25	Proposed FY26
Facility Charges			
Single Phase	\$319.00	\$333.50	\$348.00
Three Phase	\$319.00	\$333.50	\$348.00
Demand Charges			
CP Charge	\$17.22	\$15.22	\$15.29
Demand Charge	\$4.79	\$6.17	\$6.61
Energy Charges			
Energy Charge	\$0.04180	\$0.04180	\$0.04180

Proposed Rates – LPS

Large Power Service	Current	Proposed FY25	Proposed FY26
Facility Charges			
Single Phase	\$319.00	\$333.50	\$348.00
Three Phase	\$319.00	\$333.50	\$348.00
Demand Charges			
CP Charge	\$17.22	\$15.22	\$15.29
Demand Charge	\$3.20	\$5.35	\$6.05
Energy Charges			
Energy Charge	\$0.04840	\$0.04840	\$0.04840

Large Power Service - Trans	Current	Proposed FY25	Proposed FY26
Facility Charges			
Three Phase	\$20,000.00	\$25,000.00	\$25,000.00
Demand Charges			
CP Charge	\$17.22	\$15.22	\$15.29
Demand Charge*	\$1.00	\$2.26	\$2.82
Energy Charges			
Energy Charge	\$0.02732	\$0.02895	\$0.02897

*Net of discounts

Proposed Rates – Area Lights

LED Bulb Type	Current Rate	Proposed Rate
50W	\$12.00	\$12.00
70W	\$16.00	\$16.00
130W	\$22.00	\$22.00
200W	\$26.00	\$28.00
240W	\$30.00	\$31.00
320W	\$35.00	\$41.00
SINGLE PED LIGHT W/POLE	\$13.86	\$45.00
TWIN PED LIGHTS W/POLE	\$27.16	\$60.00
QUAD PED LIGHTS W/POLE	\$52.32	\$90.00
Shroud	\$7.50	\$7.50
38 Ft Decorative Pole	\$20.50	\$31.00

Sanitary Sewer Charges

Surcharges (Per 1,000 Pounds)	Current	Proposed
5-Day BOD/CBOD in excess of 300 mg/l	\$ 285.00	\$ 531.40
TSS in excess of 300 mg/l	\$ 338.87	\$ 566.27
Ammonia Nitrogen in excess of 50 mg/l	\$ 462.11	\$ 748.87

Proposed Rates - EDR

- Economic Development Rider program is designed to provide a \$0.01/kWh discount in first year, which is reduced by \$0.002/kWh every year until the discount is completed.
- System inputs the discount as a percentage, with updated percentages provided below:

Year	Current	Proposed
Year 1	22.0022%	20.6612%
Year 2	17.6018%	16.5289%
Year 3	13.2013%	12.3967%
Year 4	8.8009%	8.2645%
Year 5	4.4004%	4.1322%

PWC Fees & Charges

Water & Wastewater Fees/Main Connection Charges

Water & Wastewater Fees	Current	Proposed
Water: 1" Lateral	\$ 2,940.00	\$ 3,520.00
Water: 1" New Split Lateral	\$ 643.00	\$ 720.00
Water: 1" Existing Split Lateral	\$ 790.00	\$ 960.00
Water: 2" Lateral	\$ 3,220.00	\$ 3,770.00
Water: 2" Vault and Bypass	\$ 3,170.00	\$ 3,490.00
Water: 2" Irrigation Tap w/Jumbo Box	\$ 4,740.00	\$ 5,500.00
Sewer: 4" Lateral	\$ 3,845.00	\$ 4,630.00
Sewer: 6" Lateral	\$ 4,210.00	\$ 5,180.00
Sewer: 4" Elder valve	\$ 1,400.00	\$ 1,710.00

Main Connection Charges	Current	Proposed
Water: 1" Main Connection Charge	\$ 2,360.00	\$ 2,430.00
Sewer: 4" Main Connection Charge	\$ 2,400.00	\$ 3,500.00

