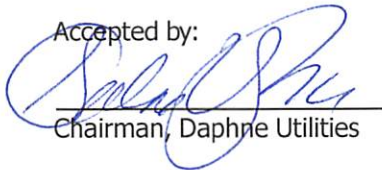


Accepted by:

Chairman, Daphne Utilities



APPROVED MINUTES

Utilities Board Meeting

Council Chambers, Daphne City Hall ♦ March 1 (for February), 2023 ♦ 5:00 p.m.

I. Call to Order

The regular February 2023 Board meeting for the Utilities Board of the City of Daphne was held on March 1, 2023 in the Council Chambers at Daphne City Hall and called to order at 5:05 p.m. by Chairwoman Selena Vaughn, followed by the Roll Call:

II. Roll Call

Members Present: Selena Vaughn, Chairwoman
Tim Patton, Vice Chairman
Mayor Robin LeJeune, Board Member – arrived at 5:08
Councilwoman Angie Phillips, Board Member

Members Absent: Billy Mayhand, Secretary/Treasurer

Others Present: Jerry Speegle – Board Attorney
Scott Polk – General Manager
Bobby Purvis – Operations Manager
Teresa Logiotatos – Finance Manager
Lexus Carlee – Finance Specialist
Drew Klumpp – Administrative Services Manager
Samantha Coppels – Communications Manager
Lori Wilson – Executive Assistant

Others Absent:

III. Pledge of Allegiance

The Chairwoman led the Board and meeting attendees in the Pledge of Allegiance.

IV. Approval of Minutes

Utilities Board Meeting Minutes January 25, 2023

The Chairwoman requested any additions, corrections, or deletions for the submitted minutes of the January 25, 2023 Daphne Utilities Board meeting.

With no additions, deletions, or corrections, the Chairwoman declared that the submitted January 25, 2023 minutes would stand approved.

Chairwoman Vaughn noted that there are two agenda items requiring board action and wanted to wait for the Mayor's arrival. She then moved on to the Board Attorney's report.

V. BOARD ATTORNEY'S REPORT

Mr. Jerry Speegle updated the Board on finalizing the easement for [Daphne] Animal Shelter.

Chairwoman Vaughn then called to discuss the financial report.

VI. FINANCIAL REPORT

Finance Specialist Lexus Carlee reviewed the financials for the Board for January 2023 highlighting: the year-to-date revenue and expenses, net income (Mayor LeJeune arrived at 5:08.), net income and gas budget, and the check history report.

General Manager Scott Polk pointed out that while the revenue and expenses standing is favorable at this point, he stated that some bigger expenses will be appear later in the year, such as trucks that are now available and expenses for projects as well as extra costs for additional gates and criteria for our cyber security in order to have our cyber insurance to be renewed. He noted that this particular insurance coverage was part of our standard insurance coverage but it is now separate.

Mayor LeJeune voiced that the City of Daphne also had to evaluate their cybersecurity and that it was not a big cost; he asked how Daphne Utilities is tracking inflation and the cost of expenses as a result of the scheduled rate increases that were approved over the summer to address the impending inflation and what impact the increases are currently having and expected to have. Mr. Scott Polk explained that he could not answer based on expenses that have not been fulfilled, such as the trucks that have been ordered yet not delivered, but noted that we perform a 6-month budget review and present the findings to the Board at that time. He stated that elevated costs on piping and equipment are still being experienced and with extra wells being planned, extra costs above what was expected are anticipated. Mayor LeJeune recognized this wouldn't be realized until the end of the year but for the sake of the new Board member wanted her to be aware of the circumstances for the decisions approving the most recent rate increases. Mr. Polk then answered Councilwoman Phillips' question of the amounts and schedule of the rate increases for the next 2 years and confirmed that after examining the figures after the 6-month mark, a budget work session would be planned.

