

## SPECIAL MEETING HELD MAY 13, 2008

A meeting of the City Council of the City of Clinton, North Carolina, continued from May 6, 2008, was reconvened at 7:00 PM on May 13, 2008, at City Hall Auditorium. Mayor Starling presided. Councilmembers Becton, Harris, Strickland, Turlington, and Stefanovich were present. The city clerk, city manager, finance director, fire chief, and public works director were present. Also present was Carl Landes.

### **BUDGET**

City Manager Connet informed City Council of the **proposed highlights** of the 2008-2009 Water and Sewer Fund Budget:

- No new positions
- 3.5% performance based raises
- Rehabilitation of Deer Run Lift Station totaling \$45,000
- Anaerobic digester conversion totaling \$50,000
- Filter media replacement totaling \$80,000
- General water and sewer line repairs totaling \$60,000
- Design work for new treated water tank totaling \$60,000
- Water tank maintenance to include interior sanding to the Wal-Mart tank
- Combining of lift station and wastewater treatment plant budgets

City Manager Connet stated the following:

Water and Sewer Non-Departmental --proposed budget is \$1,638,667. Last year, it was \$1,383,667. Highlights in this budget are: debt service payments to include the Dollar Branch Sewer totaling \$350,000, contingency, and insurance.

Water and Sewer Line Maintenance –proposed budget is \$836,153. Last year, it was \$1,083,560. Highlights are: employee salaries and benefits, water and sewer projects, and debt service.

Wastewater Treatment Plant – proposed budget is \$1,507,333. Last year, it was \$1,159,750. Included in this amount is the combining of the wastewater treatment and the lift station division. Therefore, there is no proposed budget for lift stations.

Water Production – proposed budget is \$552,387. Last year, it was \$482,190. Highlights are: well utilities, well maintenance and repair, chemicals, and development of second treated water tank.

Public Works Director Chris Doherty informed City Council of the following proposed rates and fees for Fiscal Year 2008-2009:

<u>Water Rates</u>	<u>Current</u>	<u>Proposed</u>
Based Rate (300 cu. ft.)	\$11.50	\$12.00
Consumption Rate	1.65	1.70
Bulk Wholesale	1.50	1.55

<u>Sewer Rates</u>	<u>Current</u>	<u>Proposed</u>
Based Rate (flat)	\$12.00	\$12.50
Consumption	1.62	1.70

Doherty stated that the proposed tap and meter set fees would be a 6% increase across the board. He stated that previously the City was losing money; however, with the proposed increase, the City would break even. He stated that miscellaneous utility fees include hydrant meter deposit, fire flow test, meter recheck, meter test, meter tampering fee and the only increase would be with the hydrant fire flow test. He further stated that effective July 1, a tip fee tax will be placed on solid waste--\$2.00 per ton. Doherty informed City Council that the following proposed increases are being recommended in the various areas:

Residential Utility Customer	Approximately 4%
Commercial Utility Customer	Approximately 5%
Industry Utility Customer	Approximately 4%
Bulk Purchase Customer	Approximately 3.33%

Doherty informed Council that he performed a regional comparison of Clinton, Dunn, Fayetteville, Elizabethtown, Kinston, Newton Grove, Nashville, Sampson County, Smithfield, Spring Lake, and Fuquay-Varina concerning water, sewer, and garbage. Clinton is in line with the surrounding counties. He concluded with the following proposed cemetery rates:

	Current	Proposed
<u>Springvale</u>		
Per Grave Plot	\$155.00	\$165.00
<u>Sandhills</u>		
Per Grave Plot	\$135.00	\$145.00

Mausoleums, recording and corner marker fee will remain as is.

Mayor Starling stated that these proposals would be voted on at the June 3, 2008, city council meeting.

Mr. Carl Landes spoke to City Council regarding the cemetery. He asked Council to consider erecting a directory at the cemetery with the names of deceased so loved ones and others can distinguish their burial locations. City Council agreed that this was an excellent suggestion, and they would consider his request.

Upon a motion made by Councilmember Stefanovich, seconded by Councilmember Strickland, and unanimously passed, the meeting was continued until May 20, 2008, at 7:00 PM.

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City Clerk

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Mayor