

**Minutes of the Board of Water/Sewer Commissioners  
Jul 2, 2015**

**Time:** 7:00 p.m.

**Location:** DPS Building  
16 Perry Way

**Present:**

**Commissioners:** Chair David Hanlon; Commissioners John Tomasz, Robert Cook, Roger Jones (via conference call)

**Staff:** Lisa Valcich, Business Manager; Anthony Furnari, DPS Director; Wayne Amaral, DPS Deputy Director

**Guest:** Mayor Donna Holaday

Chairman Hanlon called to order the meeting. Mayor Holaday advised the Commission the FY2016 Budget Reserve Request for Water and Sewer that was submitted by the Mayor's office and approved by the Water and Sewer Commission had failed at the previous City Council meeting on June 29, 2015 by a 5 to 5 vote. Mayor Holaday explained to the Council that the Water and Sewer Commission had a carefully considered and laid out plan for a systematic and gradual increase to Water and Sewer rates to pay for increased debt of Water and Wastewater plants.

Using Retained Earnings for rate stabilization and capital improvements has been policy since the increased debt was incurred. The W&S healthy retained earnings are also used as leverage for bonding and have helped the City to receive AAA status.

The Mayor explained to the Commission that although they had approved and set tentative rate increase with the forward thought that the Budget Reserve would pass as it has done previously, that the Commission must know vote for a new rate based on lack of retained earnings to stabilize.

Lisa Valcich, Business Manager also communicated to the Commission that on line billing templates had already been updated on old rates based on time demands by the billing vendor. Ms. Valcich would need to move very quickly to push for vendor to change previous instructed rates to be in time for July, 2015 billing.

Commissioner Hanlon indicated that the Commission reluctantly will accept City Councils rejection of Water and Sewer Rate Recommendation and propose the following new rates.

**Water:**

First 3,000 cu ft.: \$5.57 per 100 cu ft.  
3,001 cu ft. and over: \$6.31 per 100 cu ft.

**Sewer:**

First 3,000 cu ft.: \$8.34 per 100 cu ft.  
3,001 cu ft. and over: \$9.09 per 100 cu ft.

Commissioner Jones motioned to accept City Councils failed motion to transfer retained earnings, and to set higher rates listed above to support FY2016 budget without reserve

Commissioner Tomasz seconded the motion to accept new rates.

Vote: 4 Yes

**Adjournment**

Commissioner Tomasz made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Cook to adjourn the meeting at 8:00.

Vote: 4 yes

Submitted by:

Lisa Valcich