



**CITY OF BEVERLY HILLS**  
Room 280A  
455 North Rexford Drive  
Beverly Hills, CA 90210

**PUBLIC WORKS COMMISSION  
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES**

January 11, 2018  
8:00 a.m.

**MEETING CALLED TO ORDER**

Date/Time: January 11, 2018 / 8:01 a.m.

**SWEARING IN OF NEW COMMISSIONER CHARLES ALPERT**

**PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

**CIVILITY STATEMENT**

**ROLL CALL**

Commissioners Present: Commissioners Alpert, Greer, Wolfe, Vice Chair Aronberg,  
Chair Felsenthal

Commissioners Absent: None

Staff Present: Tony Antich, Vincent Chee, Vince Damasse, Josette  
Descalzo, Shana Epstein, Ilene Knebel, Erick Lee, Tristan  
Malabanan, Derek Nguyen, Robert Sahagun, Renato  
Talavera

**COMMUNICATIONS FROM THE AUDIENCE**

Members of the public may address the Commission regarding any items not on the Agenda that are within the subject matter jurisdiction of the Commission. By State law, the Commission may not discuss or vote on items not on the Agenda.

Speakers: None

**APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

By Order of the Chair, the agenda was approved as presented.

**CONSENT CALENDAR**

1. Consideration of the Minutes of the regular meeting of December 14, 2017.

Motion: MOVED by Vice Chair Aronberg, SECONDED by  
Commissioner Wolfe to approve the minutes as presented.  
(4-0).

AYES: Commissioner Greer, Wolfe, Vice Chair Aronberg, Chair  
Felsenthal

ABSTAIN: Alpert

NOES: None

**CARRIED**

Street Superintendent Robert Sahagun was introduced to the Commission.

## **REPORTS FROM PRIORITY AGENCIES**

### **Operations Reports from City Departments, Consultants and Outside Agencies**

- Metropolitan Water District (MWD) Director Barry Pressman
  - Dr. Pressman spoke about the recent report on the Oroville Dam and the change in management at the Department of Water Resources.
  - The process of rate setting has begun at MWD. The process will continue for three months.
  - Drones are now being used by MWD to see how water is being distributed on large fields to assess irrigation issues.
  - Discussed the amount of runoff water and the watershed and the water they collect.
  - The groundwater supplies have diminished greatly over the last decade in the Metropolitan area which may explain some of the concerns we are having with our groundwater changes. It was suggested we consider ways to actively recharge the aquifers.

## **CONTINUED BUSINESS**

### **2. Capital Improvement & Major Projects**

Acting City Engineer Tony Antich updated the Commission on the Capital Improvement & Major Project items in the Commission packet, focusing on the Oil and Gas Well Abandonment Project. The City is taking the lead on getting these wells plugged up with an estimate of taking one year for the project. The restoration of the Well Sites is the responsibility of the School District.

Commissioner comments:

- Commissioners asked for clarification on the street closures due to decking at the Wilshire/La Cienega Project location.
- The Commission asked if there are any special health measures necessary during the Well Abandonment Project.
- The Commission asked about water levels in the area; Staff will respond at a future meeting.

### **3. Hollywood Basin Wells Pre-Treatment Testing Update**

Water Resources Manager Vince Damasse and Carollo Project Manager Adam Zacheis reported on the continued pre-treatment testing and use of a pilot sand separator and oxidation filtration process. Well #6 and Well 6 were tested in December 2017 and it was found the median particle size has been reduced as well as the mass of material coming in to the system is also reduced. Manganese and Iron levels have been removed to near non detectable levels. Other contaminant levels are also reported as minimal. Next steps were reviewed including running a blend of Hollywood and Maple Wells and exploring other interim blending options. The draft Technical Memo is in progress.

Commissioner comments:

- The Commission commented about the delay in receipt of the pump for the Maple Wells.

- The Commission requested a comparison between the filtronics and the green sand systems.
- The Commission asked for an estimate of the timelines for the project completion.
- There was an inquiry about the filtration process and the membranes handling the levels of sand in the normal course of operation.
- The Commission inquired about receiving the report on this project to assess whether the City can move forward with the Central Basin Project.

4. Memorandum of Understanding Between Stakeholders for Unadjudicated Portion of the Central Basin

Water Resources Manager Vince Damasse reported that local agencies are required to manage their basins and form stakeholder groups. This MOU allows us to collaborate. This process is not delaying the proceedings with the La Brea Subarea. Staff commented on the agreement and is comfortable with the language.

5. Fiscal Year Proposed 5-Yr CIP Plan for FY 2018/2019

Project Manager Derek Nguyen presented an update on two projects requested by the Commission; the Landscape Irrigation Stub-outs and Emergency Water Storage.

Speaker: A.J. Wilmer

Commissioner comments:

- The Commission discussed design and cost of the irrigation stub outs.
- The Commission inquired about retrofitting our existing reservoirs to increase the capacity or possibly acquiring additional land.
- Staff will work on a developing a program for landscape meters that incentivizes residents.
- The Commission agreed that the proposed Emergency Water Storage project be included as part of the Water Master Plan.

