

CITIZENS UTILITY ADVISORY BOARD

In-person and Video Meeting
www.milwaukieoregon.gov

MINUTES

January 8, 2024

Present: David Chitsazan, William Johnson, Mary Rowe, Leslie Schockner, Sofie Sherman-Burton

Absent: None

Guest(s): None

Staff: City Engineer Jennifer Garbely
Public Works Director Peter Passarelli
Assistant City Manager Emma Sagor
Accountant Judy Serio

CALL TO ORDER

Passarelli started the meeting at 5:36 pm.

1. INTRODUCTIONS

Committee members and staff introductions.

2. COMMUNITY COMMENTS

None

3. FOLLOW-UP

Review and approval of minutes from December 4, 2023, meeting.

Rowe made a motion to approve the December 4, 2023, minutes as written. **Johnson** seconded the motion. Motion passed with the following vote: Chitsazan, Johnson, Rowe, Schockner, Sherman-Burton voting “aye” (5:0).

Comparable utility rates

Passarelli provided members generic examples of commercial utility accounts; an explanation of the types of commercial rates and how they are calculated was also provided. In the utility rate comparison for residential customers, there was information of other agencies’ staffing levels along with solid waste information. Most of the agencies listed are surface water utilities, compared to Milwaukie which is a groundwater utility. The city maintains the collection system and the city sets the rates.

Clackamas County's WES treatment division works with the city to set the rate that pays for capital costs.

Committee members asked questions of the information provided and discussion ensued throughout this part of the meeting.

4. PRESENTATION ON NEXT STEP IN RATE SETTING PROCESS: HISTORICAL DATA AND FORECASTING ASSUMPTIONS

Passarelli presented revenue projections for water, wastewater, stormwater, SSMP and SAFE, which do not have any assumptions built-in, based on customer class and meter size only. A detailed conversation of water-based charges included a description of each water-based user charge. Fire service is commercial and multi-family accounts who are required to provide sprinklers, charges based on pipe size. Deduct meter are industrial customers where the units of water are removed from the wastewater calculation because water is consumed into the product the company makes. Irrigation accounts differ between commercial and residential customers. The calculation of projected water revenues was presented. The only difference are low water users who consume less than five units of water.

Wastewater revenue is based on winter average and a base charge. There are several customer classifications and a treatment charge, which is paid to Clackamas County WES division.

Stormwater revenue is based on a residential flat rate; commercial and multi-family is calculated using the impervious surface area.

SAFE (Safe Access for Everyone) and SSMP (Street Surface Maintenance Program) charges are trip generated based; residential is a flat fee and commercial and multi-family are dependent on type of use that fall under different categories. These fees are adjusted each biennium based on Seattle CCI (city cost index) 5-year average.

Passarelli explained the considerations when projecting rates which includes anticipating growth in residential housing and not anticipating much commercial growth.

Garbely highlighted a few of the upcoming budget's CIP (capital improvement plan) projects including Monroe Greenway, Harvey Street improvements, King Road improvements, Logus Road, Stanley improvements, water engineering services, and Stanley reservoir.

Passarelli added the Stanley reservoir project will be using ARPA (American Rescue Plan Act) money; the project is slated for October 2024 – April 2025. The SCADA (Supervisory Control and Data Acquisition) project is scheduled to be completed by June 2024.

5. CUAB BYLAWS

Members agreed to review and edit bylaws via email.

6.ADJOURN

Chitsazan made a motion to adjourn the meeting. **Schockner** seconded the motion. Motion passed with the following vote: Chitsazan, Johnson, Rowe, Schockner, Sherman-Burton voting "aye" (5:0).

The meeting adjourned at 7:35 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Judy Serio

Judy Serio, Secretary / Accountant