

Town Council Meeting

Tuesday, July 5, 2022 at 6:00 pm

MEETING LOCATION

1313 Bridge Street (Old Town Hall) St. Matthews, SC 29135

1. Call to Order

Mayor Helen Peterson

2. Agenda

- a. Prayer and Pledge of Allegiance
- **b.** Approval of prior Meeting Minutes

Attachments:

- Council Meeting Minutes 06/07/2022 (Council_Meeting_Minutes_06-07-20 22.pdf)
- **Special Called Meeting Minutes 06/13/2022** (Special_Called_Meeting_Minutes_06-13-2022.pdf)

c. Approval of the Agenda

Attachments:

- Council Meeting Agenda 07/05/2022 (Council_Agenda_07-05-2022-2.pdf)
- d. Acceptance of the Police, Fire and Animal Reports

Attachments:

- Fire Department Report 07/2022 (Fire Department Report 07-2022.pdf)
- Police Department Report 07/2022 (Police_Department_Report_07-2022. pdf)

3. Citizen Input

Each Citizen must sign in and has up to 3 minutes to speak to matters on the Agenda or matters related to the Town of St. Matthews.

- 4. Mayor and Council News
 - a. Recognition of Town Employees No July Birthdays
 - **b. Town Council News**
- 5. Motions Period (Town Council) None Distributed to Administration
- 6. Old Business
 - a. Be Kind, Be Great Community Event
 - b. MASC Annual Meeting
 - c. Demolition Assistance Program

Attachments:

 Demolition Assistance Program (Demolition_and_Beautifiction_Program_a nd Application.pdf)

- d. Audits
- e. Capital Projects Update
- f. Dick Whetstone vs. Town of St. Matthews ES
- g. Town Council Contractual Matter ES
- 7. New Business
 - a. RIA (Rural Infrastructure Authority) Presentation
 - b. Letter Office of State Treasurer
 - c. CCR Water Quality Report 2021

Attachments:

- 2021 Water Quality Report (2021_Water_Quality_Report_2.pdf)
- d. Police Department Personnel Matter ES
- e. Fire/Police Department Personnel Matter ES
- 8. Report of the Town Administrator
 - a. Yard Trash
 - b. Police Department Fan Giveaway

Attachments:

- Police Department Fan Giveaway (Police Department Fan Giveaway.pdf)
- c. 4th of July Fireworks Festival
- d. Dominion Energy Meeting

Attachments:

- Dominion Energy Meeting (Dominion_Energy.pdf)
- e. SCDOT Meeting
- f. Pump Repair/Replacement at Guess Lane
- g. Event Committee
- h. Chief of Police Report
- i. Fire Chief Report
- j. Maintenance Supervisor Report
- 9. Executive Session
 - a. Dick Whetstone vs. Town of St. Matthews
 - b. Town Council Contractual Matter
 - c. Police Department Personnel Matter
 - d. Fire/Police Department Personnel Matter
- 10. Adjourn

Town of St. Matthews

Town Council Meeting Minutes

Tuesday, June 7, 2022 at 6:00 p.m.

1313 Bridge Street, St. Matthews, SC 29135

Council Members Present:

Mayor Helen Carson-Peterson Eloise Shuler-Guinyard Deidre Prickett William "Webb" Carroll Sharon Bennett Marla Riley Virgil Jacobs / via phone

Also Present:

Rosyl Warren, Town Administrator Rosalind Johnson, Town Clerk Michael Smalls, Chief of Police Gregory Sandlin, Fire Chief Gregory Wilson, Maint. Supervisor

Mayor Helen Carson-Peterson called the Meeting to order at 5:58 p.m. The Meeting was opened in prayer by Sharon Bennett followed by the Pledge of Allegiance. The Mayor entertained a motion to approve the prior Meeting Minutes. It was moved by Ms. Shuler-Guinyard and seconded by Ms. Bennett. The motion was carried unanimously.

The Mayor then entertained a motion to approve the Meeting Agenda. The Town Administrator requested that the agenda be amended to add a request for the fireworks show and Police Department personnel matter under New Business. It was moved by Ms. Shuler-Guinyard to approve the Agenda with the additions under New Business. It was seconded by Ms. Bennett. The motion was carried unanimously.

