

# CITY OF BEVERLY HILLS

455 N. Rexford Drive Beverly Hills, CA 90210 Room 280A

# PUBLIC WORKS COMMISSION REGULAR MEETING MINUTES

October 11, 2018 8:00 am

**MEETING CALLED TO ORDER** 

Date/Time:

October 11, 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, Vincent Chee, Vince Damasse, Shana Epstein, Debby Figoni, Melissa Gomez, Daren Grilley, Michael Hensley, Ilene

Knebel, Chad Lynn, Jeff Muir, Tatiana Szerwinski, Michelle Tse

#### 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:

David Gingold

# APPROVAL OF AGENDA

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

# **CONSENT CALENDAR**

1. Consideration of September 13, 2018, Public Works Commission regular meeting minutes.

Motion:

MOVED by Vice Chair Aronberg, SECONDED by Commissioner

Alpert to adopt the minutes as presented (5-0).

AYES:

Commissioners Alpert, Greer, Wolfe, Vice Chair Aronberg, Chair

Felsenthal

NOES:

None

CARRIED

# REPORTS FROM PRIORITY AGENCIES

Dr. Pressman was not present. Assistant Director Gil Borboa gave a brief MWD Report.

Recordings of the Public Works Commission's meetings are available online at www.beverlyhills.org

#### **CONTINUED BUSINESS**

#### 2. Capital Projects Update

City Engineer Daren Grilley updated the Commission on the Capital Improvement & Major Project items. (This agenda item is receive and file only.) Specifically updated were the oil well plugging project and the Civic Center Drive Reforestation Project. David Smith, Geologist with Lindmark Engineering, commented on the investigation into the possible toxic soil removal.

#### Commissioner comments:

- The Commissioners voiced concern with exceeding the budget of the oil well plugging project.
- There was a discussion about the risk differential between a suspended vs abandoned well.
- The Commission requested continued updates on all decisions made regarding the project. The Commission headed that all decisions should be documented with the School District.
- The Commission requested a map of the wells being plugged in relation to the Metro proposed path.
- The Commission asked to agendize the oil well finances discussion.
- The Commission commented about the soil management plan/removal timeline regarding the reforestation of Civic Center Drive Right of Way.
- The Commission asked about money being returned to the Water Enterprise Fund and if the funds can be directed to a specific place for long term planning.
- There was discussion about the timing of the Burton Way Median design.

# 3. Water Reliability Charges

Director of Public Works, Shana Epstein gave a brief update on the past discussions on this matter. Staff is requesting additional input and direction. One objective is to create a long term water supply. The recommendation is to add the charge to all quantity charges, including irrigation customers. It is important to communicate to the community this funds an insurance policy made up of local water supply. The scenarios were reviewed in detail. Assistant Director or Finance Tatiana Szerwinski noted the bond coverage ratio would still remain above the required 1.25 rating.

# Commissioner comments:

- The Commission asked about the variability in the reserve recapture year and what impact is on reducing the reserves.
- The Commission commented on the subsidy creating the differential between the inside city and outside city.
- The Ad Hoc was concerned with flattening out the rates and suggested a rate increase
  of 1 cent per year for 30 years, reducing the interest costs as much as possible, and
  minimizing the differential between inside and outside city charges.
- The interest fund savings was noted.

Motion: MOVED by Commissioner Greer, SECONDED by Commissioner

Alpert that the Public Works Commission is given the scenarios that they were presented and agrees that option 2a is the one that is most consistent with the principals they are trying to achieve (5-

0).

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

Felsenthal

NOES: None

# CARRIED

The Commission took a break at 9:50 am The Commission returned at 10:04 am

#### 4. Performance Measures

Senior Management Analyst presented the report and information about specific performance measures that are outcome focused in the Public Works Department.

#### Commissioner comments:

- The Commission asked what actions/management practices have been put into place in order to meet the metrics will be taken as a result of the data received.
- The Commission requested further information on state/industry standards and what the targets were based on.
- There was a brief discussion about traffic signal outages and their battery backup capability.
- The Commissioners inquired about the hiring of a dedicated IT person for the Public Works Department.
  - o The Commission is interested in using the collected data to improve the overall systems in the Public Works Department.
- The Commissioners gave feedback on the information to be included in future reports.

# 5. Update - Sub-metering Policy and Residential Irrigation Meters

Assistant Director of Public Works Gil Borboa reported on the timeline of the sub-metering policy recommendation. Staff is requesting the Commission's approval to present to the City Council Liaison and then to the full City Council. In addition, an excessive use policy needs to be developed. The establishment of an irrigation class, and irrigation meter installs were discussed as well as the other initiatives to discuss with the Ad Hoc Committee.

#### Commissioner comments:

 The Commission discussed what conservation initiatives can be proposed to affect all our customers.

Motion: MOVED by Commissioner Alpert, SECONDED by Vice Chair

Aronberg to support the staff recommendation with regard to the

sub-metering (5/0).

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

Felsenthal

NOES: None

CARRIED

# 6. Water Treatment Plant Commissioning and La Brea Status Update

Water Resources Manager Vince Damasse and Assistant Director Gil Borboa gave an update on both items. For the Water Treatment Plant, it was reported that NV5 was chosen as the most qualified firm for the owner's representative. The SOQ (Statement of Qualifications) was also released to identify potential design/build firms.

Staff has also been looking at the viability of other well sites, including the Sand Pit and synagogue sites along La Cienega Blvd. The process to obtain technical specification for an

exploratory well at that location are being prepared. Other potential properties are still being investigated for their possible acquisition and use.

#### Commissioner comments:

- The Commissioners requested further information about the Sand Pit site.
- The Commission voiced concern with the timing of the hiring of the design/build firm and moving forward with the Water Treatment Plant rehabilitation.

#### **NEW BUSINESS**

7. Departmental Update: Solid Waste Program

Solid Waste Manager James Burnley reported on an upcoming waste reduction campaign, waste assessment for customers and updating the regulatory compliance in the program. He also referred to China's import restrictions noted at the September Public Works Commission Meeting. At a recent Ad Hoc Meeting, a possible rate increase request is being evaluated with the current solid waste hauler.

#### Commissioner comments:

- The Commission is concerned about the potential solid waste program cost increase and recommends this item be discussed at the upcoming City Council Liaison Meeting.
- There was a brief discussion about overall compliance, complaints and the diversion rate since Athens took over the solid waste contract.

# PROJECT UPDATES & STATUS REPORTS

8. Water Efficiency Update

Water Conservation Administrator Debby Figoni briefly updated the Commission on the current watering schedule and an upcoming educational irrigation campaign.

9. Specific Information and Department Updates For Information Only.

#### CMMUNICATIONS FROM THE COMMISSION

- 10. Chair's Report
  - Commissioner comments:
    - o Chair Felsenthal reported on the recent Mayor's Cabinet Meeting.

# **COMMUNICATIONS FROM STAFF**

11. Director's report

Director Epstein reviewed the upcoming events.

#### ADJOURNMENT

Date / Time: October 11, 2018 / 12:00 pm

PASSED AND APPROVED THIS 8TH DAY of NOVEMBER, 2018

Jerfold Felsenthal, Chair