VII. OLD BUSINESS –

A. Items in Abeyance:

1. Recommendation for Bid Award for: GOMESA – Windscape L.S. Force Main Extension (Volkert Project No. 408252 DU GL 1835 **(Board Action – MOTION)**)

To accommodate for bidder participation, the bid date was postponed to Tuesday, October 25th; therefore, the bid tabulation and recommendation will be delayed and distributed as soon as it is available.

Mr. Scott Polk explained that initially received bids on this project were significantly higher than expected and even after receiving GOMESA grant money, it was outside the capabilities and timeframe. He stated that more contractors were contacted and the project was rebid and the results were more favorable and more financially in line. Mrs. Melinda Immel with Volkert noted that a few options were included with the rebid to offer more future operational flexibility. Mr. Polk stated that GOMESA had indicated that there may be some availability for Daphne Utilities to resubmit for an increase in the award that would help with additional unexpected costs and acknowledged the GOMESA grant amount of \$675,000 to Councilwoman Phillips' question, with Mrs. Immel explaining further that \$675,000 is the total and Daphne Utilities has a 10% match. Mr. Polk detailed the purpose of this project is to increase the capacity in the transmission system and to reduce the bottleneck areas in the system around the Windscape lift stations.

MOTION by Tim Patton to award the contract for the Windscape Lift Station Force Main Extension to Equix Energy Services LLC for the Total Base Bid plus Schedule B for the total amount of \$1,218,750.00; Motion was Seconded by Councilwoman Angie Phillips.

AYE: LeJeune, Patton, Phillips, Vaughn **NAY:**

ABSENT: Mayhand

ABSTAIN:

MOTION CARRIED

NEW BUSINESS

- A. Recommendation for Bid Award** – US98 Water Main Replacement (Volkert Project #408249) for the Total Base Bid plus Additive in the amount of \$282,617.20 to Circle S Contracting LLC

Operations Manager Bobby Purvis explained the purpose for this project resulted after a serious water main break in this area and the systems' instability that could impact the surrounding businesses. He noted that the DU staff had been coordinating with the public works' department for this repair. Mrs. Melinda Immel commented that the City [of Daphne] was helpful to work with on this project due to shutting down North Main Street for a few days.

MOTION by Tim Patton to award the US98 Water Main Replacement to Circle S Contracting LLC for the Total Base Bid plus Additive in the amount of \$282,617.20; Motion was Seconded by Mayor Robin LeJeune.

AYE: LeJeune, Patton, Phillips, Vaughn **NAY:**

ABSENT: Mayhand

ABSTAIN:

MOTION CARRIED

VIII. GENERAL MANAGER'S REPORT

A. GM Report

General Manager Scott Polk reported on: the successful pump tests at the Diamante water well as confirmed by Mrs. Melinda Immel, who also did not anticipate any problems and projected it to be a 400 gpm permitted well; the current evaluation of Well #2; the sewer extension on 4th Street; appreciation for the bid award for sewer line upgrade on North Main Street; near completion of the admin office remodel; delivery of the big items for the grit removal system upgrade.

Samantha Coppels explained to the Board that the school grant projects are planned for the spring, a volunteer day at the high school planned for in March, the Eastern Shore Chamber's STEP students will be given a tour and hands-on activities, recent talk at the Daphne High School about the intern program.

B. Operations Report

Mr. Bobby Purvis reported on: a small sso near Sam's parking lot created by roots and rags; the City's cooperation at the animal shelter; and the swift delivery of the tractor the Board recently approved. As previously requested by Mayor LeJeune, Mr. Purvis then gave a brief presentation on the current situation with the natural gas department that included service areas, upcoming developments, various fees, and the future plans for growth. Mr. Polk commented on the 33-year anniversary with Daphne Utilities for Mr. Martin Dale and the great valuable asset he is to the organization.