Citizens Input

Aleen Floyd – concerned about sidewalk on Bynum to Mack Street need repairs.

Maggie Bull – concerned about the proposed multi-family housing project.

Linda Simmons— concerned about leaves on Taylor Street coming from Huff Drive. Mr. Wise yard is full of equipment, cars and junk.

Jacob Hair – concerned about the Town Hall begin open for the public and the proposed multifamily housing project.

Audrey Murph – concern about trash on side of the road her elderly mother can't move. The trees on Baxter and Bynum need to be cut down.

Mayor and Council News

The Mayor expressed birthday greetings to Ms. Riley who is celebrating her birthday on June 10th.

The Mayor read a letter explaining the outcome of the affordable housing development. Lake Inspiration is on the list for improvement from the Capital Project Sales Tax revenues.

Ms. Shuler-Guinyard – Enormous number of eighteen-wheelers coming into town turning right onto Bridge Street. On Pearl Street trees growing over the road.

Ms. Prickett – Suggested that Council consider increasing its millage rate this year.

Ms. Bennett – Sign of recognition for the Calhoun County High School basketball team championship. Mr. Wise property needs to be cleaned up.

Ms. Riley – Mack Hill to Bynum Street need to have lights replaced and street lights added in dark areas.

Old Business

Rosalind Johnson was welcomed as the new Town Clerk/Treasurer.

Capital Projects Update- The Lake Inspiration project will be done in phases. The first phase would be to create a walking trail, Lower Muller will be "one way", and the area will be cleaned up.

Woda Cooper – Multi Family Housing was withdrawn due to nearby residents expressed strong opposition to the proposal and the Town Planning Commission voted to recommend that the Council deny the company's request.

Demolition Assistance Program - The program will start July 01, 2022 and cost of application is one hundred dollars (\$100.00). If an application is not approved the fee will be refunded. Second Mt. Beulah Baptist Church Request – The church will have their yard sale in the Town Hall parking lot on June 11, 2022.

Audits - The Town Administrator is hopeful that the audit will begin during the third week of June.

Sewer Issue (Rucker Drive) - Will be discussed in Executive Session.

Dick Whetstone vs. Town of St. Matthews - Will be discussed in Executive Session.

New Business

Be Kind Be Great community event by Erica Brown will be giving away free items to the community. The Mayor entertained a motion to allow the organization Be Kind Be Great to have a community event. It was moved by Ms. Shuler-Guinyard and seconded by Ms. Prickett. The motion was carried unanimously.

MASC Annual Meeting – Mayor and three (3) Council members will be attending the meeting 07/13/22 through 07/17/22.

SC Revenue and Fiscal Affairs Letter – Distributed to Council as information.

LSCOG – The Mayor entertained a motion to renew the "affordable housing consortia" agreement with the Lower Savannah Council of Governments. It was moved by Ms. Shuler-Guinyard and seconded by Webb Carroll. The motion was carried unanimously.

Water Systems Contract – The Mayor entertained a motion to have Council approve the service agreement which would be an additional \$2700.00 per month. It was moved by Shuler-Guinyard and seconded by Webb Carroll. The motion was carried unanimously.

The Mayor entertained a motion granting Calhoun County permission to use the old high school site on Richland Avenue for Independence Day Program featuring live band, vendors, and fireworks show on July 2, 2022. It was moved by Ms. Shuler-Guinyard and seconded by Ms. Bennett. The motion was carried unanimously.

Report of the Town Administrator

Town Truck and Dump Trailer Purchase – Mr. Wilson is training his guys properly to operate the truck.

The SERCAP Tour - was a success and the group shared information to improve the town. Town Administrator—will reach out to the White House contact to see if they can assist the Town in acquiring Broadband.

EPA Inspection – was conducted all went well.

