



Water Department

Water Commission
7:00 p.m. – Monday, April 7, 2014
Council Chambers
809 Center Street, Santa Cruz

Minutes of a Water Commission Meeting

Call to Order – Vice Chair W. Wadlow called the meeting to order at 7:04 p.m. in the City Council Chambers.

Roll Call

Present: A. Schiffrin, D. Schwarm, D. Stearns, W. Wadlow, and L. Wilshusen.

Absent: D. Baskin and G. Mead (with notification)

Staff: R. Menard, Water Director; T. Goddard, Water Conservation Manager; N. Dennis Principal Management Analyst; S. O'Hara, Assistant Engineer; H. Luckenbach, Deputy Water Director/Engineering Manager; E. Cross, Community Relations Specialist; L. Rossiter, Management Analyst; G. Rudometkin, Administrative Assistant III.

Others: Approximately 12 members of the public.

Presentation – There were no presentations.

Statements of Disqualification – There were no statements of disqualification.

Oral Communications – Oral and written communications made by S. McGilvray.

Announcements – There were no announcements.

Approval of Minutes

Commissioner Schiffrin moved approval of March 3, 2013 Water Commission minutes.

Commissioner Stearns seconded.

VOICE VOTE: MOTION CARRIED

AYES: A. Schiffrin, D. Schwarm, D. Stearns, W. Wadlow, and L. Wilshusen

NOES: None.

ABSTAINED: None

Consent Agenda

1. Draft Capital Improvement Program Budget
2. Communications Update
3. City Council Items Affecting Water

Item 1 pulled - Draft Capital Improvement Program Budget.

Commissioner L. Wilshusen moved the Consent Agenda. Commissioner A. Schiffrin seconded.

VOICE VOTE: MOTION CARRIED

AYES: A. Schiffrin, D. Schwarm, D. Stearns, W. Wadlow, and L. Wilshusen

NOES: None.

ABSTAINED: None

Items Removed from the Consent Agenda

Item 1 - Draft Capital Improvement Program Budget

Oral Communications made by S. McGilvray, Commissioner A. Schiffrin and Commissioner D. Stearns.

R. Menard, H. Luckenbach, and L. Rossiter responded to public and commission questions.

Commissioner A. Schiffrin moved approval of staff recommendation on Item 1 - Draft Capital Improvement Program Budget. Commissioner Wilshusen seconded.

VOICE VOTE: MOTION CARRIED

AYES: A. Schiffrin, D. Schwarm, D. Stearns, W. Wadlow, and L. Wilshusen

NOES: None.

ABSTAINED: None

General Business

1. Draft Final Water Supply Outlook

Presentation provided by Administrative Services Manager, T. Goddard and responded to Commission questions.

Summary of Commission Questions/Comments:

- Questions were asked pertaining to historical levels of the reservoir.
- Comment was made that if the reservoir was full last June of 2013 then essentially the reservoir went down by 33% through the summer.
- Comment was made that we went for a 5% reduction last year and anticipated a 25% reduction in the reservoir, and now expectation is a 20% reduction on top of what was in place last year.
- Request to elaborate on the assumption of zero production from Laguna Creek, is there any latitude in there for an unexpected development that was alluded to.
- Question was asked if the City of Santa Cruz should be more aggressive than just stage 3 water restrictions.
- Question was asked since the Water Department staff reports back to the Commission regarding water status at every meeting it is assumed if significant

deviation from the end of season projection is seen that it will be brought back for additional discussion on whether to stay at stage three or move onto stage four.

Public comments:

Oral communications made by R. Longinotti and S. McGilvray.

Commissioner A. Schiffrin moved to accept staff's recommendation. Commissioner D. Schwarm seconded.

VOICE VOTE: MOTION CARRIED

AYES: A. Schiffrin, D. Schwarm, D. Stearns, W. Wadlow, and L. Wilshusen

NOES: None.

ABSTAINED: None

2. Long-Term Conservation Master Plan Workshop II

Presentation provided by Assistant Engineer, S. O'Hara. Assistant Engineer, S. O'Hara, Water Director, R. Menard, as well as Bill and Lisa Maddaus of Maddaus Water Management Inc. responded to Commission questions.

Summary of Commission Questions/Comments:

- Question was asked if the Water Department was officially recommending Conservation Plan C.
- Clarification was asked concerning Table 1. Saturation Levels of High Efficiency Fixtures in 2012, under the faucets column it states that 4%-88% of businesses have adopted water efficient faucets, is there indication as to why it is such a broad range.
- Question was asked as to how these further investments in conservation would be funded.
- Question was asked if high efficiency water rebates would go up.
- Question was asked that it states in the Water Conservation Master Plan that it would take advantage of new technology as it might come on-line but it isn't clear where exactly it is accounted for and what that would be.
- Question was asked regarding seasonality; is there any way that this Conservation Plan C model could reflect the disparate values between reservoir water and year round water.
- Comment was made that in a Santa Cruz water supply scenario; seasonal water is much more valuable.
- Comment was made that the City is aiming for 2 million gallons per day in conservation savings and some of these programs in the Master Plan offer 5 million gallons a year in conservation savings.
- Comment was made that rather than ask to optimize a different program than Conservation Plan C, it might be helpful to us if there was a qualitative notation; for example; which of those items are especially helpful from a seasonal perspective that would at least inform the Commission, the Council, and members of the public which kind of items in there have a special focus such as seasonality.

