

**Regular Meeting**  
**January 5, 2023**

Chairman Mr. Mitchell called the regular meeting of the Board of Water and Sewer Commissioners of the City of Saraland, Alabama to order at 5:30 P.M. at the Saraland Water and Sewer Service Maintenance Building with the following Board Members present:

Present:  
Mr. Ron Mitchell  
Mr. James Davis  
Mr. Scooter Thronson  
Mr. H. O'Neil Robinson  
Mr. Jackie Haines

Absent:

Mr. Raymond Bell, Board Attorney, Mrs. Katie McGuyer, Board Engineer and Ms. Cara Stallman, Board Grant Administrator, was in attendance.

Mr. Haines opened the meeting with prayer.

Mr. Mitchell asked the Board to keep Mr. Silver and Mrs. Thronson in their prayers.

Committee Reports:

Mr. Robinson reported to the Board that since the last meeting there have been nine (9) 2" water mains repaired.

Mr. Davis reported that since the last meeting the outside crew has worked forty-three (43) 811 Alabama Located, fourteen (14) work orders for water and two (2) work orders for sewer.

Old Business:

No Old Business currently.

New Business:

Mobile County CDBG application for Shelton Beach Estates Phase III: Ms. Stallman informed the Board details of the application and brought to their attention of the resolution needing a signature. Mr. Robinson made a motion for the Chairman to sign said resolution. Mr. Thronson seconded the motion. Motion passed. Ms. Stallman informed that the CDBG Phase II now is at the point of opening bids, which will occur January 24, 2023.

Cost of Living Adjustment, Mr. Robinson made a motion for a 2 ½% cost of living adjustment. Mr. Davis seconded the motion. Motion passed.

Mr. Thronson made a motion for Ms. Dismuke, Wastewater Operator I, a 2 ½% merit increase. Mr. Davis seconded the motion. Motion passed.

Renewal of the 2023 Sponsorship for Saraland Area Chamber of Commerce. Mr. Haines made a motion to sponsor “Silver Level”. Mr. Thronson seconded the motion. Motion passed.

Invoices for Ratification:

Water Invoices:

No Water invoices for ratification with this meeting.

Sewer Invoices:

Jim House & Associates, Inc., inv# 20235, dated 12/15/2022, in the amount of \$2,191.00, reg: impeller, wear plate and flap valve (2each). Mr. Thronson made a motion to pool and pay sewer invoices. Mr. Haines seconded the motion. Motion passed.

Stuart how are you is Raymond coming ohh he's not coming with memory care care was I that's why and you got an engineer you from India 3 minutes OK ladies and gentlemen it's time to start our fairland water sewer board of directors meeting or Thursday November 2nd meeting call to order roll call please Mr. Mitchell Mr. Davis Mr. Johnson Mr. Haynes Mr. Robinson I will call on the open tonight in prayer please clear please best please reach out describes many committee reports I started a little last time so I'll start with Jackie OK tonight Mr. chairman and fellow members 4.35 let me bring it to you all's attention that all these tricky banks are starting to safety wide APY is not the same as regular 4.35 I'll explain regular interest rate APS APY to the end of the year used to be \$20 next month yeah they're not paying interest on the interest I would ask you to ask this problem make sure that's the best interest you can get APR APY I do you asking me OK that might be best you could do yes so our friend bench Benjamin Franklin I think he said that compound interest was though the eighth wonder of the world fast or slow it's a slow way to get Cortana OK Davis Mr. chairman 73 water and pursuer 0 thank you Mr. Robinson thank you you busy and main line 3 busy OK I will bring to your attention that we got thank you letters from Bayou Sara Baptist Church for our donation to their food pantry and also Stillwater church for our donation to their food pantry thank you very much relocation of commerce park pump station location Mr. bell he did text me today that forever while yeah yeah hey approve and then I think I'm next here as well shady will be happy to hear that anything else or you hold it for later I think I'm next with the education relocation policy as well any questions after reviewing those you want to go ahead and implement those or not we had something to review provided from last time question I didn't know question at the last meeting so we had two items to review one was the the letter agreement relocation and the other was the reimbursement of training expenses I didn't have any additional So what do you think standard we the office and it's fairly standard and so I recommend that you go ahead you recommended education policy 2nd OK we have a motion and a second to approve the education relocation policy any questions the only discussion I have is let's make sure we take a look at it after we look for a year and make sure that we're we'll look at it actually before the end I think it it only goes through February at this time there'll be a new contract and we'll do this all again when the new contract comes up all those in favor signify by saying aye opposed same sign thank you so much I think it's very important that we exercise every program that's out there in the state of Alabama help people that need food and other utility expenses 1/4 say weekend next item is under new business pose bonus Saraland water and sewer employees you have a piece of paper in your file that looks like this pull that out Nicole Robinson came up with this plan it started out as being rewarding the top down employees the top down and boys get a 2 1/2% but they don't know they don't get the merit raise they're topped out they get 2 1/2% cost of living raise so this is to make sure the top down implies also get a raise during the year so this takes the place of our \$500 Christmas bonus hey so if you're under 10 years in service your personal bonus is \$500 if you're over 10 years but they're not topped out \$750 if you're top down based on how many years that you've been with the company and you can see employee number 18 we have any idea who that is yes I do that's a no it is Jerry bird it's Barbara Jerry Jerry Jerry yes OK so Jerry so here's Christmas bonus would be \$14164.91 that's the right individual level we're not going to ask you for all this OK good but that's that's how it works you're topped out you've been working here a long time and if you it's important that we the vote this in or vote it down tonight because it has to go to the personnel board for approval and we're running out of time this is we're in November now so it needs to be either passed or voted down one or the other I'll make a motion that we approve the sermon water sewer service we have a motion and a second to approve the proposed annual bonus as presented in this worksheet discussion all those in favor saying all same sign thank you so much I think it's I know it's very important to the employees and I think it's also very fair to each employee and then next year OK the next year would like