Pump Repair/ Replacement at Guess lane - The Council was informed that a Wastewater pump on Guess Lane had failed and Water Systems was collecting and hauling approximately nine truckloads per day. Ms. Warren proposed two options, one to buy a new pump and have the present one rebuilt at a total cost of \$57,604.00. The rebuilt pump came with a thirty-day warranty. Ms. Warren's second proposal was to purchase two (2) new pumps totaling \$67,924.00 and consider rebuilding the spent one as an emergency backup. Ms. Bennett entertained a motion to purchase two (2) pumps for Guess Lane. It was moved by Ms. Prickett and seconded by Ms. Shuler- Guinyard. The motion was carried unanimously.

Event Committee – Town Administrator suggested having two (2) individuals from each district to serve on the committee.

Department Head Report—the Fire Department, Police Department, and Maintenance Supervisor received new iPhone 12 through First Net.

Chief of Police Report – Buy-back gun event to get guns off the streets. Crime watch program and National Night Out planned for Community Day with Fire Department in September. Fire Chief Report – Community Day on a Saturday free of charge with fun activities for the kids. The Fire Chief expressed concerns about the number of false alarms at the Library and Calhoun Convalescent Center.

Maintenance Department Report – no report

The Mayor entertained a motion to go into Executive Session to discuss sewer issues, Dick Whetstone vs. The Town of St. Matthews, Council Increase and Police Department Personnel Matter. It was moved by Ms. Prickett and seconded by Ms. Bennett. The motion was carried unanimously.

Council reconvened its public session at approximately 8:13 p.m. Mayor Carson-Peterson entertained a motion not to offer a settlement in the case of former Police Administrative Assistant. It was moved by Ms. Prickett and seconded by Ms. Bennett. The motion was carried unanimously. A special called meeting was scheduled for Monday June 13, 2022 at 5:30 p.m.

concerning Chief of Police Personnel matter. The meeting was adjourned at approximately 8:30 p.m.

Minutes submitted by:

Rosalind Johnson, Town Clerk/Treasurer

Town of St. Matthews

Special Called Town Council Meeting Minutes

June 13, 2022 at 5:30 p.m.

Council Members present:

Mayor Helen Carson-Peterson William 'Webb" Carroll Deidre Prickett Marla Riley Virgil Jacob Eloise Shuler-Guinyard Sharon Bennett / via Facebook

Also Present:

Rosyl Warren, Town Administrator Rosalind Johnson, Town Clerk Gregory Wilson, Maint. Supervisor

Mayor Carson-Peterson called the meeting to order at 5:30 p.m. The Mayor opened the Meeting in prayer followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

Citizens Input

Marvin Pinckney – 1^{st} matter Bynum Street appliances on the sidewalk prohibiting elderly woman access to use the sidewalk. 2^{nd} matter concern about Lake Inspiration being blocked off. 3^{rd} concern using the old National Guard Armory has a new Fire Station.

Carolyn Walling – concern about Lake Inspiration and having activities for the kids. Also, utilizing the National guard Armory as a boys and girls club.

Jacob Hair – concern about beautifying Lake Inspiration and community feedback before blocking off Lower Muller Street.

Then, the Mayor responded that the renovation for Lake Inspiration will be done in phases. The Town Administrator clarified that Lower Muller will be a one-way street instead of being blocked off. The Mayor entertained a motion to approve the Business License fee waiver for the July 2, 2022 Fourth of July event for vendors and food trucks. It was moved by Mr. Jacobs and seconded by Ms. Guinyard. The motion was carried unanimously.

Pump Rebuild

Ms. Prickett entertained a motion to go forward with the two (2) new pumps. Then have the previous pump rebuilt at a later date. It was moved by Mr. Jacobs and seconded by Ms. Shuler-Guinyard. The motion was carried unanimously.

The Mayor entertained a motion to go into Executive Session approximately 6:00 p.m. to discuss Town Council contractual matter, Water issues and Police Department personnel matter. It was moved Ms. Shuler- Guinyard and seconded by Mr. Jacobs. The motion was carried unanimously.

Council reconvened its Public Session at approximately 6:30 p.m. Mayor Carson – Peterson entertained a motion to approve a one-time bonus for the Police Chief in light of service during the pandemic. It was moved by Webb Carroll and seconded by Ms. Bennett. The motion was carried. Mr. Jacobs and Ms. Shuler-Guinyard opposed the motion. Town Administrator expressed condolences on behalf of the Town to Ms. Riley on the passing of her aunt.