C. Engineering & Consulting Reports – nothing to add to the submitted reports.

IX. BOARD ACTION – previously addressed

- A. Recommendation for Bid Award** for - GOMESA – Windscape L.S. Force Main Extension **REBID** (Volkert Project No. 408252) - in the amount of \$1,218,750.00 for the Total Base Bid plus Schedule B awarded to Equix Energy Services LLC **(Board Action – MOTION)**
- B. Recommendation for Bid Award** – US98 Water Main Replacement (Volkert Project #408249) for the Total Base Bid plus Additive in the amount of \$282,617.20 to Circle S Contracting LLC **(Board Action – MOTION)**

X. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION –

Chairwoman Vaughn opened Public Participation at 5:35pm.

Mr. Larry Chason addressed the Board, announcing that he thought the agreement that was discussed at the last meeting and did not receive enough votes to pass was going to be revisited at this meeting and wanted to know what he needed to do. Chairwoman Vaughn confirmed that it had been voted down and would not have appeared on the agenda.

Mayor LeJeune stated that he had questions, in particular the motions stated in the minutes from the November meeting. He understood that what was voted down last month was just what the attorney presented to us in a written form, but still had a motion accepting 31 tap fees with 5 factors also, and then it moved to preparing of the document. Emphasizing this confusion, he asked if this could be discussed and stated his desire to bring the subject up but understood if he could not reintroduce the subject because it was voted down, however he reiterated that there was a previous motion that was approved and he was on that side but he was not sure what our abilities are to discuss this.

Councilwoman Phillips commented that this agenda layout is different than the [Council] meetings in the way other business or old business comes before Board. She stated she had researched since the last meeting reviewing the motion from the November meeting, noting the original motion by Mayor LeJeune to grant 25 sewer tap fees to the Tonsmeire Summer Oaks Development in a 5-year window and that motion was seconded by Tim Patton, along with several amendments to that motion but the initial motion on the floor was to grant those, expressing part of her concern that as the new person on the board as she stated at the last meeting that she wanted to investigate to find out all the facts and was moved to do that by your comments in public participation which came after our vote; she indicated that she did speak with Joel Coleman, as well as the Chair after the meeting, with Mr. Chason and Mayor LeJeune and then reviewed the minutes. She noted that she was not told what was going on and upon further reflection, as a new Board member, should have reviewed the subject further and was concerned that she was the swing vote on a subject that she knew little about, discovering that although there was not a written agreement, there was written email confirmation from an employee that recognized those grants, seeing that the Board voted 3-2 in the previous meeting to that agreement whereby after a bit of back-and-forth a compromise was reached, she indicated that she was uncomfortable as the swing-vote to the nay when the person she replaced voted in favor of what he thought was agreed upon, not realizing what was previously agreed upon could be voted down since it had already been settled.

Chairwoman Vaughn recommended a motion to include this subject on the agenda for next month since they were still in Public Participation. Councilwoman Phillips requested making a motion to suspend the rules to include it in tonight's agenda.

MOTION by Councilwoman Phillips to suspend the rules to include it in tonight's agenda.

AYE:

NAY:

ABSENT:

ABSTAIN:

MOTION CARRIED

Chairwoman Vaughn responded that we should try to have all board members present. Tim Patton noted that was why the subject was postponed in order to have all Board members present to discuss the issue. Chairwoman Vaughn also mentioned they wanted to have legal clarification on all of the details and not just on the taps.

Mr. Scott Polk conveyed Mrs. Wilson's endeavor of accurately condense the minutes due to crosstalk, but he noted that upon listening and reviewing the minutes, Mr. Patton's comment was that this was the agreement we want to put together and we will review it at the next meeting to approve it or not approve it, which is where the conversation ended and the last note was where it was agreed as a Board to put together a document to review it at the next meeting whether to approve or deny it at the next meeting.

