

City of Folsom
Utility Commission
Action Minutes
January 17, 2012, 6:30 pm

CALL TO ORDER

Chairman Ryan called the meeting to order at 6:33 p.m.

ROLL CALL

Present: Commissioners: Bringgold, Cook, Oosterman, Ryan

Absent: Commissioners: Davis, Kahlon, Standley

Staff Present: Richard Lorenz, Public Works/Utilities Director; Stormy Hinkley, Utilities Department

Others Present:

1. **MINUTES**

No minutes for approval.

2. **BUSINESS FROM THE FLOOR**

No business from the floor.

3. **NEW BUSINESS**

a. Chair/Vice-Chair Nominations

Staff and Commissioners discussed the need to postpone the Nomination of the Chair and Vice-Chair until all Commissioners could be present to vote.

Bringgold motion to postpone the Chair and Vice-Chair Nominations until all Commissioners could be present to vote, Oosterman second the motion.

AYES: Bringgold, Cook, Oosterman, Ryan

NOES:

ABSTAIN:

ABSENT: Davis, Kahlon, Standley

4. **OLD BUSINESS**

a. Water/Sewer/Solid Waste Rate Update

Lorenz presented that City Council approved the rate adjustment for water and that no changes were made to solid waste or sewer. Water rate adjustments went into effect in December and most likely showed up on the January bill. The water rate adjustment was a two year adjustment.

Commissioner Ryan asked for the approved amount.

Lorenz stated he did not bring that rate schedule with him but it was the amount the commission had recommended and that same amount was approved by the City Council.

b. Utilities Reports

i. Sewer Update

Lorenz stated that there was a small adjustment in the Regional Sanitation component of the bill that we collected and that is also reflected in the bill this month. He discussed with Commission the Regional Sanitation District lawsuit with the State and what that may mean for rate payers in the future.

Commissioner Ryan asked if this impacts the City's current rate structure. Lorenz stated no, it may be three to five years out. He will keep the Commission updated as information is available.

i. Water Update

Lorenz gave an update on the fixed network. All connections in the City are now metered and data has been coming back to the City. That has allowed us to review the data and do QA/QC work on the system. We are in position to have comparative billing for residential customers appear on the March bill, representing January usage.

Commissioner Oosterman requested that the City not show on the bill how the resident usage compares to their neighbor. He finds this very annoying.

Lorenz assured him that the City will not be including that information on the bill.

Commissioner Oosterman asked about water leaks in the streets of his neighborhood and if they were a result of the metering process or was this due to normal wear.

Lorenz stated that in that neighborhood the pipes are old plastic pipes and that is the issue. In the interest of economics, a decision was made to fix the leaks as they come up rather than trying to go in and replace the whole neighborhood at once.

Commissioner Ryan requested a briefing at the next meeting on what information would be appearing on the March bill.

Commissioner Bringgold asked if there was any news on water rationing. Lorenz stated that he has heard general information but he did not have any specifics and he would come back to the commission next meeting with an update.

ii. Solid Waste Update

Lorenz stated that Solid Waste has purchased new trucks and they should arrive sometime this fall. He discussed The Blue Ribbon Committee and the recommendation it made to City Council to consider eliminating holiday trash collection as a cost savings measure. The Solid Waste division is in the process of looking at how that would be structured and what the actual cost savings would be.

Commissioner Bringgold asked if the savings would actually amount to much. Lorenz stated that staff had not quantified that yet. We can quantify what it cost to collect on the holidays but we haven't quantified the additional cost to roll over collection to the following day.

Commissioner Ryan asked what savings is the City looking for, is it a \$50,000 or \$150,000, dollar number. Lorenz said he would guess that it would be between \$0 and \$100,000.

Commissioner Ryan asked if the goal would be to try to generate some efficiency so that solid waste is not continuing to grow. Lorenz stated yes, it would help the department potentially reduce rates or eliminate the possibility of future rate increases and that type of thing.

Lorenz and Commission discussed transfer stations and how it may save money in fuel charges and salaries paid out in overtime.

Commissioner Ryan requested that at the March meeting, staff and Commission further discuss the development of a transfer station and the possibility of once again using the PIA for such purposes.

5. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 7:07 p.m.

Submitted,

Stormy Hinkley, Administrative Assistant

Attachments: Agenda