- Question was asked regarding measure number 5, the customer billing report & services measure, regarding the capability of this system relating to the rate study and looking at potential variable rates based on water usage.
- Question was asked if there has been any discussion on the ultra-high efficiency toilets and various other products of that nature being included into the City's plumbing code or will it stay a rebate program in perpetuity.
- Comment was made that the Water Conservation Master Plan goal objective states, "*The City of Santa Cruz's stated objective is to develop a Water Conservation Master Plan to maximize water efficiency in the most equitable and cost-effective manner to the extent practical for implementation by City staff.*" Clarification requested as to whose water efficiency is being referred to; the community's, service areas, etc.
- Comment was made regarding the Water Conservation Master Plan as it refers to the City of Santa Cruz whereas service area would be a more comprehensive term.
- Clarification was asked regarding one of the Water Conservation Master Plan Goal/Objectives stating to "*Maintain long-term plan for complying with SB X7.7 and meeting the gallons per capita per day (GPCD) target by 2020*"; explanation to provide what SB X7.7 refers to as well as what the particular target is from that legislation.

Public Comment:

Oral Comments made by G. Prepping, R. Longinotti, S. Holt, and S. McGilvray.

Deliberation:

- Staff in conjunction with Commissioners collaborated to wordsmith the Water Conservation Master Plan Goal/Objectives.
- Commission was asked for tentative agreement on certain steps.
- Commission was asked if they have tentative agreement on the most cost efficient program or the components of the most cost efficient program, which would be program B and then build upon that to try to get to program C knowing there will be different measures that would be added, subtracted or modified.
- Commissioners requested to move onto Program C as it was the recommendation.
- Commission was asked if they have tentative agreement on Program C and if tentative agreement on Program C is agreed upon then measures out of Program C can be added, subtracted or modified.
- Commissioner requested to include measures 5 – Customer Billing Report & Service and measure 24 – Install sensor-activated faucets.
- Clarification asked for why measure 11 – Residential ultra-high efficiency toilets was gone with rather than measure 12 – Install high-efficiency toilets, showerheads, and faucet aerators in residential buildings.
- Recommendation to include in measure 5 – Customer Billing Report & Service
- Question asked if a third party contractor would be brought into execute measure 5.

- Deliberation concluded with going with Program C and adding recommended measure 5 and coming back with some additional recommendations and modifications to measure 24 to meet the intent in a more cost effective manner.

Commissioner Stearns moved that Commission recommend preferred Program C as it was amended tonight subject to review to the adjustments in the objective and the modified measures as well as implementing the gray water program in response to drought which is part of Program D that will be moved into Program C which was stated in the staff report. Commissioner Schwarm seconded.

VOICE D. Schwarm, D. Stearns, W. Wadlow, and L. Wilshusen

NOES: None.

ABSTAINED: A. Schiffrin

4. WSAC Update

Water Director, R. Menard provided the staff report and responded to Commission questions.

Summary of Commission Questions/Comments:

- Question was asked if the letter included with the report was a draft or sent.
- Question was asked if the Water Department Staff was recommending bringing in Consulting group Stratus.
- Clarification was asked if it was understood that some people on the Water Supply Advisory Committee, that has not yet had a meeting, are opposed to Stratus.

5. Agenda Strategy

Water Director, R. Menard provided the staff report and responded to Commission questions.

Summary of Commission Questions/Comments:

- Question was asked concerning the timeline of the rate study.

Subcommittee/Advisory Body Oral Reports No items.

Information Item (Pages 114-135) No action shall be taken on this item.

1. Budget for Implementation of Stage 3 Water Rationing
2. Reimbursement for Capital Expenditures Prior to Debt

Summary of Commission Questions/Comments:

- Commission requested to place future Information Items on the Consent Agenda.

Documents for Future Meetings No action shall be taken on this item.

Items Initiated by Members for Future Agendas

Adjournment The next meeting of the Water Commission is scheduled for May 5, 2014 at 9:35 p.m. in Council Chambers.

Respectfully submitted,

**Gloria
Rudometkin**

Digitally signed by Gloria Rudometkin
DN: cn=Gloria Rudometkin, o=City of
Santa Cruz, ou=Water,
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Date: 2014.02.10 09:12:05 -08'00'

Staff