Mayor LeJeune stated that that's not what the minutes that were approved by the Board say. Mr. Polk clarified that he was not saying that there was not confusion in the minutes, but it was the impetus behind when the minutes were transcribed and the end state arrived at was Mr. Patton's comment was to vote to put the document together, then review it and vote at the next meeting, which is what the understanding was whether that is different than staff's understanding. Mayor LeJeune repeated that this was not reflected in the minutes that the Board approved, it was his understanding of the discussion that Mr. Patton was speaking of was the wording of the legal document being approved but as far as the motions that were made, he did not believe there should be any cross-talk over when the actual motions are being made.

Chairwoman Vaughn reiterated that there was a motion to suspend the rules; Councilwoman Phillips stated that she had made a motion to suspend the rules, and that we reconsider or we add the sewer tap agreement to the agenda to reconsider.

MOTION by Councilwoman Phillips to suspend the rules to include it in tonight's agenda; SECONDED by Mayor LeJeune for discussion.

AYE: LeJeune, Patton, Phillips, **NAY:**

ABSENT: Mayhand

ABSTAIN: Vaughn

MOTION CARRIED

Chairwoman Vaughn closed Public Participation at 5:43pm as the rules had been suspended and opened the floor for discussion.

Mr. Tim Patton announced that while he read it all and it made sense to him, that his intent was that we were voting to approve it and that we would also be putting an agreement together that would have to be finalized to approve an agreement, but he looked at it as two different things and not one thing and that was his intentions.

Councilwoman Phillips stated that based on a conversation after the meeting with a member that had a nay vote, said member felt that there was an agreement just that it was lacking being a written agreement and being that she is "old school" in that you honor your agreements whether they are verbal or written and then when you can also confirm that that was in writing from a Daphne Utilities email that stated that there were tap grants and that there are this many remaining, being new to the board, she affirmed that she was not comfortable with her vote based on what she has learned since the last meeting.

Chairwoman Vaughn asserted that all members should take a turn tonight, and confirmed the nays were, we talked about the fact that there was never an agreement with Daphne Utilities, it was with Lake Forest and all the agreement and contracts from Lake Forest were forwarded when [Daphne Utilities] purchased Lake Forest and that was not in those agreements so [Daphne Utilities] never accepted that agreement because [Daphne Utilities] never saw or had heard of it, and beyond that there is a 6-year statute of limitations even if you have a written contract, you have 6 years to collect on that, she referred to Mr. Speegle.

Mr. Speegle announced that according to his ethical rules, he is not allowed to give his legal opinions in public on disputed issues, but could go into Executive Session and would be glad to give his legal opinion but he emphasized he could not do that in a public forum. Chairwoman Vaughn accepted his statement.

Chairwoman Vaughn commented on emails of [Daphne Utilities Administrative Services Manager], Drew [Klumpp], that he stated many times to the Board that he did not know of any agreement he was confirming the math, as in if x-number had been promised then yes that would be that many left, but he stated to the Board that he had no idea about this situation.

Mr. Polk also confirmed that there were subsequent emails as well indicating that we would have to find a copy of this agreement to validate whether Daphne Utilities absorbed this liability, noting that the one email does indicate the math as in this is what it would be if this agreement was valid, however the follow-on emails indicate that we don't understand this to be our liability.

Chairwoman Vaughn – so the actual work that was done and the full scope of the work, we have no clue, we have round-about, but the agreement was just never with Daphne Utilities, we've never had it never seen it, and it's not that we're not keeping to an agreement it's an agreement that we've haven't known anything about and we worry about setting a precedent, who could come in and say they had a past agreement, just because we know Mr. Chason and it's actually Mr. Youngblood whom we've never seen. She asked for any other comments.

Councilwoman Phillips remarked that her comments are not because she knows Mr. Chason as an acquaintance, that her concerns for her vote on this agreement the last time is not because of her relationship with him in any way that she is reconsidering this.

Chairwoman Vaughn stated that another reason that they wanted to have the written agreement agreed upon was we wanted to know who we were giving the credit to, was it Mr. Youngblood who originally did the work, was it transferrable to someone else, is there a time limitation, does it go on for all eternity and that is why we had the agreement originally to vote on.

