



CITY OF BEVERLY HILLS
455 N. Rexford Drive
Beverly Hills, CA 90210
Room 280-A

**PUBLIC WORKS COMMISSION
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES
NOVEMBER 12, 2015
8:00 A.M.**

MEETING CALLED TO ORDER

Date/Time: November 12, 2015 / 08:05 a.m.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

A. ROLL CALL

Commissioners Present: Commissioners Felsenthal, Pressman, Wolfe, Vice Chair Aronberg, Chair Shalowitz

Commissioners Absent: None

Staff Present: Chad Lynn, Pamela Mueller, James Phan, Trish Rhay, Caitlin Sims, Michelle Tse, Audrey Wright

B. ORAL COMMUNICATIONS

1. AUDIENCE COMMENTS

Speakers: None

2. REPORT FROM THE CHAIRPERSON

Mayor's Cabinet Meeting – Chair Shalowitz attended the Meeting of November 4, 2015.

- A. El Niño Preparation and Sand Bag Reminder – Mrs. Mottice-Muller and James Phan, of Policy & Management, provided a video, PowerPoint presentation and update on El Niño Status and the City's preparations. Individuals can sign up for the City's Emergency Alert system <https://member.everbridge.net/index/1332612387831810#/login> and Nixel's Alert system (text 'bevhillis' to 888777). Report blocked or clogged catch basins to 310 285 2467. The City provides up to 10 filled sandbags to residents during sandbag operation hours. Assistant Director of Public Works Services Ms. Rhay stated staff is working to ensure problem areas are taken care of. In emergency situations staff will be on-call. The City knows potential flood areas; staff is working on mitigation.

3. COMMISSIONER AND SUBCOMMITTEE REPORTS

None.

C. CONSENT CALENDAR

Any item may be removed from the Consent Calendar by a member of the Commission or by a person in attendance, with the concurrence of the Commission.

CONSIDERATION OF MINUTES

1. Consideration by the Public Works Commission of the minutes of the Meeting of October 8, 2015.

Motion: Motion by Commissioner Felsenthal, Second by Commissioner Wolfe to approve as amended (5-0).

Action: The minutes were approved as amended.

D. REPORTS FROM PRIORITY AGENCIES

Operations Reports from City Departments, Consultants and Outside Agencies

1. METROPOLITAN WATER DISTRICT (MWD) DIRECTOR

None.

2. JEWISH NATIONAL FUND (JNF) WATER SUMMIT

Gina Rafael provided information. The upcoming 2016 Summit will be March 1, 2 and 3, 2016. The Commission is invited to participate. Chair Shalowitz stated this Item is before the Public Works Liaison Committee; they are recommending it for City Council approval.

3. INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY – WATER TRACKER

None.

4. BEVERLY HILLS UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT WATER CONSERVATION EFFORTS

Assistant Director of Public Works Services Mr. Lynn stated staff extended an invitation to the School Board to attend today's Meeting; they declined. If a discussion occurs at the next PW Liaison Meeting, information will be shared with the Commission. Chair Shalowitz asked that this Item be agendaized in December and requests Staff report on each school's water use. Senior Management Analyst Ms. Sims stated staff is further examining abnormalities in the data to confirm its veracity prior to releasing the information. Staff to look into whether schools have upgraded urinals.

5. CAPITAL ASSETS – WATER CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT PROJECTS

City Engineer Mr. Cuneo provided an update.

a. Water Treatment Plant

Work has begun, the project is on schedule and the completion/plant in operation date is March 2016. There are two milestones: The first is putting the plant back into operation in March, the second is full completion in May. The additional \$200,000 sought was approved by City Council. Staff will expedite the project as possible.

b. Shallow Groundwater Well

Drilling to begin soon. Staff is meeting with the State Water Resources Control Board – Division of Drinking Water (DDW) with hopes of securing approval. The contractor is ready to move forward.

c. Greystone Reservoir Rehabilitation

Bid due date was extended due to lack of interest. Bid award will occur at the November 17, 2015, City Council Meeting. The potential start date is January 1, 2016, with a 10 month projected timeline.

E. CONTINUED AND NEW BUSINESS

1. TIERED WATER RATES STRUCTURE RECOMMENDATION

Rick Simonson and John Farnkopf from HF&H provided a presentation, overview and discussion of its water rate study. The following were discussed: Background; October 6 Presentation to Liaison Committee; Direction after October 6 Meeting; November 9 Presentation to Liaison Committee; Direction after November 9 Meeting; Background Statistics; Revenue Requirement; Cost of Service Analysis; Alternative Quantity Charges; Sample Bill Impacts; SFR Quantity Charge Comparison- Alt #1; MFR Quantity Charge Comparison- Alt #1; Commercial Quantity Charge Comparison- Alt #1; and Current Quantity Charges. Recreation & Parks Commissioner Mr. Anderson spoke about residents reducing use and asked to see an accounting of excess and infrastructure costs on a monthly basis so residents understand the charges. Ms. Rhay stated this item is being presented to City Council on November 17, 2015.

Motion: Motion by Commissioner Wolfe, Second by Vice Chair Aronberg that the Commission recommends City Council move forward with the analysis provided in Alternative #1 (Multi-class) of the Water Rate Analysis (4-1, Pressman abstain).

Action: The motion passed.

2. 2016 PUBLIC WORKS COMMISSION PRIORITY SETTING EXERCISE & RECOMMENDATION

Mr. Lynn led the discussion. The Commission stated and ranked its priorities. Commissioner Wolfe suggested adding an educational component to the penalty surcharge.

3. STATE WATER RESOURCES CONTROL BOARD ADMINISTRATIVE CIVIL LIABILITY COMPLAINT FOR FAILURE TO MEET WATER CONSERVATION STANDARD DISCUSSION

Ms. Rhay provided an update. The City received a \$61,000 State fine for not complying with the mandated 32% conservation rate; the City has been averaging 20%. The State is determining an extension for the draught declaration; it will likely not end in February 2016.

F. OTHER BUSINESS

1. UPDATE ON SIGNAL HILL NANO-FILTRATION TREATMENT PLANT

Ms. Sims provided an update. The City contacted Signal Hill; the report provides information. As a condition of receiving State funding, the project had to be completed within one year. Staff is scheduled to visit Signal Hill to see if this is a viable option for Beverly Hills.

2. UPDATE ON CITY WATER CONSERVATION EFFORTS

Planning & Research Analyst Ms. Tse led the discussion on the attached report. The City identified top water users and made contact; staff will do the same with commercial users. Penalty surcharges should drive conservation efforts. Notification was received from the Metropolitan Water District that their rebate program is being revamped; staff will update the City's website to reflect changes. Commissioner Wolfe stated the City needs to better inform residents. Commissioner Pressman asked about lawn signs for the conservation message.

3. UPDATE ON CURRENT PROJECTS

Tabled.

4. COMMISSIONER-RECOMMENDED READINGS

Tabled.

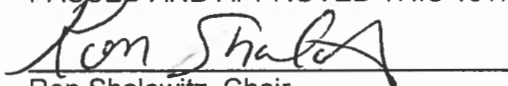
5. COMMENTS FROM COMMISSIONERS, PUBLIC WORKS DIRECTOR & STAFF

Tabled.

G. ADJOURNMENT

Date/Time: November 12, 2015 / 11:44 A.M.

PASSED AND APPROVED THIS 10TH DAY OF DECEMBER, 2015


Ron Shalowitz, Chair