The meeting adjourned at 6:38 p.m.

Minutes submitted by:

Rivalud Golden

Rosalind Johnson, Yown Clerk/Treasurer



70wn of St. Matthews Post Office Box 172, 606 7. R. Huff Drive St. Matthews, SC 29135

Phone: 803-874-2405 Fax: 803-874-4000

Email: townofstmatthews@windstream.net

Town Council Meeting Tuesday July 5th, 2022 at 6:00 p.m. 1313 Bridge Street (St. Matthews Municipal Court), St. Matthews, SC 29135

Call to Order - Mayor Helen Carson-Peterson

Agenda

- 1. Prayer and Pledge of Allegiance
- 2. Approval of prior Meeting Minutes
- 3. Approval of the Agenda
- 4. Acceptance of Police, Fire and Animal Reports

Citizens Input

1. Each citizen must sign in and has up to <u>3 minutes to speak</u> to matters on the Agenda or matters related to the Town of St. Matthews.

Mayor and Council News

- 1. Recognition of Town Employees No July Birthdays
- 2. Town Council News

Motions Period (Town Council) - None Distributed to Council

Old Business

- 1. Be Kind, Be Great Community Event
- 2. MASC Annual Meeting
- 3. Demolition Assistance Program
- 4. Audits
- 5. Capital Projects Update
- 6. Dick Whetstone vs. Town of St. Matthews ES
- 7. Town Council Contractual Matter ES

New Business

- 1. RIA (Rural Infrastructure Authority) Presentation
- 2. Letter Office of State Treasurer
- CCR Water Quality Report 2021
- 4. Police Department Personnel Matter ES
- 5. Fire/Police Department Personnel Matter ES

Report of the Town Administrator

- 1. Yard Trash
- 2. Police Department Fan Giveaway
- 3. 4th of July Fireworks Festival
- 4. Dominion Energy Meeting
- 5. SCDOT Meeting
- 6. Pump Repair/Replacement at Guess Lane
- Event Committee
- 8. Chief of Police Report
- 9. Fire Chief Report
- 10. Maintenance Supervisor Report

Executive Session

1. Dick Whetstone vs. Town of St. Matthews

Town Council Contractual Matter
 Police Department Personnel Matter
 Fire/Police Department Personnel Matter

Note: ES indicates Executive Session

Adjournment

CALL TYPE	June 2022	Year-to-Date
Alarm - False	1	31
FIRE - Structure	6	20
FIRE - Vehicle	0	6
FIRE - Woods/Grass	0	23
MVA	10	49
Medical	5	16
Other	5	31
Inside Town Limits	10	57
Outside Town Limits	12	114
Total Calls	22	171

St. Matthews Police Department June 2022 Activity Summary Chief Michael Smalls Jr.

Activity	# of calls	Arrest		
Alarms	32			- X
Animal Complaint	6			
Assaults	5			
Assist Motorist	2			
Breach of Trust/Stolen Vehicle/Property	2			
Burglary/Breakin:	1			
CDV				
Civil Disturbance	25	 		
Domestic Disturbance	1			
DUS				
Escorts/Roadblocks	12			
Follow Up	4			
Gunshots Fired in Town Limits				
Harrassments	4			
Hit and Run	2			
Identity Theft				
Juvenile	1			
Larceny	1			
Malicious Injury to Property				
Mental	2			
Missing Person/Runaway	201160			
Motor Vehicle Accidents	4			
Other	3			
Noise	2			
PDC/Public Drunk/DUI	3			
Prisoner Transport	4			
Property Check	9			
Public Service/Welfare Check	19			
Sexual Assaults				
Shoplifting	1			
Simple Possessions				
Suicide Threats				
Suspicious Activity/Vehicles	21			
Traffic Stops	69			
Trespass	5			
Unknown	5			
Vandalism	1	1	1	
Warrant				
911 Hangups	12		1	
Assist Other Agencies	EMS	ccso	Fire Dept	DSS
3	8		2	
Total for the Month	271	<u> </u>		



70wn of St. Matthews Post Office Box 172, 606 F.R. Huff Drive St. Matthews, SC 29135

Phone: 803-874-2405 Fax: 803-874-4000

Email: townofstmatthews a windstream.net

Town of St. Matthews Demolition and Beautification Program

The Town of St. Matthews is offering grants up to \$6,900.00 to property owners in the Town to demolish abandoned, unsightly or uninhabitable houses or structures inside of the Town limits. All grants will be approved by Town Council and preference will be given to major traffic areas in the municipal limits.