Electric Fees / Other Charges

Electric Fees	Current	Proposed
Temp Pole Charge-Underground	\$ 115.00	\$ 135.00
Temp Pole Charge-Overhead	\$ 170.00	\$ 215.00
Underground Cond Charge per Linear Foot	\$ 5.35	\$ 6.50
Boring Fee per Linear Foot	\$ 15.00	\$ 15.00
Service Conversion	\$ 1,000.00	\$ 1,210.00

Other Charges	Current	Proposed
Consumptive Water Loss Application Fee	\$ 395.00	\$ 455.00
Lift Station Fee (monthly)	\$ 2,770.76	Remove - At Cost
Backflow Prevention Assembly Inspection Charge (monthly)	\$ 2.25	\$ 3.65
Connection Fee	\$ 20.00	\$ 20.00
Reconnection Fee	\$ 20.00	\$ 20.00

Summary

- Electric 2% total system revenue increases in FY25 and FY26
 - Rates effective May 1 of 2024 and 2025; July 1, 2024, CP rates Year 1
- Additional recommendations:
 - Consolidate SPS Rates effective May 1, 2024
 - Update CP Formula effective July 1, 2024
 - Adjust TOU periods and make Daily effective May 1, 2025
 - Remove Coal Ash Rider effective May 1, 2025
 - Update PWC Fees, Charges and Surcharges effective May 1, 2024

Estimated Residential Customer Impact

Item	Current	Proposed FY25	Proposed FY26
Facility Charges			
Single Phase	\$22.00	\$23.00	\$24.00
Three Phase	\$27.50	\$28.75	\$30.00
Energy Charges			
kWh - On	\$0.13845	\$0.14042	\$0.14126
kWh - Off	\$0.09024	\$0.09152	\$0.09207
Total Average Rate (\$/kWh)	\$0.11892	\$0.12129	\$0.12365
Total Average Bill (\$/Month)	\$119.74	\$122.13	\$124.51
Monthly Bill Increase		\$2.39	\$2.38
Remove Coal Ash Rider			-\$2.00
Net Impact Year 2			\$0.38

Commissioners thanked Ms. Haskins and Mr. Alban for the detailed report.

Commissioner Garrett asked Mr. Alban to confirm that no one is on the Economic Development Rider (EDR). He confirmed that no one is currently on it. Commissioner Garrett also confirmed we gave a reduction in May 2020 for three years, and the Coal Ash Rider applied to everyone, and it will be removed. She asked for an explanation of the outdoor lighting. Mr. Alban stated the outdoor lighting is private lighting, they are residential or commercial businesses that have specific needs and requested for PWC to install them.

Commissioner King discussed the irrigation tap, the water and sewer tap fees. Discussion ensued regarding it. Ms. Manning will discuss in more depth with Commissioner King. Mr. Bryant asked if there is anything we can do to better clarify when we ultimately deal with the developer community or anyone else regarding these rates. Ms. Manning responding, yes we will do so.

VI. Approve Public Hearing Regarding Electric Rates and Electric, Water, and Wastewater Fees and Surcharges for February 28, 2024

Commissioner Christopher Davis motioned to set and provide notice of the Public Hearing for Electric Rates, and Electric, Water, and Wastewater Fees and Surcharges for February 28, 2024, at 8:30 am. Motion was seconded by Commissioner Richard King, and unanimously approved.

VII. GENERAL MANAGER REPORT

Safety

Mr. Bryant stated the team continues to work safely overall; however, we are beginning to see an unexpected upward trend on our total recordable injury rate. Because of that concern we will have a more fertile effort to understand what is causing the increase, the drivers of it and also to develop some counter measures to curtail the source of those challenges. We want to make sure all of our employees go home in a better shape than they came if not the same. We cannot allow uncommunicated unchallenged things drive that bad behavior.

People

Mr. Bryant introduced Ms. Georgette Miller, our General Counsel and Chief Legal Officer. He stated she has been here for a little over a week and has hit the ground running.

Mr. Bryant also thanked Mr. Galt for his great work as serving as our Interim General Counsel and continuing to support the work Ms. Miller is leading on our behalf.

