



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

**PUBLIC WORKS COMMISSION
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES**

December 13, 2018
8:00 am

MEETING CALLED TO ORDER

Date/Time: December 13, 2018 / 8:02 am

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

CIVILITY STATEMENT

ROLL CALL

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

Commissioners Absent: None

Staff Present: Gil Borboa, Vince Damasse, Shana Epstein, Debby Figoni, Daren Grilley, Josette Descalzo, Ilene Knebel, Chad Lynn, Mandana Motahari

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

Speaker: None.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

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

CONSENT CALENDAR

1. Consideration of November 8, 2018, Public Works Commission regular meeting minutes.

Motion: MOVED by Commissioner Greer, SECONDED by Vice Chair Aronberg to adopt the minutes as amended (5-0).

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

NOES: None

CARRIED

REPORTS FROM PRIORITY AGENCIES

Dr. Pressman reported on the most recent Metropolitan Water District Meeting.

CONTINUED BUSINESS

2. Water Rates-Cost-of-Service Adjustment, Water Reliability Charge, and Revenue Stabilization

Public Works Director Shana Epstein introduced a streamlined presentation most recently given at the Town Hall Meeting regarding the Water Rate increases. The draft Cost of Service Study was included in the packet. Staff is requesting a formal recommendation to the City Council with regard to the noted adjustments to the water service charges.

Commissioner comments:

- The Commission inquired about the allocation for Public Safety.
- The Commission explained that moving forward with the rate adjustments is an insurance policy. In the event of a continued drought, we would be able to supplement with our own water resources. In addition, this is an investment in a real asset that has real value.

The Commission combined the three staff recommendations into the first motion and made a second motion to address additional concerns.

Motion: MOVED by Chair Felsenthal, **SECONDED** by Vice Chair Aronberg to restructure the consumption and fixed service charges based on the cost-of-service study; add a water reliability charge based on funding scenario 1; substitute a revenue stabilization rates schedule during water shortages instead of previous baseline methods (5-0).

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

NOES: None

CARRIED

Motion: MOVED by Commissioner Wolfe, **SECONDED** by Commissioner Greer that between now and the time of our next water rates analysis, whether a standard rate study or a cost of service study, that the City commits itself to developing the tools and processes needed to provide a comprehensive analysis with multiple years of data to make it as accurate a rate analysis study as possible (5-0).

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

NOES: None

CARRIED

3. Capital Projects Update

City Engineer Daren Grilley updated the Commission on the Capital Improvement & Major Project items. Specifically highlighted were the Oil Well Plugging Project, Metro Purple Line Extension Project, LED Street Light Replacement Project, and Civic Center Drive Reforestation Project.

Commissioner comments:

- The Commission inquired about the color/temperature of the LED lighting.
- There was an inquiry about the budgets for Pump Station #8 and the oil well project.
- The Commission inquired about getting a map with the location of the Metro route in relation to the oil wells in the area.
- The Commission requested information about the air quality monitoring data (what pollutants are being monitored), how often/and for how long the wells are flaring, and the effects of the project on the soil.
- The Commission suggested having a separate contractor review the drilling records.
- The Commission suggested the formation of an Oil Well Ad Hoc to further discuss this topic. Commissioner Alpert and Vice Chair Aronberg will be the members.
- The Commission congratulated the Santa Monica Reconstruction Blvd team for their recent APWA award.

4. City Hall Tower Rehabilitation – CIP No. 0851

City Architect Mandana Motahari reported on the upcoming project to make infrastructure and interior improvements to support re-occupancy of the City Hall Tower that has been vacant since 1988.

Commissioner comments:

- The Commission inquired if the building is structurally sound.
- The Commission asked about the costs of the retrofit and voiced concern with the overall cost of the project.

5. Measure W: Safe, Clean Water Program Update

Environmental Compliance and Sustainability Manager Josette Descalzo reported on the item. This ballot initiative passed in the November 2018 election and he reviewed the funding the City of Beverly Hills will receive.

Commissioner comments:

- The Commission asked about maximizing the funds that will be made available because of this initiative.
- The Commission requested staff monitor the submissions for the grant funds.

6. Clean Power Alliance – Residential Roll-Out Phase

The Residential Roll-Out Phase will begin in February 2019. All residents will receive notices with information on the program and what renewable energy can be chosen.

