

**Burnsville Town Council**  
**Special Meeting - Friday, October 9th, 2020**  
**Burnsville Town Center**

On October 9th, 2020, the Burnsville Town Council, with members Mayor Theresa Coletta, Judy Buchanan, Bunnie McIntosh and Denise Collier present, held a special meeting at the Burnsville Town Center. Member Russell Fox was absent. Also in attendance were Heather Hockaday, Dillon Lundy, Jeanne Martin, Leslie Crowder and Chad Fox, Jamie McMahan and Randy Hintz. Mayor Colletta called the meeting to order at 4:03pm.

**Presentation on Improvements to the Pine Swamp Wastewater Treatment Plant** - After conversations with Public Works Director Dillon Lundy, Randy Hintz from Withers-Ravenel presented two options for improvements to the Pine Swamp Wastewater Treatment plant. Handouts were available and attached to these minutes.

Mr. Hintz described the first option as a complete wish list of improvements that would be helpful to the WWTP's long term viability. He elaborated on a few of the more important projects on the list including rehabilitation of the headworks, electrical improvements, piping modifications, a new lab building and construction of a flow equalization basin. He also explained the importance of switching from a gas feed system to a liquid feed system. His total estimated cost for the complete list of projects on option would be \$4,673,500.

Mr. Hintz presented the second option which contained only the projects needing immediate attention, estimated at a total cost of \$2,486,325. This would improve the performance of the plant, increase safety and set the plant up for better compliance at a substantially lower price. Mr. Hintz elaborate on ways to cut costs such as a rehabilitation to the headworks and deferring the purchase of a generator.

Mr. Hintz pointed out that option two includes an estimate for switching to a liquid feed system. Public Works Director Dillon Lundy talked about the Importance of a liquid feed system, saying it would be safer, would not require as many precautionary measures and potential accidents could be contained on site.

Mr. Hintz assured the council that both options would repair or replace all of the major wear components. He felt that with these upgrades and good maintenance, the WWTP equipment could last at least 20 more years.

Mr. Hintz discussed a desire to seek Golden Leaf funds to pay for the project since DEQ funds would likely have to be used to fix inflow and infiltration issues. He offered that if the town can not raise the whole amount or prefers not to, he could explore other funding sources.

Town Administrator Heather Hockaday discussed the overall picture of projects that are needing work, as well as financial limits for a small town such as Burnsville. Randy Hintz discussed the status of the EYSD and how it could potentially affect the east side of the Town's wastewater

flow, specifically with the OMC pump station. Mr. Hintz also updated the members on the Micaville plant and possibly synergies with the Town's wastewater treatment system.

Member Judy Buchanan made a motion to approve option two with an estimate of \$2,486,325,000, Mayor Colletta seconded. The motion passed.

Heather Hockaday and Jamie McMahan then established the steps necessary to move forward on requesting Golden Leaf funds. The project will now go to Corey Osborne of the High Country Council of Governments and Yancey County. Mr. McMahan informed the members that the Yancey County Government is a large advocate of this project as it will support the economic well-being of the county, and have authorized County Manager Lynn Austin to sign an endorsement. Mr. McMahan said that afterwards Mr. Osborne will complete the application.

Mayor Theresa Coletta thanked Mr. Hintz and the Town staff for their work on this project.

Judy Buchanan made a motion to adjourn. There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 5:03pm.



*Leanne Martin*

Town Clerk

*Theresa Coletta*

Theresa Coletta, Mayor