to the \$500 standard no no plan for next year you will see this is based on number of years Sir right so case that we Jared is getting 146491 this year it'll get more than that next year because he will serve another year little bit more in lieu of those 500 this is our equation OK yes thank you they should have they're decision on where how long stay with us if you continue to serve you continue to get a larger bounce can I encourage them all to stay here until they just absolutely can't I thought I heard employees are too difficult yes Sir OK we'll move on to item number 7 invoices for ratification 1st is remember last year we had a special item last year it was a cooler one everybody got a cooler remember that we're not gonna get it colder this year you got that last year this year there's a jacket employee Carhartt hoodies jacket with a hood on it and also have a company in the winter time employees don't have a jacket so they wear their own jacket and it covers up that they're from Saraland water but with this new jacket our customers can see they're from Sarah land water and it's not just a strange person walking down the street and that's what this is so this is a Christmas bonus Adam one for each of glory well and also there's the jackets is under the sewer there is the hoodies there's gonna be hoodies and the jacket hoodie the whole lover with all over shirt yeah jacket see the you know the hoodies is towards the women where the jacket when were the jackets towards the men it's like here's your here's your jacket and we might be getting both I don't know I don't know the account I do know that that I do believe the board members are getting jacket I think we're just getting one OK so that price OK no well whatever it is one or two that's what that out of me is I know that we have a motion and a second discussion all those in favor signify by saying aye opposed 123456 66 yes Sir Motion in a second discussion to approve the six invoices on the server all those in favor signify by saying aye opposed same sign motion passes officer reports reported officers anyone have anything to report yes we do OK location problem called 4 raccoons in the possible this week and show plant and they really do a good job over there power wash tanks 4 now they're gonna have possums in the air reports i used to have an armadillo problem in my yard and not network good reports quote I used to have an armadillo problem in my yard and my neighbor shotgun out shoot him and he's deceased now so I can talk about it so I didn't see any armadillos for a long time and I saw one a couple weeks ago he's he's been deceased about a year now so I guess the the population is building back up do something about the bears that one comes through my yard to four times a week and he stood up and got up and guess what all trace and scratch his back and all the ladies dancing studio said this picture here short tour she's ohh we feed pet that one all the time now that you mentioned the bears I will pay it at the last council meeting had two representatives there from our garbage service whoever that is pro voice pro they said on Celeste Rd. they have that's where they have the worst problem with theirs on Celeste Rd. So people would put out their garbage at night while the bears would get in their garbage started putting the garbage out in the morning bears learn they're not putting them out at night they're putting them out in the morning so they would wait soon as they put them out here comes the bears so now the garbage service said they're gonna work with those people and try to come a little later not don't put your garbage out first thing put it out about 10:00 and then we'll be coming right after that try to beat the bears so that's what's going on with the left Rd. Work I guess you're picking up trash well understand this too people this time of year put out a lot of corn for the deer bears love corn more than deer deer and they have a terrible digestive system in about four hours ago since their system yeah but they love corn overall my row 4th Ave. right you know Corey Brandon live right there he feeds them there used to be deer back there all the time but I got bars ever since yeah why in my yard I had to move my garbage can in the garage because I got tired of picking up clear creola hasn't really neat idea he wants to buy large tracts of land up there and sort of create it as preserved for the bear to the place where people can go visit them and then they're protected and create sort of word they come back but it's a way to combine everybody's together you know highlight it because it isolated population too it

