



**TOWN OF OAK RIDGE
WATER ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING
APRIL 26, 2023 - 1:30 P.M.
OAK RIDGE TOWN HALL**

MINUTES

- 1) WELCOME:** Chair Jim Harton called the meeting to order at 1:30 p.m. Present were Chair Jim Harton, Francis Disney, Erin English, Phil McNamara, Todd Hall, Council liaison Spencer Sullivan, Mayor Ann Schneider, Town Manager Bill Bruce, Asst. Town Manager/Town Clerk Sandra Smith, and Finance Officer Sam Anders.
- 2) APPROVAL OF DECEMBER 6, 2022 MEETING MINUTES:** *Erin English made a motion to approve the minutes, and Francis Disney seconded. The meeting minutes were approved unanimously (5-0).*
- 3) PROJECT UPDATES:** Bill Bruce updated the committee on several projects:
 - A. Elevated Water Storage Tank and Water Main: The site plan and graphic was approved by the Historic Preservation Commission on April 19, and the site plan would be reviewed by the Planning & Zoning Board on April 25. The Water Advisory Committee would review the final bid package, and the project would be put out to bid in June-July. No commitment had been received yet by Winston-Salem/Forsyth County Utilities.
 - B. Community Wells:
 - a. Honeycutt - Homes are under construction in the Honeycutt subdivision, and agreements are being reviewed by attorneys from both sides.
 - b. Village Woods – Interest has been expressed in turning this system, which will have 21 total units, over to the Town. When 15 units are occupied, the system will be turned over to the HOA. Spencer Sullivan agreed to ask the contractor for the system drawings, and Envirolink would review the system. Town Council would then need to approve accepting the system.
 - C. Updated Timeline: A draft of the timeline was presented to the committee.
- 4) WATER DEPARTMENT UPDATE:** No update
- 5) ENTERPRISE FUND AND REVISED WATER RATE DISCUSSION/RECOMMENDATION:** Bill Bruce presented a spreadsheet showing the rates of Old North State (\$24.11/month and \$7.57/1,000 gallons) and those of Aqua (\$20.70/month and \$6.38/1,000 gallons), but said that Aqua had requested an increase to \$25.31/month and \$7.89/1,000 gallons from the Utilities Commission. In order to keep up with rising costs, Bruce suggested increasing the approved rate for Oak Ridge customers, of which there are none at this time, to \$24/month and \$7.50/1,000 gallons. This would place Oak Ridge rates slightly below the other suppliers. *Francis Disney made a motion to recommend that Town Council approve the rate suggested by Bruce, and Phil McNamara seconded. The motion was approved unanimously (5-0).* If the new rate is approved by Council, Bruce said Finance Officer Sam Anders would include the revised rate into the spreadsheet for the FY 2023-24 Water Enterprise Fund budget.
- 6) OTHER BUSINESS:** None
- 7) ADJOURN:** *Todd Hall made a motion to adjourn the meeting, and Erin English seconded. The motion was approved unanimously (5-0), and the meeting adjourned at 2:26 p.m.*