



Meeting Minutes

Citizen Rate Review Committee

Wednesday, March 11, 2020

6:00 PM

City Hall - Room 117
190 N. Litchfield Rd.
Goodyear, AZ 85338

CALL TO ORDER

Chairman Lowell called the meeting to order at 6:01 p.m.

ROLL CALL

Present: 11 - Committee Member Deshuk, Committee Member Booth, Committee Member Fallon, Committee Member Smith, Committee Member Nepomuceno, Committee Member Majeska, Committee Member Lowell, Committee Member McErlean, Committee Member Perez, Alternate Gioia and Alternate Paine

Excused: 2 - Committee Member Lombardo and Committee Member Minarik

Staff Present: Public Works Director Javier Setovich, Finance Director Doug Sandstrom and City Clerk Darcie McCracken

Others Present: Consultant Dan Jackson, Facilitator Teresa Makinen, and her assistant, Anne Morton

MOTION BY Committee Member Booth, SECONDED BY Committee Member Lowell, to EXCUSE Committee Members Lombardo and Minarik from the meeting. The motion carried by the following vote:

Ayes: 9 - Committee Member Deshuk, Committee Member Booth, Committee Member Fallon, Committee Member Smith, Committee Member Nepomuceno, Committee Member Majeska, Committee Member Lowell, Committee Member McErlean and Committee Member Perez

Excused: 2 - Committee Member Lombardo and Committee Member Minarik

CITIZENS COMMENTS/ APPEARANCES FROM THE FLOOR

None.

NEW BUSINESS

1. Open Meeting Law and Ethics Training

City Clerk McCracken provided training on the Open Meeting Law and guidelines by which the Committee Members are required to operate. All meetings of the Committee will be noticed, open to

the public and recorded via minutes. McCracken will confirm if the committee's quorum includes the alternate members as well.

2. Meeting Objectives and Administration

Facilitator Makinen provided an overview of the meeting's objectives and administration.

3. Purpose, Role, and By-Laws of the Citizen Rate Review Committee

Facilitator Makinen provided an overview of the purpose and roles of the Citizen Rate Review Committee (the Committee). She then provided an overview on the by-laws, including specifics about attendance requirements. Two consecutive absences will result in removal from the Committee.

4. Overview of Meetings and Schedule

Public Works Director Setovich provided an overview of the meeting schedule and confirmed the meetings times worked for the members.

5. Public Works and Finance Staff Presentation

Public Works Director Setovich provided an overview of the Public Works Department to include their mission, vision and organizational chart.

Finance Director Sandstrom provided an overview of Public Finance to include Governmental Accounting and Debt Management.

6. Meeting Process and Procedures

Facilitator Makinen provided an overview of the meeting process and procedures.

7. Election of Chairman and Vice-Chairman

Facilitator Makinen reviewed the duties of the Chairman and Vice Chairman for the Citizen Rate Review Committee and then called for nominations for Committee Chairman. Committee Member McErlean Jr nominated himself for the position of Chairman. Committee Member Smith nominated Committee Member Fallon for the position of Chairman; however, she declined the nomination.

MOTION BY Committee Member McErlean to ELECT himself as Chairman of the Citizen Rate Review Committee. The motion carried by the following vote:

Ayes: 9 - Committee Member Deshuk, Committee Member Booth, Committee Member Fallon, Committee Member Smith, Committee Member Nepomuceno, Committee Member Majeska, Committee Member Lowell, Committee Member McErlean, Committee Member Perez, Alternate Gioia and Alternate Paine

Excused: 2 - Committee Member Lombardo and Committee Member Minarik

Election of Chairman and Vice-Chairman

Facilitator Makinen then called for nominations or a motion for Vice-Chairman of the Citizens Rate Review Committee. Committee Member Nepomuceno nominated himself for the position of Vice-Chairman. Committee Member Deshuk nominated Committee Member Fallon for the position of Vice-Chairman and she accepted the nomination.

MOTION BY Committee Member Nepomuceno to ELECT himself as Vice Chairman of the Citizen Rate Review Committee.

MOTION BY Committee Member Deshuk to ELECT Committee Member Fallon as Vice Chairman of the Citizen Rate Review Committee.

Eight committee members voted for Committee Member Fallon and three committee members voted for Committee Member Nepomuceno. Committee Member Fallon will take the seat of Vice-Chairman for the Committee.

8. Staff and consultant presentations
- 8.1 Review of Rate Setting Process - Dan Jackson

Consultant Jackson provided an overview of the rate setting process.

A Committee Member asked if the Adopted Five-Year Water/Waste Water Rate Plan had been viewed as successful, and Jackson replied that he believes so, explaining that Goodyear is in good financial condition right now and this is partially why.

A Committee Member asked why Phoenix's information isn't included in the Residential Monthly Charge Comparison exhibit, and Jackson said that very large communities realize a savings due to economies of scale and can provide water more cheaply so it's not a fair comparison. He added that Goodyear takes a proactive role in planning for the future. The investment the City makes to secure water resources can't be understated because those who control water resources control their future.

Facilitator Makinen said it would be a good time to discuss items the Committee Members would like to see in future meetings. The following topics/items were suggested:

- What capacity of water can the system generate?
- How many plants, MGDs, ground water...not just high level information.
- How many people are being served? What's the population projection? Business projection? Ratio of capacity versus people.
- Information on the policy of the transfers to the General Fund. Are there other costs that should be included?
- Any idea how much water in Goodyear is lost to leakage? Is that part of a capital project?
- Maps of where the plants are compared to growth areas.

- An overall picture of the City’s needs for the next 10 years.
- More information about how we compare to other cities and why is Goodyear higher.
- How are other communities dealing with landscape water versus other uses. Could we discourage landscape water usage by raising rates?
- COVID-19 - Is there any impact to the treatment, production or safety of water?
- Critical infrastructure protection. Is the City concerned with the security of their facilities and how does that effect rates?
- How other water providers in Goodyear compare with Goodyear.
- How does the City’s debt plan effect rates?
- Also the difference between multi-housing versus single family homes.

QUESTIONS FROM THE PUBLIC

None,

INFORMATION ITEMS

None.

NEXT MEETING

The next meeting is scheduled for April 7, 2020 at 6:00 p.m.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to discuss, Chairman McErlean adjourned the meeting at 7:52 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted by:

Amie Gressett, Management Assistant

Charles McErlean Jr, Chairman

Date: _____