



**Danville Utility Commission**  
4:00 p.m. February 24, 2025 Meeting  
Council Chambers, City Hall  
**Minutes**

**Commission Members Present:** Earl Reynolds\*, Gary Miller, Sheila Williamson-Branch, Anna Kautzman, Murray Whittle, Mary Williamson, Steven Merricks

\*Acting City Manager

**Commission Members Absent:** Helm Dobbins, Vanessa Cain

**Staff Present:** Ryan Dodson, Jason Grey, Janet Davis, Amy Chandler, Tiffany Swanson-Jones

**Others Present:**

**Call to Order**

Chairman Kautzman opened the meeting and asked that the attendance be recorded. As a quorum was present, the meeting was called to order.

**Discussion/Business Items**

**Minutes of January 27, 2025 Commission Meeting**

Ms. Kautzman asked for any corrections, deletions, or adjustments to the minutes from January 27, 2025.

Mr. Merricks made a motion to approve the minutes and Ms. Williamson-Branch seconded. All members voted in favor, and the motion was carried unanimously.

**Review of Utilities' Financial Statements**

Ms. Chandler presented the December financial statements for each utility fund.

**Fiscal Year 2026 Budget Follow Up**

Preliminary FY 2026 budget proposals were reviewed at the January 27th Commission meeting. Jason Grey and Tiffany Swanson-Jones were available to answer any follow up questions from commissioners.

Ms. Williamson-Branch made a motion that the Danville Utility Commission approve the Utility Department's Proposed Fiscal Year 2026 Budget for submission to City Council with the Commission's recommendation for its adoption by the Council. She further moved that staff make the budget expenditure adjustments necessary to bring the budgets back into balance

and brief the Commission on actions taken at the April 28th meeting, should on-going evaluations reveal revenue shortfalls. Ms. Williamson seconded the motion. All members voted in favor and the motion was passed.

#### Customer Electric Outage Notification System

Jason Grey and Janet Davis presented information on the proposed Smart Thermostat Program. This program would look to utilize existing smart thermostats and pre-cool or pre-heat homes prior to a peak electric event and offer the residential user an incentive.

Mr. Reynolds made a motion that the Danville Utility Commission recommend to City Council approving the Smart Thermostat residential peak shaving program. Ms. Williamson-Branch seconded. All members voted in favor and the motion passed.

#### Department Discussions

Rhonda Spraggins from Danville, Virginia, spoke to the commission regarding her utility department experience and the cost of Danville's utilities and other localities in Virginia.

Mr. Grey mentioned the ice storm that recently occurred and commended the employees who worked over five days to restore power after that and the windstorm that followed. Mr. Reynolds added that restoration was restored in a safe and efficient way. Dr. Miller said that the employees worked relentlessly to restore power and thanked them for their work. He also added that all utilities for Danville are lumped together.

#### Adjournment

Chairman Kautzman stated the next meeting is scheduled for March 24, 2025. Mr. Merricks made a motion to adjourn the meeting. There being no further business, Chairman Kautzman adjourned the meeting at 4:36 p.m.

Submitted by Janet C. Davis  
Secretary to the DUC

March 24, 2025

Date Approved

  
Chairman  
Danville Utility Commission