

City of Folsom
Utility Commission
Action Minutes
September 17, 2013 6:30 pm

CALL TO ORDER

Chairman Ryan called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m.

ROLL CALL

Present: Commissioners: Salmon, Gaylord, Davis, Ryan, Miklos

Absent: Commissioners: Kahlon, Kozlowski

Staff Present: David Miller, Community Development/Public Works Director
Michelle Parks, Administrative Assistant

Others Present: None

1. MINUTES

Davis motioned to approve the minutes of June 18, 2013 meeting, and Miklos seconded the motion.

AYES: Davis, Ryan, Gaylord, Salmon, Miklos
NOES: None
ABSTAIN: None
ABSENT: Kahlon, Kozlowski

Ryan reminded the Commission members of the need to complete their ethics training session online and submit their certificate to the City Clerk's Department once completed.

2. BUSINESS FROM THE FLOOR

None

3. NEW BUSINESS

Director Miller addressed the commission and advised that Kent Gary and another staff member were at a state-wide conference on recycling in Los Angeles, which is why Mr. Miller is presenting to the commission.

4. OLD BUSINESS

Solid Waste Update

Miller advised the Commission that he would be providing a big picture view of what projects are underway, as well as the goals of the Solid Waste division. From July 1st to the end of October, the City will be spending \$5 million in paving work on our streets. Additionally, there is a beautification project underway at Greenback and Madison Avenue, consisting of landscaping, decorative paving and a new City sign that is actually a granite boulder with black inlay and our City's name in black outlining. Hopefully, Intel will also finish out their frontage landscaping.

For Solid Waste, fees are being evaluated in comparison to costs and whether it makes sense for the City to perform its own fleet maintenance or to contract such work to an outside agency. The trucks are so large that they must be sent off to various vendors, based on the service that is needed. Another area that is being researched is green technology, for both Transit buses as well as Solid Waste trucks. The plug-in vehicle technology for smaller vehicles, along with PEV charging stations in the parking garage are another avenue the City is pursuing in an effort to reduce dependence on fossil fuels. Tesla has placed stations at the Folsom Outlets that will load up 300 miles worth of energy in less than an hour. Grant funding is in the process of being secured for a household hazardous waste facility. Upon completion, we will have a new facility to sort and store hazardous waste.

There are quite a few subdivisions coming up on the horizon, so the department will continue to evaluate route efficiency and it will be explained later in the meeting how that has been impacted by certain areas of town. Food waste is an area that is a big deal; Intel has a huge cafeteria and produces a great deal of food waste, which requires a very intensive processing method and requires a lot of facilities, which the City does not currently have. We have allowed our vendor, Atlas, to go ahead under a non-competitive agreement to make sure they take care of the need for this service until we can evaluate the overall needs of the City and then select a vendor based upon quality of service, cost and efficiency. The City has no desire to enter into the business of food waste.

Miller further stated that the City is looking at accommodating new accounts and services due to growth and state mandates. The plan for the corporation yard relocation relative to the South of 50 Area is in the planning stages; there is a proposal from GenCorp for some property they own and so there will be a team going out to do a site evaluation to see if it will meet the needs of the City. The City has been meeting with the landowners south of 50 and will try to get the corporation yard site involved in those negotiations. They owe about 27% of the population of the cost of the facility and they will have a fee that will be collected with each building permit. The department is developing and siting a solid waste transfer facility but the difficulty in placement is that if it is convenient to the population, no one wants it but if it were moved out of town, it would be on the way to the dump, anyway.

Ryan inquired as to whether there were any potential sites already identified. Miller answered in the affirmative and stated that the City had purchased a site when the Crossing was built. It is located near the corner of Briggs Ranch Drive after passing over the bridge and prior to turning right onto East Natoma Drive. The only problem would be access for the trucks to enter and exit the site. There are a couple of locations that are on the west side of Prairie City Road, midway between Highway 50 and White Rock Road that are under consideration.

Davis requested an explanation of the concept of the transfer station and the advantage it offers versus the current process in place now.

Miller replied that with a transfer station, the refuse can be collected locally, have some separation performed on site and makes the off hauling and the cost to the City at the landfill less expensive. The collection can occur in one place instead of taking each trash truck to the landfill, utilizing a large 18-wheeler with trailer, which holds several loads, resulting in fewer miles traveled.

Some of the recent accomplishments of the department include implementation of an online neighborhood clean-up and bulky item appointment system. In the past, residents would put their items out and they would stay out for too long; they now have the option of scheduling their pick-up, whereby reducing the time items are kept on the street. Additionally, the department has completed purchases of several refuse trucks between last and this year. It takes quite a while for them to be wrapped and painted and ready to go; by the end of the calendar year there will be another 4 or 5 new trucks. The ultimate goal is to replace the entire fleet, as a study showed the City's trucks were being run too long and as a result, big ticket items such as engine rebuilds, transmissions, and hydraulic systems required maintenance and replacement, resulting in increased costs.

In Recycling, the City's participation meets the mandatory requirements of state law and every 4 years the City's waste stream reduction, which is when recyclable goods are removed from the waste stream, is evaluated. The City has not only met but exceeded those standards.

Miller advised that prior to discussing development south of 50, he wished to bring the Commission up to date on development that is currently underway north of 50; on Iron Point Road, just past the high school before ISO, D.R. Horton is building homes. Signature Homes is located all the way down Iron Point Road and will provide an additional 250 homes in that area. The department has prepared an interested presentation on housing trends for the City Council meeting on the 24th of this month regarding the sizes of homes as well as lots. There are some significant challenges to Solid Waste crews with some of the houses having alleyways going to the garages, smaller spaces and more narrow access points. There will be more custom homes with the custom lots up on the hill being sold or very near to being sold. New Home development next to Raley's off Green Valley and Blue Ravine Road had the opening of their second phase last week that Miller attended. He inquired as to the number homes being built and was told twenty-four homes were under construction. As a comparison, in July of this year, 57 building permits were pulled; in all of 2011, only 56 permits were pulled. Miller inquired as to whether any of the committee members had any further questions for him.

Ryan requested additional information at the next meeting regarding solid waste vehicles' routes in the newly constructed residential areas.

Davis requested more information regarding the water situation for the City when Environmental & Water Resources Director Yasutake presents the next meeting.

5. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 8:10 p.m.

Submitted,

Michelle Parks, Administrative Assistant