KYN campaign has begun. Our biometric screenings start today to make sure our employees have the opportunity to know their health condition and better understand how they can sustain better health outcomes by performing their biometric screenings and help them to know how they can be better stewards of their own bodies and help drive down our insurance costs for maintaining their safety and their health for years to come. He appreciated the HR team for ensuring this campaign was brought to the PWC Team.

Community Engagement

Mr. Bryant stated during the Greater Fayetteville Chamber Annual Awards on Tuesday, January 30th, PWC was awarded the Excellence in Innovation Award, acknowledging PWC's work in advancing renewal energy and providing clean energy options for all of our customers. Mr. Bryant stated it was an honor to represent PWC at that awards ceremony, and the award was really because of all the work of our team members.

Operation Clean and Clear began this week, with public meetings being scheduled, mailing and website communications and other educational outreach. This effort is being led by our Communications and Community Relations Team, under the leadership of Carolyn Justice-Hinson.

This week is Smart Energy Provider Week. This is an APPA program recognizing utilities for demonstration and accomplishment in smart energy program planning, energy efficiency, distributed energy resources, environmental and sustainability programs and community and customer experience. PWC has earned the Smart Energy Provider Award three times. This is nothing new to us, but we want to reemphasize this is Smart Energy Provider Week and encourage recognition of all we do to provide energy to our customer.

VIII. COMMISSIONER/LIAISON COMMENTS

City Council Liaison Derrick Thompson

Council Liaison Thompson wished everyone a Happy Valentine's Day. He thanked staff for the Rates Presentation. He also thanked Ms. Justice-Hinson for the Ambassador Program launch. He stated anytime you want to do a rate hike there are questions from the citizens to the Council. He is glad the ambassadors are going to be out there. He stated Council approves everything we, PWC places on their Consent Agenda. Mr. Bryant asked our liaison for help in clarifying this is not a rate hike, but a rate amendment to serve our customers. Council Member Thompson stated he will do all he can to support PWC.

Commissioner Richard King

No Comment

Commissioner Christopher Davis

No Comment

Commissioner Ronna Rowe Garrett

Commissioner Garrett stated she also attended the GFC Awards and enjoyed being at the event and the company. She thanked Ms. Justice-Hinson for always being at events and being the face of PWC.

Commissioner Garrett welcomed Ms. Georgette Miller to the team, as well. She stated she hopes Mr. Bryant has informed Ms. Miller how we like to banter and engage in good debates, all in fun and with a good outcome.

Commissioner Donald Porter

Commissioner Porter welcomed Ms. Miller to the team, and for hitting the ground running. He commented her timing was impeccable.

He stated there are always people behind the scenes who makes things happen. He stated Ms. Durant is one of those people. She does not say very much. However, we appreciate her. He went on to state there are important matters that come before the board, and none of us were here (to know how the matter transpired), but we can always go to the minutes, and her minutes are impeccable.

IX. REPORTS AND INFORMATION

A. Utility Payments by Payment Type – January 2024

B. Personnel Report - January 2024

C. Career Opportunities

D. Actions by City Council during the meeting of January 22, 2024, related to PWC:

➤ Approved Lease of Suite 301 of R.C. Williams Building

X. CLOSED SESSION PURSUANT TO NORTH CAROLINA GENERAL STATUTES 143-318.11(A)(6) FOR PERSONNEL MATTERS

Commissioner Ronna Rowe Garrett motioned to enter closed session for pursuant to North Carolina General Statutes 143-318.11(A)(6) for Personnel Matters. Motion was seconded by Commissioner Christopher Davis, and unanimously approved at 9:34 a.m.

There being no further discussion, upon motion by Commissioner Garrett, seconded by Commissioner Davis, and unanimously approved, the Commission returned to open session at 10:22 a.m.

XI. ADJOURN

There being no further business, upon motion by Commissioner Christopher Davis, seconded by Commissioner Ronna Rowe Garrett, and unanimously approved, the Commission adjourned at 10:22 a.m.