The application process will begin on July 1, 2022. Applications will be accepted until August 31, 2022. There is a \$100.00 application fee. If application is not approved \$100.00 application fee will be refunded.

If you are interested, please obtain an application from Town Hall at 606 F.R. Huff Drive, St. Matthews or call Town Hall at (803) 874-2405 for more information.



Applicant Information:

Town of St. MatthewsPost Office Box 172, 606 F.R. Huff Drive St. Matthews, SC 29135

Phone: 803-874-2405 Fax: 803-874-4000 Email: townofstmatthews@windstream.net

St. Matthews Demolition and Beautification Program Application

The Town of St. Matthews is offering grants up to \$6,900.00 to property owners in the Town to demolish abandoned, unsightly or uninhabitable houses or structures inside of the Town limits. All grants will be approved by Town Council and preference will be given to major traffic areas in the municipal limits. Please review all rules that apply (attached).

Name:
Address and Parcel Number:
Cell Phone Number:
Email Address:
 Eligibility Requirements: a. Applicant must have legal authority to demolish property. b. Applicant must place a \$100.00 deposit to the Town for an official application. c. Applicant must obtain all required permits and assessments from governmental entities prior to demolition. d. Applicant assumes all liability for demolition. e. Applicant must use the Town approved demolition contractor approved through a bidding process. f. Structures/Property must be fully demolished cleared, landfilled and signed off by the owner/applicant prior to the Town issuing payment to the demolition contractor.
I,, agree to <u>all</u> Town of St. Matthews terms and conditions:
Signature Date
Application Approved/denied: Town of St. Matthews Date

2021 Water Quality Report

Town of St. Matthews System # 0910001

We are very proud of the fact that your drinking water meets all state and federal guidelines and are pleased to provide you with this year's Water Quality Report.

We want to keep you informed about the water and services we have delivered to you over the past year. Our goal is to provide to you a safe and dependable supply of drinking water. We are committed to ensuring the quality of your water.

A Source Water Assessment Plan has been prepared for our system. The Town of St. Matthews source of water is groundwater from two wells. If you have any questions about this report or concerning your water utility, please contact Rosyl Warren, Town Administrator at 803-874-2405. We want you, our neighbors and valued customers, to be informed about your water utility. Feel free to attend any of our regularly scheduled meetings on the first Tuesday of every month at 6:00 pm at St. Matthews Town Hall.

This report shows our water quality and what it means. The Town of St. Matthews routinely monitors for constituents in your drinking water according to Federal and State laws. As water travels over the land or underground, it can pick up substances or contaminants such as microbes and chemicals. All drinking water, including bottled drinking water, may be reasonably expected to contain at least small amounts of some constituents. It's important to remember that the presence of these constituents does not necessarily pose a health risk.

The table below shows the results of our monitoring for the period of January 1st to December 31st, 2021. In this table you will find the following terms and abbreviations:

Action Level (AL) - the concentration of a contaminant which, if exceeded, triggers treatment or other requirements which a water system must follow.

Parts per million (ppm) or Milligrams per liter (mg/l) - one part per million corresponds to one minute in two years or a single penny in \$10,000.

Parts per billion (ppb) or Micrograms per liter - one part per billion corresponds to one minute in 2,000 years, or a single penny in \$10,000,000.

Maximum Contaminant Level - The "Maximum Allowed" (MCL) is the highest level of a contaminant that is allowed in drinking water. MCLs are set as close to the MCLGs as feasible using the best available treatment technology. MCL's are set at very stringent levels. To understand the possible health effects described for many regulated constituents, a person would have to drink 2 liters of water every day at the MCL level for a lifetime to have a one-in-a-million chance of having the described health effect.