Mayor LeJeune noted that the motion stated the 5 factors, mentioning the motion from November that stated those 5 factors, and then it was purely to have a legal document for all to look at and agree on the wording of what that was, which was his understanding. He voiced his bewilderment on whether a nay vote can bring the subject back up or is it we just voted down the actual legal document and we need to make whatever changes the Board wants to make to make that legal document that was presented to us at the last meeting okay for the Board to pass that. He remarked that this is what he is asking because his understanding is there was already a motion and commitment already made by the Board that approved it with 5 factors built into it, that is what was said in the motion in the minutes, which was the timeframe, who it was, those different things and then we had asked for a legal document for us to review and was still confused on whether what was voted against was just the wording of the legal document or was there somehow overturning what was voted in the month of November because his understanding was that was, not sure who brought up that motion . . .

Councilwoman Phillips recapped Mayor LeJeune's interpretation for her clarification was the terms of the agreement in the motion was what went through and agreed upon and then you're just waiting to look at the legal agreement and then vote on that or was there an amendment needed to the agreement.

Mayor LeJeune stated that looking at the minutes from the last meeting, he made the motion to approve the prepared sewer tap agreement, that was what the motion stated, to the Tonsmeire Summer Oaks development, the motion was seconded by Tim Patton, then we did a roll-call vote and that motion failed. He declared that we still have a November motion that was approved, explaining that is why he is questioning, then apologized that during that meeting that month that he did not grasp and understand what had just taken place, but that the motion that was made was to approve the prepared sewer agreement; there was already motion from November that was already approved so where does that go if the motion for the prepared sewer tap agreement was voted down, we still have the motion from the November and asked if he was following that correctly or does he [Mr. Speegle] see something different.

Mr. Speegle asked if he [Mayor LeJeune] was asking him to advise the Board about what to do with their motion practice because he was unsure of what Mayor LeJeune was asking him.

Mayor LeJeune stated he was not asking what Mr. Speegle's advice on what to do with the motion practice, he was just asking if there is a motion from November that approved this based on 5 factors and then moved for you to prepare a legal agreement, and then this was a motion to approve said prepared agreement and it failed . . .

Chairwoman Vaughn commented that what she thought what was being asked if the motion passed and we didn't have a legal agreement lined up, do we need a legal agreement, that the motion would just stand approved without a legal agreement with the terms.

Mayor LeJeune remarked that we need a legal agreement but the question he has is voting down just the prepared legal agreement, does this mean that all we need to do is change some wording in the legal agreement and bring that back up or does someone from the . . .

Chairwoman Vaughn asked does the motion stand or do we need another legal agreement before it can be executed. Mayor LeJeune asked Mr. Speegle if he understood what he was meaning.

Mr. Speegle responded that he thought he understood and he would say that it's confused, there is no clear answer. He commented that he thought the Board could go back to the November meeting and look at the exact wording of the motion that was passed, the recording is there, you approved the minutes and they stand, but he thought, as a board, they might want to go back and actually look at the words that were used in what was approved and by that vote, you would know what was approved at least as far as the language goes. He stated that the language may not have been exact and it may still be confused or ambiguous, noting he had not heard the recorded minutes so he could not answer the question of what was done in November. He continued that there are a number of things you could interpret this, but recommended if you go back to that and give yourself until the next meeting, you've got time to listen to what happened.