doesn't OK we got off the agenda here back to the agenda report of officers was that's where we got messed up with before God is now telling John's house OK houses going on the water service that way we have our right now we're just do you do anything special for winter time when it freezes or anything we got our heaters and then we got the cough 60° yeah I got busy and I didn't get with you but going to visit we're gonna do that so you're having problems with your tastic freezing up space heater in both rooms good I think it has got the temperature that caustic freezes up but it's 660 so you can get Lance is electric heaters remove 2001 OK so anything else come on the Superintendent OK 30 report I was looking at the website we haven't posted the meeting since July and just so periodically make sure those are posted so that that'll be a recommendation that we could close those he's referring to the minutes I send them we send them to Jackie Benson and she'll upload them OK well when I finish mine I'll send mine and then Kathy will send her so no they haven't been typed up is the problem maybe another suggestion maybe it's good practice to add to the meetings or have the minutes ready for the next meeting so before we can also approve them as well to make sure that they're accurate good practice and especially considering thank you well we'll have to check on now forgot his last name we gotta citizen his name's first name ohh charettes Alpharetta and what we don't have posted because office again go down I'll check on it OK thank you so much for that report engineers report Katie's here short and sweet report this week Norton Creek has really ramped up so there's not a time to report on but a lot is going on so we're still doing the same task that we talked about at the last couple board meetings just continuing on designing and replacement of the siphon and some of those parts of the gravity line that would kind of fall like things are flowing backwards and stuff like that so we're working on the design there we're doing the mapping for the CIP lining of the rest of the line that's in the project area and we're going through the study results that we got and manhole inspection reports to make sure that we are lying and everything that needs to be lined in that area and then for the LCR distance I've got one of our internships like running like a hamster on fuel right now trying to find all of those build dates so she's done everything she can do on one resource that we have she's moved on to the next one and is reading like the older information on that so she's making good progress and we're working on that list so the first service addresses that need to be inspected I don't know how much information you'll need on that but I think we're going to try to kind of do pockets so we'll pull up all the addresses on the map and then ask for finding things that we can like lump together that's when we'll start applying that the rule of law 20% of an area can let us know what we can see in the rest in that area is so that's where we're at on that one right now and have some good updates for you all on that pretty soon any questions on anything head through 2024 when when should the engineering stop and the contracts bidding contracts start for the Norton Creek project we are hoping that by the end of this year we will have all the permit applications submitted and then once the permit applications are submitted it's just getting those back and sending them to restore and then they have to approve it so after we decided to go with this shorter term core permit for for the wetlands by doing the temporary impacts instead of the permanent impacts regarding the clearing and the disturbance along the Creek so once we submit permits maybe a month or two for them to get the permits back and then we've been told that restore will probably take six months to to turn it around but then once they say it's it's ready to go that's when y'all are able to start pulling money right like once we're store yeah I think it's like restore tells you OK you can bid this project and what you awarded it as past and it's come in that's when it shifts to being more stores responsibility to pay for the rest of the restore the restore act committee yeah so we we submit it to ABC and ROK and they send it up the pipeline and that's why it kind of takes a while yes yeah thank you I can have an updated chart with the scheduling at the next meeting would that be good for you guys would be great hello yeah thank you

Katie Kara grant petitioners report glad to have your smiling not yet haven't come back because you know I have sent it back to the wrong one they said OK I'll call Gordon OK OK do I hear a motion to adjourn at 6:01

Mr. Haines reported

~~Mr. Haines reported since the last meeting two (2) new tires was placed on Truck #33.~~

Mr. Thronson has no report currently.