Maximum Contaminant Level Goal - The "Goal" (MCLG) is the level of a contaminant in drinking water below which there is no known or expected risk to health. MCLGs allow for a margin of safety.

Maximum Residual Disinfectant Level (MRDL) - The highest level of a disinfectant allowed in drinking water. There is convincing evidence that addition of a disinfectant is necessary for control of microbial contaminants.

Maximum Residual Disinfectant Level Goal (MRDLG) – The level of a drinking water disinfectant below which there is no known or expected risk to health. MRDLGs do not reflect the benefits of the use of disinfectants to control microbial contaminants.

Non-Detects (ND) - laboratory analysis indicates that the constituent is not present.

Running Annual Average (RAA)



Town of St. Matthews #0910001

Coliform Bacteria				870	
Total Coliform Maximum Contaminant Level	Highest Number of Positive	Fecal Coliform or E. Coli Maximum Contaminant Level	Total No. of Positive E. Coli or Fecal Coliform Samples	Violation	Likely Source of Contamination
1 Positive monthly Sample	1.000		0	N	Naturally present in the environment

Contaminant	Violation Y/N	90 th percentile	Unit Measurement	MCLG	Action Level	Sites over action level	Likely Source of Contamination
Copper 2021	N	1.10	ppm	1.3	1.3	1	Erosion of natural deposits; Leaching from wood preservation; Corrosion of household plumbing systems
Lead 2021	N	1.10	ppb	0	15	0	Erosion of natural deposits; Leaching from wood preservation; Corrosion of household plumbing systems

Disinfectants and Disinfection By-Products	Collection Date	Level Detected	Range of Levels Detected	MCLG	MCL	Units	Violation (Y/N)	Likely Source of Contamination
Chlorine	2021	1.00	0.33 – 0.98	MRDLG 4	MRDL 4	ppm	N	Water additive used to control microbes
INORGANI	C CONTA	MINAN'	TS					
Nitrates (measured as Nitrogen)	2021	3.00	2.40 – 2.50	10	10	ppm	N	Runoff from fertilizer use; Leaching from septic tanks, sewage; Erosion of natural deposits
(measured as			2.50	10	10	ppm	N	Leaching from septic tanks,

Radioactive Contaminants	Violation Y/N	Level Detected	Unit Measuremen t	MCLG	MCL	Likely Source of Contamination
Combined Radium 226/228 (2021)	N	.24 Range 0.231 – 0.240	pCi/L	0	5	Erosion of natural deposits
Gross Alpha excluding radon and uranium	N	0.713 Range 0.00 – 0.713	pCi/L	0	15	Erosion of natural deposits



Town of St. Matthews #0910001

Volatile Organic Contaminants	Violation Y/N	Level Detected	Unit Measurement	MCLG	MCL	Likely Source of Contamination
Tetrachloroethylene (2021)	N	1.0 Range 0.60 – 0.965	ppb	0	5	Discharge from factories and dry cleaners.
Trichloroethylene (2021)	N	1.00 Range 1.20 – 1.90	ppb	0	5	Discharge from metal degreasing sites and other factories

All sources of drinking water are subject to potential contamination by substances that are naturally occurring, or man-made. These substances can be microbes, inorganic or organic chemicals and radioactive substances. All drinking water, including bottled water, may reasonably be expected to contain at least small amounts of some contaminants. The presence of contaminants does not necessarily indicate that the water poses a health risk. More information about contaminants and potential health effects can be obtained by calling the Environmental Protection Agency's Safe Drinking Water Hotline at 1-800-4264791.

If you have special health needs-

Some people may be more vulnerable to contaminants in drinking water than the general population. Immuno-compromised persons such as persons with cancer undergoing chemotherapy, persons who have undergone organ transplants, people with HIV/AIDS or other immune system disorders, some elderly, and infants can be particularly at risk from infections. These people should seek advice about drinking water from their health care providers. EPA/CDC guidelines on appropriate means to lessen the risk of infection by cryptosporidium and other microbiological contaminants are available from the Safe Drinking Water Hotline (800-426-4791).