Mr. Speegle suggested one option is to could decide as a group that or the Chair decides, he would have to look at Robert's Rules to see who would make that decision as it may be a consensus, that in fact an agreement was approved on a number of taps that would be provided for no cost and these terms would be there, however, we aren't going to finalize this until we have a legal agreement that the entire Board has approved, that could be one interpretation but he did not know that was what happened but he would have to review and hear for himself in order to have an opinion as it was confusing as it went through the amendments and so far and it was confusing that night, and then look and see at what you think happened last month because one of the Board members who voted to approve that motion once again brought up another motion which was probably anticipated to approve it and that motion was not approved, it failed; so it could be that brought the whole issue up again, and it was voted on and now it needs to be brought up again. He stated that it could be that the Board is still operating under the November approval where you still are waiting on a legal document that the Board would approve, it is probably somewhere in that range of alternatives and he could not give his opinion without looking back at what happened in November. He expressed that he hoped he had answered the Mayor's question.

Mayor LeJeune answered that he (Mr. Speegle's) did to the best of his ability and that if we need to go back and relisten, though he thought the minutes were done well whereby when someone makes a motion, there is not cross-chatter but agreed the comments and the discussion area, he understood that, but the actual motions written out, he is assuming that those are verbatim for what the motion is because there shouldn't be any chatter over crossing when someone is making a motion. He noted that he was going by what the actual motion says and without getting into reading all the comments, he was trying to figure out does this moving forward need to be done as someone from the prevailing side bringing it back up with that legal document, is it - that legal document failed so let's go back and change that legal document however and then bring that back forward because we have a November that was approved, that was what he was trying to look at on the Robert's Rules of Order on how that follows through because it looked to him that it could go two ways, either change some of the wording of the legal document and bring it back up as a new document because it would be changed and then we can approve or disapprove that, or someone from the prevailing side of the last motion if they don't want to change anything in the legal document bring that back up for a vote.

Chairwoman Vaughn commented that she did not envision this to be settled and that it should be done with much clarity and fairness as possible; it seemed to her that it should be put it on the agenda for next month and what we put on the agenda is reconsideration for the motion made in November. Mayor LeJeune stated that was what he was trying to ask so if they do bring it up on another piece or if they were going to vote on it that night, what would they be voting on, or what would be on the agenda for next month.

Mr. Speegle conveyed to the mayor that if there are two options, one was - is there a motion to reconsider the November motion, he did not know but he (Mayor LeJeune) was certainly on the prevailing side and he could bring that; on last month's motion, Councilwoman Phillips was on the prevailing side and she could bring that. He stated he did not think that was practically going to be an issue that needs to be resolved as he thought it could be brought up by either one and if the purpose is to determine whether the November decision binds this board to then have to vote on a legal document, then you still have the practical problem that you have to have approval; he continued that there's the fact that Angie (Councilwoman Phillips) may or may not change her vote but if she hypothetically voted with the majority of the same as last time, whether there was a change in the agreement or not it dies, so it may be . . .

Mayor Lejeune interjected that the question he would have is if he requested or just being one member of the Board requested a change to the document, then he can bring up or at least request on the agenda or make a motion to approve the new agreement with has nothing to do with the November meeting, but if we don't do that then he does not have the ability himself to bring it up because he was on the failing side of the last agreement that was done and he was trying to figure out if we move forward into the next month what the options are.

Mr. Speegle responded that he thought one option was to go back and see what you did in November and see if there is consensus or look at Robert's Rules and see who decides what it really meant, or Angie (Councilwoman Phillips) can bring up at the next meeting a motion to approve a draft with certain criteria of the agreement and see whether she gets a second and then vote on it, which may be an alternative that clears the deck.

Chairwoman Vaughn agreed that this may be the simplest solution to just bring forward at the next meeting.

Councilwoman Phillips addressed the Chairwoman to clarify her understanding that as a member of the prevailing vote on the sewer tap agreement last month, she had made a motion and it was seconded and it had been approved that we waive the rules to reconsider this sewer tap agreement and that is what we are, right now, what we should be doing is reconsidering this sewer tap agreement; she noted that there had not been a motion to approve it at this point but perceived that it sounded like the comfort level was that instead of reconsidering it at this time and revoting on it, and she was guessing that her (Chairwoman Vaughn's) opinion is that we need to table this,

stating that right now it is back on our agenda for reconsideration because we made the motion, it was seconded and it was approved.