~~Mr. Davis reported that since the last meeting, the outside crew has addressed forty six (46) Alabama 811 locates for both sewer and water, they also have completed twenty nine (29) work orders for water and three (3) for sewer.~~

~~Mr. Robinson reported since the last meeting, a ¾" service line was repaired on Cherry Drive, and 2" main on Rosemont Drive.~~

### **Old Business:**

~~Mr. Mitchell asked for the update of the additional reimbursement monies from Generator Grants. Ms. Stallman informed the Board invoices are still being pulled and copies made.~~

~~Mr. Mitchell began the discussion of Commerce Park (Mobile River Industrial Park). It is in our best interest to try to relocate one of our pump stations, currently located in the forever wild that is not easily accessible, we would like to relocate at the end of the road that sits between Allied Steel and Arron Oil. Mr. Mitchell brought this item to the Mayor in which his response was to get approval from both said companies. Mr. Mitchell has received the letters from both said companies and has asked for this item to be placed on the City Councils Agenda, for the next meeting (July 13, 2023).~~

### **New Business:**

~~Mr. Mitchell started the discussion of the property on Highway 158 located beside QuikTrip, contractor wants Saraland Water and Sewer. This location of the property needs further discussion, Mr. Mitchell asked for it to be placed on the next meeting's agenda.~~

~~Mr. Mitchell addressed the Board on rehiring Mr. Taylor. When Mr. Taylor resigned from Saraland Water and Sewer Service, he left in good standings. After further discussions, Mr. Robinson made a motion to hire Mr. Taylor, with the understanding that he has to follow the instructions placed by the Mobile Personnel Board, and he will be hired at same step as when he left. Mr. Thronson second the motion. Motion passed.~~

### **INVOICES FOR RATIFICATION:**

#### WATER:

~~Consolidated Pipe, Inc., inv# 3534030-001-000, dated 6/26/2023, in the amount of \$2,784.00, reg: supplies (concrete lids, repair clamps concrete boxes). Consolidated Pipe, Inc., inv# 3534976-000-000, dated 6/26/2023, in the amount of \$8,095.00, reg: Water Tap at 203 Celeste Road (@ Dr. Office and Storage Building behind Walgreens). Vicky Rickman, inv# 4000213, dated 6/15/2023, in the amount of \$3,615.81, reg: Consumer Confidence Report CCR. Pace Analytical, inv# 2335554072, dated 6/19/2023, in the~~

amount of \$1,181.20, reg: ~~stage 2 DBP testing, sample received 6/15/2023.~~ Mr. Thronson made a motion for the water invoices to be consolidated and paid. Mr. Haines seconded the motion. Motion passed.

**INVOICES FOR RATIFICATION:**

SEWER:

USA BlueBook, inv# INV00052736, dated 6/22/2023, in the amount of \$1,754.90, reg: ~~2 submersible level transmitters (transducers).~~ Saraland Area Chamber of Commerce, inv# 3347, dated 7/5/2023, in the amount of \$220.00, reg: ~~membership renewal.~~ Mr. Thronson made a motion to consolidate the sewer invoices and pay. Mr. Davis seconded the motion. Motion passed.

**Report of Officers:**

Mr. Vaughn reported to the Board of all the generators have been set waiting on the gas company to set one more meter so that generator can be connected.

Mr. Bell has no report.

Mrs. McGuyer reported to the Board the closeout letter for the generators have been received from the City of Saraland, steps have been taken to place them in the correct hands. The Sub-contractor for Sun Coast has started lining sewer laterals (CIPP project). The rehab of the manholes has been completed along with the main liner, a walk through should be scheduled soon. The Norton Creek I&I project is going very well. Mrs. McGuyer added that she is working on the plans for the Commerce Project

Ms. Stallman has no report.

There being no further business to come before the Board, Motion made by Mr. Haines to adjourn. Motion seconded by Mr. Thronson. Meeting adjourned at 6:10 P.M.

ATTEST: \_\_\_\_\_ RATIFIED AND APPROVED:

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_