



CITY OF BEVERLY HILLS
Telephonic/Video Conference
Beverly Hills, CA 90210

The Beverly Hills City Council / Public Works Commission Liaison Committee

SPECIAL MEETING HIGHLIGHTS

Friday, May 8, 2020
4:00 PM

MEETING CALLED TO ORDER

Date / Time: May 8, 2020/4:00 PM

IN ATTENDANCE: Vice Chair Wunderlich, Councilmember Gold M.D., Assistant City Manager Nancy Hunt-Coffey, Director of Public Works Shana Epstein, Assistant Director of Public Works/Utilities Gil Borboa, City Engineer Daren Grilley, Public Works Manager Michael Hensley, Solid Waste Manager James Burnley, Water Conservation Administrator Debby Figoni, Management Analyst Melissa Gomez, Public Works Commission Chair Joshua Greer, Public Works Commissioner Jerrold Felsenthal, Executive Assistant Ilene Knebel.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Members of the public will be given the opportunity to directly address the Committee on any item listed on the agenda.

Speakers: None

2) Noticing for Solid Waste Rates that would be effective January 1, 2021

- Public Works Director Shana Epstein relayed that there is an updated schedule for the Solid Waste Rates; if not submitted to Council in June then it will be submitted by July prior to noticing.
- HF&H Consultant Laith Ezzet presented the Solid Waste Study Presentation (previously presented to the Public Works Commission) and stated the 5-year phase-in was tentatively chosen to be presented to Council.
 - Various increase scenarios were discussed; increases depend on the bill and the type of restaurant/establishment.
 - No rate adjustments have been done since 2011.
 - The extension of the Athens agreement has been approved by Council until March 2020, and then a new 8 year agreement has been approved starting April 1, 2022.
 - Bin use/allocation was discussed.
- Three scenarios were reviewed. The Commission advised that scenario #2 meets the goals including meeting 50% reserve policy.
 - The cost is spread out over 5 years; after the 5th year, it is a CPI style adjustment.
 - The cost of service drives the differential.
- City Council members suggested delaying implementation for 6 months considering the impact on businesses and requested an analysis of that delay effective date and the wavier of the street resurfacing CIP expenditure for one-year.

3) Update on La Brea Subarea Activation and the Enhancement of the Water Treatment Plant (taken out of order)

- An update was presented on water projects.
- The construction modifications to the Water Treatment Plant are currently out to bid. A mandatory pre-bid meeting occurred with bids due June 2, 2020. Staff indicated the Treatment Plant should be up and running in the summer of 2021.
- Construction photos were shown of the well site at the Coffee Bean and Tea Leaf location.
 - Next steps will be a drill rig will be brought in, equipment will be set up and the pilot well drilling will commence and then flow and quality testing will begin.
- For the Transmission Main - La Cienega Transmission pipeline to be awarded in May.
- Sand Pit Site – This site is located near the entrance to the 10 Freeway/La Cienega Blvd. The site is challenging to work in, due to limited access, but plans are to drill a pilot hole to check viability as a production well. Although not an ideal location, the City currently owns it. Staff is actively seeking other nearby locations to drill.
- Well and pipeline work will continue throughout the summer.
- Staff continues to work from home on all these projects, except for inspectors on construction projects;
- The conveyance line was discussed. It is proposed to be completed close to or at the same time as the Water Treatment Center.
- The Water Treatment Plant is being prepared to add on additional equipment to expand the ability of plant. Operation and cost of the plant was discussed.

4) Article 3 Regarding Mandatory Water Conservation/Water Shortage

- Assistant Director Gil Borboa explained the changes being brought forth are what was to be adopted to the Emergency Water Plan Update. Asking for approval of the amendment and then will be taken to City Council along with the Excessive Water Use Policy.
- There was a discussion about the revenue stabilization rates. This is a revenue neutrality approach so when a drought occurs there are factors that are applied to the water rates that maintain the revenues necessary to maintain the operations of the water system.
- The primary change is the removal of the penalty surcharges that are still in the ordinance and the addition of a baseline reference point. The City Manager would have authority to recommend a baseline to the City Council for approval.
- In addition, a provision was made, in an emergency, to not be required to wait 30 days to implement any changes.
- Clean up language was presented.
- Amendments were taken back to Ad Hoc Committee & presented to the Public Works Commission to work on the baseline reference point.
- Councilmembers inquired about separate irrigation meters and how the numbers were derived. Cost of use was discussed. Revenue loss in the customer class is what is trying to be recovered. This was part of the Prop 218 process.
- Outdoor water use was discussed. Outreach will help people understand cutting outdoor use is most efficient. It was proposed to explain the logic behind the basing numbers on customer class.
- Councilmembers agreed with the removal of the penalty charges, adjustment of the baseline, and the overall construct.
- It was suggested that more detail be added when it is brought forward to City Council.
- It is also important to justify the percentage reductions based on some authority.

5) ADJOURNMENT

Date / Time:

May 8, 2020/ 5:14 PM