Mr. Speegle remarked that he believed that clears the deck and it is on issues like this, unless there is a reason not to and the absent Board member says do this without me, it's historically been the Board's purview that all the members vote, which is what the Chair said, pointing out he has been representing the Board for 3 decades, but that had been pretty consistent through it. He reiterated that it does clear the deck and still leave room to disagree about what happened in November and did not think it would really get the Board anywhere to agree or disagree with what happened in November.

Councilwoman Phillips announced that part of her concern was the Board's legal binding to what is in those written minutes that was approved and agreed upon. Mr. Speegle responded that there appeared to have been an indication to prepare this agreement but it would not be final until the Board says it's final, until it is approved and seen, and that had not happened yet.

Councilwoman Phillips stated that she would like to make a motion but declared before she did that because of what she discovered and learned since the last meeting on this particular agreement she wanted to make a motion.

MOTION by Councilwoman Phillips that we put this [same agreement] back on next month's agenda and because it has been the precedent that we have all members present, that we do our due diligence to have all members present, that we not prolong voting on this again next month; SECONDED by Tim Patton.

AYE: LeJeune, Patton, Phillips, **NAY:**

ABSENT: Mayhand

ABSTAIN: Vaughn

MOTION CARRIED

Councilwoman Phillips added one more comment and encouraged all members to re-read the November minutes and very carefully compare those to the agreement that was prepared to make sure there are no changes needed to that before it is voted upon.

Chairwoman Vaughn clarified that the next meeting will be on March 29th.

Mayor LeJeune requested counsel to listen and compare to what the minutes say, preferably to what the motions and things of that nature so he would have some clarification so if there are any questions asked at the next meeting, he would feel more comfortable in expressing an opinion. Councilwoman Phillips asked if the Board would have to go by the approved minutes. Mr. Speegle responded that there could be a motion to amend them, but he did not believe the Board would want to do that. He reiterated that he considered that the Board cleared the deck by bringing it back up again but he would be glad to listen to the discussion.

XI. BOARD COMMENTS –

Mayor Robin LeJeune thanked all the employees for all that they do, for their cooperation with the City staff and public works, gave appreciation for what our employees do for us here at Daphne Utilities, for the strides that have been made over the years which is a testament to Scott (Polk) and Bobby (Purvis), for what has been accomplished over the last few years which eases his worry when it rains, or hearing about spills or how many we have and now is surprising when we even have one; even recent advances with the Olde Town and the brown water issue that diminished visits at these meetings from a councilman. He stated this as another success and although we may have some issues, Daphne Utilities is on top of it by sending emails, notices and alerts and those are the successes they get to stand behind and talk positively about Daphne Utilities. He emphasized this appreciation to the staff to let them know that it has not gone unnoticed those things that have happened and those big successes, and a testament to this Board with making

hard decision whether it's raising fees when necessary even with inflation and we might have some agreements on certain issues but the overall working towards the betterment is impressive what we've been able to do.

Mr. Tim Patton wanted to be sure to express to Martin (Dale) how much we appreciate along with the other tenured employees, how much we appreciate them.

Councilwoman Angie Phillips noted to cut down on the recording of minutes, she echoed the sentiments that had been shared.

XII. ADJOURNMENT

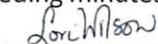
With no further discussions, the Chairwoman called for a motion for adjournment at 6:11pm.

MOTION by Mayor Robin LeJeune to adjourn; Seconded by Tim Patton.

AYE: LeJeune, Mayhand, Patton, Phillips, Vaughn NAY: ABSENT: ABSTAIN: **MOTION CARRIED**

The meeting adjourned at 6:11pm.

Preceding minutes submitted to the Daphne Utilities Board by:



Lori Wilson, Executive Assistant, Daphne Utilities