

**CHARLOTTE WATER  
ADVISORY COMMITTEE  
MINUTES OF MEETING  
September 20, 2017**

Charlotte Water Advisory Committee met Thursday, September 20, 2017, 2:30 pm at 4222 Westmont Drive, Charlotte, NC.

Members Present: Barbara Bleiweis, Leslie Jones, William Royal, Frank McMahan, Dorian Carter

Members Absent: Jim Duke, Barry Webb

Staff Present:	Barry Gullet	Director
	Carl Wilson	Chief Engineer
	Shawn Coffman	Deputy Director
	Heather Padgett	Accountant II
	Karen Weatherly	Assistant City Attorney

Visitors Present: Amanda Byrum, Charlotte Engineering & Property Management Department

**Safety Minute**

Moving and Lifting Loads in the Workplace

**Approval of Minutes**

A motion was made by Leslie Jones, and seconded by Barbara Bleiweis, to approve the August 2017 minutes. Motion was approved.

**Budget Update**

The budget season for FY19 has begun. The City is putting forth a two-year budget this year, so the Business team will be working on the budgets for FY19 and FY20. The deadline to submit this information to the City Budget Department is December 15<sup>th</sup>.

For August 2017, expenses were slightly over the weighted average; this is due to the number of contracts being paid out. This is expected to be back in line with the weighted average as the year goes on. Revenues were above the weighted average.

**Hot Topics**

1. Another presentation was made to the Council's Environment Committee in preparation for their January retreat. The presentation focused more on the capital programs that are driving rates and fees. Another one is scheduled for October 2<sup>nd</sup>, where Doug Carter, a Charlotte Water Financial Advisor, will be speaking on debt issuance, credit rating, budgeting process, and the importance of keeping a AAA bond rating.
2. The Annual Report was completed on September 1<sup>st</sup>. This report focuses more on what Charlotte Water does in the community, and less on how the department treats water and wastewater.
3. Charlotte Water's Community Investment Plan includes water main extensions in west Mecklenburg along Dixie River Road and Garrison Road. Both roads are proposed for relocation, widening, or extension as part of the proposed River District development project. To facilitate construction of

these water mains in conjunction with the development and to be consistent with the City's approach to other proposed Community Investment Projects associated with that development, Charlotte Water is proposing to negotiate a contract with the developer whereby the developer's contractor would construct the water mains and would receive a negotiated reimbursement from Charlotte Water. Authorization for the City Manager to negotiate such a contract is to be considered for approval on the September 25<sup>th</sup> City Council agenda.

### **Watershed Protection Initiative Webinar**

This webinar, which was presented by a partnership with Encourage Capital, World Resources Institute, and US Endowment for Forestry & Communities, focused on watershed protection and explored how Charlotte Water could use green, performance based bonds to finance future watershed protection projects. The partnership suggests that the interest rate paid by Charlotte Water to the investors would increase based on the success of the project in meeting specified performance goals.

The Advisory Committee discussed whether there is a potential "upside" for the Utility in this type of financing, and whether there are other potential benefits that could be realized through the use of "green bonds" and/or from more extensive watershed protection efforts.

**Meeting Adjourned – 4:07 pm**

**KCJ**