

City of Folsom
Utility Commission
Action Minutes
January 21, 2014 6:30 pm

CALL TO ORDER

Chairman Ryan called the meeting to order at 6:31 p.m.

ROLL CALL

Present: Commissioners: Ryan, Davis, Kozlowski, Miklos, Mutchler

Absent: Commissioners: Gaylord, Salmon

Staff Present: Marcus Yasutake, Environmental & Water Resources Director
Michelle Parks, Administrative Assistant

Others Present: None

1. MINUTES

Miklos motioned to approve the minutes of the September 17, 2013 meeting and Kozlowski seconded the motion.

AYES: Ryan, Miklos, Kozlowski

NOES: None

ABSTAIN: Davis, Mutchler

ABSENT: Gaylord, Salmon

2. BUSINESS FROM THE FLOOR

None

3. DIRECTOR'S REPORT

a. Fiscal Year 2014/2015 Budget

Director Yasutake addressed the Commission members regarding the budget for water division. He briefly outlined the schedule for the process, beginning with internal reviews on February 10th through the 21st with department heads and the City Manager to go over O&M and CIP budgets. The due date is March 10th with final decisions by the City Manager at the end of March. In the beginning of April, the proposed budget will be presented, there will be a public hearing on April 22nd and the CIP budget will be presented on May 13th with a public hearing on May 27th and final adoption of both budgets June 10th. Yasutake stated this would be his first budget year as Director. Chair Ryan asked if it would be possible for the Commission to see the budget, as they have in years past. Yasutake answered in the affirmative, stating he would coordinate with David Miller,

Community Development Department Director to present all three budgets: water, sewer and solid waste to the Commission.

Yasutake addressed the Commission, calling their attention to a handout from the Folsom Municipal Code that he had provided to the Administrative Assistant and she provided to each one of the Commissioners about the Utility Commission, with the five appointed members, two at-large and one of the roles is to establish a forum to provide advice to the city council and the city manager regarding utility rates and during our budget process and any rate studies or rates that the Commission may adopt.

Yasutake also stated that coordination of projects between departments, specifically Public Works and Environmental and Water Resources. Discussions between David Miller, Director Yasutake and the City Manager have taken place to avoid overlaying the street then six months later, Utilities comes in and digs it up to repair a pipe.

4. NEW BUSINESS

a. Water Supply Update

Director Yasutake provided information regarding the conditions of the water supply for the City of Folsom since the announcement of Stage 3 and the 20% mandatory reduction. Yasutake went on to say that one of the challenges the City faces is that San Juan Water District serves a portion of the City so the different stages don't always line up. Meetings have taken place and will continue with staff from Folsom, San Juan Water District and the City of Roseville. Yasutake went on to explain the different stages and how that may impact the construction in the area, as they may have to get find creative ways of getting water, from using water that has been flushed out of a hydrant or purchasing water from Golden State Water Company or the City of Roseville. Davis interjected and stated it was his belief that EID (El Dorado Irrigation District) has recycled water and Ryan encouraged Yasutake to continue with suggestions such as the ones made by Davis. Yasutake continued with his presentation on the water supply, specifically discussing the many upcoming projects focused on bring alternate water supply to Folsom. Yasutake stated the City is exploring all avenues, including one with GSWC (Golden State Water Company) as well as working with Aerojet to find alternatives for their non-potable water, which the City is currently supplying. Utilizing their groundwater is one of the alternative methods suggested to meet that demand. Yasutake stated he what he suggested to the City Council, which was the need to develop, on a permanent basis, some sort of redundant supply, such taking treated groundwater and pumping it all the way to the water treatment plant. He advised that this approach would require substantial infrastructure and financial considerations. Another possibility would be groundwater well drilling, as was done back in 2005 when the City completed an initial study right behind Mexquite. Right around the corner in the Golf Links and Silberhorn area is where we are looking to drill another well. Miklos inquired as to what effect, if any, obtaining alternative water delivery methods would have on the rates and would any additional expenses incurred by the City be passed along to the ratepayers. Yasutake replied with an explanation of the different sources of funding that would be available to the City, should they choose to move forward. Yasutake stated it would be prudent to exhaust any funding sources before going to the customers and asking for a rate increase; that is what should be expected by all Folsom residents.

Yasutake continued his presentation, reminding the Commission of the declaration of drought by the city on December 23, 2013 a 20% reduction was issued. Kozlowski inquired as to how the 20% reduction is measured and Yasutake stated that the reduction is in overall usage. Kozlowski inquired as to how the stage 3 alert will impact homeowners with pools; Yasutake explained the Folsom Municipal Code addresses emptying and refilling pools, where substantial amounts of

water are being used, is not allowable. There will be day to day monitoring of what is going into the lake and what is coming out of it, in order to track the levels.

The City will be joining Roseville and San Juan Water District on a trip to Washington D.C. next week to meet with representatives from Reclamation headquarters as well as the Fisher Agency headquarters in an effort to advise them as to the current situation in California and seek assistance in obtaining funding for projects relating to alternative water supply and other water conservation issues. The State water Resource Control Board, who has been given authority to curtail water rights; however, Folsom is fortunate in that we have pre-1914 water rights amounting to 27,000 acre feet and the State has no jurisdiction over these rights. Lastly, the City faces dry year conditions, which will continue to impact our water supply. There are a few things that residents can do to help conserve water such as running the dishwasher and washing machine with full loads only, turning off automatic sprinklers, call the water conservation division to report water waste, leaks or to set up an appointment for them to come out and do a water audit on your home. They will look at fixtures, toilets, showerheads, nozzles and identify potential savings. They are available by e-mail waterconservation@folsom.ca.us or by phone at (916) 355-7252.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:37 p.m.

Submitted,

Michelle Parks, Administrative Assistant

Attachments: Agenda; Draft Minutes 9/17/13 Regular Meeting