Environmental Compliance and Sustainability Manager Josette Descalzo shared two awards received recently - the Silver Level Award from Southern California Edison for energy efficiency and promotion of saving energy, and an award for the Westside Energy Partnership also for our efforts in energy savings.

Commissioner comments:

- The Commission asked about the surcharge for those who are going to enter into the Clean Power Alliance (CPA) Program.
- The Commission suggested the CPA noticing be in languages that fit our population and emphasized that if you have a problem with your lights (distribution/service) you should call Southern California Edison.
- The Commission inquired what the CPA is going to do to make their program cost competitive and perhaps below the rates that the utility charges.

7. Water Supply Fee Update

Water Resources Manager Vince Damasse presented item with consultants Steve Bucknam and Mike Whipple, from Bucknam and Associates. Fee credit examples were given. Staff is asking for comments and approval of the updated Water Supply Fee recommendations. There will not be a significant loss in revenue to the Water Enterprise plan giving these credits.

Commissioner comments:

- The Commission asked what other cities have adopted this type of credit program.
- The Commission commented that more conservation and reuse is needed but unless it is mandated, doubts it will be successful.
- The Commission agrees that some sort of credit is a reasonable policy.
- The Commission discussed the goal being conservation, not cost.
- The Commission requested further definition of Option 1 before moving forward with a vote on the topic.

The Commission took a break at 10:28 am

The Commission returned at 10:38 am

8. Water Treatment Plant Update

Water Resources Manager Vince Damasse presented item with Project Manager Samer Elayyan and NV5 Representative Charlie McKinley. The preliminary project timeline was reviewed.

Commissioner comments:

- The Commission requested a list of time saving measures to get the plant back on line.
- The Commission asked how to insure that the plant operates sufficiently after the transfer of the facility from the contractor to City Staff.
- The Commission voiced their concern over the length of time it has taken to get the plant back on line and stressed that they be accurately apprised of the timeline, and possible delays, for the project.

9. La Brea Status Update

Assistant Director of Public Works Gil Borboa and Water Resources Manager Vince Damasse reviewed the recommendation to remove the Sand Pit Site from further consideration as a future water production facility.

Commissioner comments:

- The Commission emphasized the importance of getting new drilling sites.
- The Commission has questions about the progress at the Coffee Bean site.

Staff conveyed that the Commission would be getting monthly updates for the La Brea Sub Area Development and the Water Treatment Plant.

10. 2018 Sanitary Survey

Assistant Director of Public Works Gil Borboa reported on the survey of our treatment and distribution facilities by the Department of Drinking Water in November 2018. The found that the City of Beverly Hills operates safely and complies with public health standards.

NEW BUSINESS

11. Oral Report on the Woolsey Fire

The Commission requested discussion on this topic. Director Epstein showed a video from the Las Virgines Water District and their experience during the fire. She reported on the debris management plan for the affected areas, an upcoming wildland fire report for our area, and our urban forest master plan update. Residents are encouraged to sign up for emergency notifications.

Commissioner comments:

- The Commission commented about cell towers in an emergency, fire breaks, and asked how to assure our community that we have processes in place for this type of emergency.

PROJECT UPDATES & STATUS REPORTS

12. Water Efficiency Update

For information only. No report.

13. Specific Information and Department Updates

For Information only. No report.

COMMUNICATIONS FROM THE COMMISSION

14. Chair's Report

- Chair Felsenthal commented on his year as the Chair.

Commissioner comments:

- Vice Chair Aronberg suggested viewing the City Council Study Session from December 11, 2018, to see an interesting report on the future of transportation and parking.
- The Commission thanked Chair Felsenthal for his efforts during 2018.

COMMUNICATIONS FROM STAFF

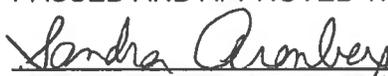
15. Director's report

- A list of 2018 accomplishments were distributed to the Commission.
- A Special Meeting will be posted for January 3, 2018, to tour local graywater facilities.

ADJOURNMENT

Date / Time: December 13, 2018 / 11:54 am

PASSED AND APPROVED THIS 10TH DAY of JANUARY, 2019


Sandra Aronberg, M.D., Chair