If present, elevated levels of lead can cause serious health problems, especially for pregnant women and young children. Lead in drinking water is primarily from materials and components associated with service lines and home plumbing. The Town of St. Matthews is responsible for providing high quality drinking water but cannot control the variety of materials used in plumbing components. When your water has been sitting for several hours, you can minimize the potential for lead exposure by flushing your tap for 30 seconds to 2 minutes before using water for drinking or cooking. If you are concerned about lead in your drinking water, you may wish to have your water tested. Information on lead in drinking water, testing methods, and steps you can take to minimize exposure is available from the Safe Drinking Water Hotline or at http://www.epa.gov/safewater/lead.



AeroSpeed Fan Giveaway

(For Seniors in the Town of St. Matthews Only)



St. Matthews Police Department 304 Agnes St, St. Matthews, SC 29135

Drawing Held on July 5 at Town Council Meeting

Enter to Win from June 22nd to June 30th St. Matthews Police Department

Or

Town Hall

Fans will be distributed on July 6 at St. Matthews Police Department For More Info Contact (803) 874-2131

Rosyl Warren

From:

MORGAN HARRELL <morgan.harrell@dominionenergy.com>

Sent:

Tuesday, June 28, 2022 3:28 PM

To:

Undisclosed recipients:

Subject:

RE: FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: Dominion Energy South Carolina Offers Tips for

Managing Energy Usage During The Summer

Good afternoon -

Please feel free to share this information as you see fit.

Stay safe out there,

Morgan

Morgan L. Harrell W: 803.260.6330



Dominion Energy South Carolina Offers Tips for Managing Energy Usage During The Summer

CAYCE, S.C. (June 27, 2022) – As the arrival of summer brings higher temperatures and higher energy usage, Dominion Energy offers tips to help conserve energy while keeping your home as cool as possible.

"When dealing with extremely hot temperatures, we recommend starting at the thermostat," said Ginger Greenway, energy conservation program manager for Dominion Energy South Carolina. "As much as 50% of a customer's annual energy costs come from heating and cooling. Along with adjusting the thermostat, we encourage using fans and closing blinds and curtains during the hottest parts of the day. We recommend focusing on ways to keep your home cool without overusing your air conditioning unit to avoid higher energy bills."

Follow these five simple energy-saving tips to help manage cooling costs:

- 1. **Set the thermostat to 78 degrees or higher.** Each degree lower can significantly increase your cooling costs in the summer. Save even more by raising the thermostat higher when away from home. A smart thermostat can automatically increase the temperature to maximize savings.
- 2. **Use fans to help cool your home.** Using a fan (ceiling fan, box fan, oscillating fan) while increasing the thermostat can lower air conditioning costs over the course of the cooling season.
- 3. Adjust drapes and blinds according to the time of day. Keep out heat from the sun by closing blinds and curtains during the day.

- 4. Weather-strip doors and caulk around seams, cracks and openings to keep the hot air out. Reduce air leakage by checking for ductwork leaks or tears. Repair fallen or crushed ductwork to seal leaks. Insulate ductwork that passes through spaces that are not air conditioned.
- 5. Check heating and air conditioning filters regularly. Dirty filters not only increase energy usage, they can also damage an HVAC system.

For more ways to save, including energy conservation programs available to eligible customers, visit DominionEnergySC.com/save.

Higher temperatures can lead to increased energy usage and fluctuating bills. Dominion Energy remains committed to finding options that best fit customers' budget and needs. Customers can conveniently access many assistance options 24/7 through their online account or Dominion Energy's mobile app. Options include payment plans, budget billing and payment assistance. More information is available at DominionEnergySC.com/assistance.

In addition to short- and long-term payment plans, energy assistance is offered through Dominion Energy's EnergyShare program, funded by company contributions and donations from customers, employees and retirees. Additional payment assistance is also offered through state and federal programs, such as the Low-Income Home Energy Assistance Program (LIHEAP) and the S.C. Stay Plus Program.

About Dominion Energy

More than 7 million customers in 13 states energize their homes and businesses with electricity or natural gas from Dominion Energy (NYSE: D), headquartered in Richmond, Va. The company is committed to sustainable, reliable, affordable and safe energy and to achieving net zero carbon dioxide and methane emissions from its power generation and gas infrastructure operations by 2050. Please visit DominionEnergy.com to learn more.

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