The entire CIP Plan will be reviewed at the February Commission Meeting.

The Commission took a break at 10:02 a.m.

The Commission returned at 10:12 a.m.

6. Cabrillo Reservoir Resourcing

Project Manager Derek Nguyen presented background on the Cabrillo Reservoir Project. Feasibility Study and Preliminary Design report was issued. The study recommended non-potable uses only.

Staff presented three options for Commission discussion.

Commissioner comments:

- The Commission discussed the possibility of using City vehicles to water the medians instead of contracting the service.
- There are still cost factors to be discussed if the property was to be sold.

The Commission recommended that the option of developing a pipeline to Coldwater Canyon Park be explored, with the caveat that any loss of usable park space would could be problematic.

#### 7. LED Street Light Replacement Program

Environmental Compliance and Sustainability Programs Manager Josette Descalzo reported on the implementation of the LED Street Light Replacement Program. Joining him were Chris Ford, Project Manager from the Energy Coalition and Jon-Eric Santanello from South Coast Lighting. Comments were also Civil Engineer Tristan Malabanan and Electrical System Supervisor Renato Talavera. Background information on street lights was presented. Smart Controls and Smart City Devices are not recommended for this program. The benefits of the program were reviewed. Next steps were outlined.

Speakers: A.J. Wilmer, Steve Weinglass

#### Commissioner comments:

- The Commission inquired about the intensity and actual usage of the LEDs.
- The Commission asked if there are any federal regulations to reduce our electricity usage.
- The Commission confirmed with staff that by replacing the cobra head fixture, this will not become an obstacle for future upgrades.

National Joint Powers Alliance (NJPA) is a pool of pre-bid contractors that meet state guidelines. Many municipalities use this process and it is authorized under our Municipal Code. It allows us to expedite our procurement process and ensure competitive public bidding.

Motion: MOVED by Greer, SECONDED by Alpert, to move forward with the full implementation of the LED Street Light Program (5-0).

AYES: Commissioner Alpert, Greer, Wolfe, Vice Chair Aronberg, Chair Felsenthal

ABSTAIN: None

NOES: None

CARRIED

#### 8. Proposed Changes to Resolution Establishing Rules of Procedure for the Public Works Commission

Deputy Director Erick Lee reviewed all amendments to the Resolution.

#### Commissioner comments:

- The Commissioners suggested further clarification that the introduction of Agenda items is at a Regular Commission Meeting.
- If a Commissioner needs further information prior to a Commission meeting, they are encouraged to seek it from staff as specified in the rules.

The item will be calendared at the February Commission Meeting on the Consent Calendar.

9. Update on Fiscal Year 2017/2018 City Council Priorities

Deputy Director Erick Lee introduced the item and provided updates on the progress of the twenty-two Public Works items that will be submitted to City Council in the near future.

**NEW BUSINESS**

None

**PROJECT UPDATES & STATUS ITEMS**

10. North Santa Monica Boulevard Reconstruction Project

Staff is meeting to review traffic concerns with the project; no formal report presented.

11. Water Conservation Update

Water Conservation Administrator Debby Figoni reported on the water usage for December as well as the continued notification of customers about potential leaks at the properties. In addition, flyers and Facebook posts are part of the outreach being conducted about water conservation. It is essential for residents to sign up for Water Tracker for staff to be able to assist with any adjustments.

- The Commission asked about the State Water Budget for Municipalities.
- The Commission also suggested using a system similar to an Emergency Alert for messaging.
- The Commission inquired about analyzing the data with regard to water usage so that we might understand and correct the behavior.

12. Specific Information and Department Update

This report transmits answers to questions that have been raised at previous Public Works Commission meetings, information regarding upcoming items for the City Council meeting, an update on the Department's Master Plans, a financial statement for the Water Enterprise Fund and a Will Serve status update for development projects.

- No comments.

**COMMUNICATIONS FROM THE COMMISSION**

13. Chair's Report

Comments from the Commissioners

- The Commission inquired about the status of CNG credits. Staff advised it would be presented in February.
- The Chair requested that funding for the Water Enterprise plan be secured and committed.
- The Chair briefly reviewed the Mayors Cabinet Meeting.

Ad Hoc Subcommittee Updates

- The updated list is in the packet.

**COMMUNICATIONS FROM STAFF**

14. Director's Report

- Director Epstein discussed the current City Engineer vacancy and recruitment.

Public Works Commission Regular Meeting Minutes  
January 11, 2018

- Water rates will become effective on January 18, 2018. The surcharge discussion will continue with West Hollywood.
- Upcoming Events listed in packet.
- Meeting Dates listed in packet.

**ADJOURNMENT**

Date / Time

January 11, 2018 / 11:14 a.m.

PASSED AND APPROVED THIS 8<sup>TH</sup> DAY of FEBRUARY, 2018

  
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Jerrold Felsenthal, Chair