

MEETING OF THE FINANCE COMMITTEE
ISLE OF PALMS WATER & SEWER COMMISSION
MAY 13, 2026

In accordance with the Freedom of Information Act, the Agenda was posted on Wednesday, May 6, 2026, at City Hall, the Commission Office, and provided to *The Post and Courier*. The meeting was held on Wednesday, May 13, 2026, at the Commission Office, 1300 Palm Boulevard on the Isle of Palms, SC.

Chairman Smith called the meeting to order at 8:00 a.m.

Attending were Chairman Donald Smith, Commissioner Bob Hooper, Commissioner Jeff Forslund (via phone), Commissioner Curtis Helfrich, PE, Commissioner Jay Leigh, General Manager Chris Jordan, Operations Manager Shorty Meade, Special Projects Administrator Bill Jenkins, Comptroller Helena Stickles, CPA, Engineer Mark Yodice, and Attorney Jennifer Blumenthal.

Following the opening prayer, Pledge of Allegiance, and roll call, General Manager Jordan reviewed the operations/management and capital budgets proposed for FY27 with the Commissioners. He said, "The proposed budget, if you back out water and sewer depreciation, and sewer debt service, [the FY27 budget] is about 7% higher" than the FY26 budget. Increases in the budget can be attributed to the addition of a systems operator; transitioning a part-time front office position to a full-time position; an increase in the cost of water being purchased from CPW; increased chemical and insurance costs; salary increases as a result of the wage and compensation study; and a 3% cost of living adjustment and 2% merit increase. The \$7.7 million operating budget represents a small increase over FY26, which was approximately \$6.9 million.

General Manager Jordan then reviewed the proposed FY27 capital improvements. He noted that the capital cost from CPW is \$750,000.00 in FY27 and FY28 and will be \$900,000.00 in FY29. Discussion ensued regarding the feasibility of the Commission becoming self-sufficient and being able to produce our own water. General Manager Jordan and Engineer Yodice will investigate the costs and feasibility related to the execution of withdrawal and discharge permits and report back to the Commission.

There was a brief discussion concerning the disposal of dried sludge and whether the Commission could benefit from this.

Comptroller Stickles reviewed the budgeted revenues for FY27. She has conservatively increased all revenues except for WDCA rental income and tower rental, as those are set. She is projecting FY27 revenues to be \$9,006,560.00, compared to \$8,110,229.00 for FY26. The budget is currently set without any rate increases included. Mr. Frank Davis will attend next month's meeting to discuss his recommendations for rate increases.

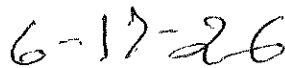
General Manager Jordan thanked Comptroller Stickles, Special Projects Administrator Jenkins, and Operations Manager Meade for their help in preparing the budget.

Chairman Smith made a motion to recommend the budget as presented to the full Commission. Commissioner Helfrich seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Commissioner Helfrich made a motion to adjourn. Commissioner Leigh seconded the motion. The meeting was adjourned at 8:36 a.m.



Donald S. Smith, Chairman



Date