

**Hendersonville Water and Sewer Technical Advisory Committee
Meeting Summary
November 3, 2016**



Overview

This report summarizes the results of the Hendersonville Water and Sewer Technical Advisory held on November 3, 2016 at the Hendersonville Water & Sewer Operations Center Assembly Room.

The water and sewer technical advisory committee was established in June 2016 and serves as an advisory board to provide input and feedback to Hendersonville Water and Sewer so that it can effectively carry out its mission and its focus on public health, safety and economic development.

Advisory Committee Goals for Hendersonville Water and Sewer

- Maintain and enhance system efficiency
- Maintain and enhance customer service
- Ensure effective communication among all stakeholders

The advisory committee will not engage in system governance issues.

November 3, 2016 participants included:

- John Connet, Hendersonville
- Lee Smith, Hendersonville
- Brent Detwiler, Hendersonville
- Alvin Fuller, Hendersonville
- Brian Pahle, Hendersonville
- Marcus Jones, Henderson County
- Will Buie, consultant to Henderson County, Laurel Park
- Brittany Brady, Henderson County Partnership for Economic Development
- Mark Williams, Agribusiness Henderson County
- Jeff Wells, Mills River
- Warren Miller, Fountainworks, Inc. (consultant)
- Jeff Cruikshank, Hazen, Inc.
- Crystal Broadbent, Hazen, Inc.

Water System Master Plan

The meeting began with a presentation by Jeff Cruikshank and Crystal Broadbent of Hazen, Inc. about the Water System Master Plan which will be completed by December 2016. The purpose of a water system master plan is to identify capital improvements to solve existing problems and supply future demand. (The presentation is included as a separate attachment to this report.)

ACTION ITEM: An executive summary of the presentation will be made available for Advisory Committee members. Hendersonville Water and Sewer staff will be available to present this plan to the Advisory Committee members' elected boards.

Supreme Court Case – Carthage NC

- Hendersonville has dropped impact fees it imposed on new development following a state Supreme Court that struck down similar charges in the town of Carthage. This case ruled that cities do not have the authority to charge impact fees to fund future projects. The loss system development charges will cost the city of Hendersonville roughly \$518,000 a year. The ruling may also allow developers to recoup payments made from up to 10 years ago. Hendersonville is using cash reserves to pay for capital projects but will hold funds in reserve until this case is resolved.

Drought

- Henderson County is currently in Extreme Drought as designated by US Drought Monitor of NC (<http://www.ncdrought.org/>). Hendersonville Water and Sewer system is under stage 1 water advisory. Mills River flow is “holding steady.” Hendersonville will be able to pump water from French Broad River if needed. (It would require a State of Emergency designation to do this.)

Sewer System Inventory

- Hendersonville received a \$150,000 grant for sewer system inventory assessment. Upon Hendersonville Council approval, the firm Black and Beach will conduct this study. The study will be complete by early 2018 and will show where there are sewer lines outside city limits.

Hendersonville Water and Sewer Updates

- Water and Sewer Master Plan – Hazen is currently working on a system-wide master plan. The plan is expected to be completed by December 2016
- Additional staff – Hendersonville has identified 4 new water and sewer staff positions for 2017-18. (Business/Finance Manager; Financial analyst; Operations Manager; Development Engineer.
- Purchasing Etowah System – The City will be buying the Etowah system in order to provide sewer on the western side of the county. This purchase is currently in public comment period with the Utilities Commission.
- Northside Water System Improvements – McKim & Creed currently preparing the preliminary engineering report; this report will include alternatives for improving the water system (capacity and pressure) in the Fletcher area and associated costs.

- Eastside Water System Improvements – project is currently permitted but will require further planning and design review/modifications; project includes extension of 16-inch water main from US Highway 64 East down Laycock Rd. to Ridge Rd. terminating at Blue House Rd.; City engineering staff will complete this design, bidding and construction administration; currently working with Custom Pack as a partner on this project to share in a portion of the cost of this project; staff is recommending that we expedite the start of this project based on this and other pressure issue we are experiencing in this portion of our water system.
- Etowah Water System Improvements - project is currently permitted but has required further planning and design review/modifications; project includes extension of 12-inch water main from new pump station adjacent to US Highway 64 West and Morgan Rd., along Morgan Rd., along Etowah Park Rd., then along Etowah School Rd. to Drexel Rd., then from Drexel Rd. up Oak Knoll Rd. to the new tank site atop Little Mountain where a 500,000-gal. Storage tank will be constructed; construction to begin fall 2016.
- French Broad River Raw Water Pump Station and Intake – project is currently permitted, but will require an A to C (authorization to construct) from the State before construction can begin; includes an intake structure and triplex raw water pumping station that will connect to a 30-inch raw water pipeline that was completed in 2010.
- Water System District Metering – installation of district meters in the water distribution system along with flow meters at all water pumping stations; will allow staff to monitor usage in distribution and help identify areas of concern for leak detection and repair; the goal is to reduce water losses in the distribution system.
- Sewer System Metering – installation of flow meters at all sewer pumping stations and use of portable flow monitoring equipment; will allow staff to identify areas of concern for inflow infiltration detection and repair; the goal is to reduce the amount of storm water entering the sewer collection system.
- WWTP Generator and ATS – design, purchase and install back-up power supply system and automatic transfer switch for the wastewater treatment facility, where there is currently no back-up power supply.
- WWTP Gravity Filter Replacement – replace failing gravity sand filtration system at wastewater treatment facility.

Advisory Committee Member Updates

Mills River

- A lot of development interest in the 280 acres across from Ingles. Development will require a line extension.

Henderson County

- Waiting on the Asheville/ MSD ruling which is expected on December 9th.

Laurel Park

- Town is considering consolidation of system with City of Hendersonville.

Next Steps

- An executive summary of the Water System Master Plan presentation will be made available for Advisory Committee members. Hendersonville Water and Sewer staff will be available to present this plan to the elected boards of Advisory Committee members.
- Next meeting will be held in February 2017. A broader stakeholder group would be invited to this meeting to next year.

These stakeholders may include, but are not limited to, the following:

- Fletcher Academy
- Lake Summit
- Park Ridge
- Homebuilders Association
- Realtors Association
- Fire Chiefs
- NC Department of Transportation
- NC Department of Environmental Quality
- Habitat for Humanity
- Summer Camps Association