

Water & Wastewater Subcommittee Meeting

1/27/2022
6:00 PM to 6:25 PM
Remote via Zoom

Meeting Minutes

ALSO POSTED AS SELECT BOARD MEETING (AS WATER & SEWER COMMISSIONERS)

Attendees: J. Engel, S. Player, B. Kubaska, J. Bourque, B. Craft
V. Halmen, J. Parkhurst, R. Leczynski, E. Sadoway, D. Lewellyn
L. Alexson, W. Whitmore

J. Engel called the meeting to order at 6:02 pm.

Agenda

Citizen Queries

Chair

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Discussion: None

Conclusions:

Action items:

Person responsible:

Deadline:

Water & Wastewater Rate Discussion V. Halmen

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Discussion: Water and Wastewater FY23 rate increases were discussed and supported at the Jan. 20th subcommittee meeting as part of the budget discussion. This discussion focused on the seasonal water rate structure. V. Halmen explained the proposed continuation of the existing residential seasonal rate structure. The residential summer rate is proposed at 1.5 times the base rate which is proposed to be \$13.62 per 100 cubic feet, resulting in a seasonal rate of \$20.43 per 100 cubic feet of water.

L. Alexson voiced concern over inequities of the structure due to a reduction assumption factor applied to the residential winter rate that is not applied to the commercial customers. It was explained that this factor is applied each winter due to actual water use fluctuations in the residential customer class. The factor ensures revenue targets are met.

J. Engel reviewed data analysis that shows if customers follow conservative use patterns in the summer, their annual water cost is less that if they are billed the base/commercial rate year-round. The charges to the higher use customers subsidize conservative customers.

W. Whitmore supports the structure and commented on the difficulty of hitting revenue targets. He inquired about ascending block structures. J. Engel described his extensive research on the topic.

It was agreed that more rate structure options be explored by the subcommittee.

Conclusions: V. Halmen reviewed all proposed rate changes: water base rate increase, water seasonal rates, wastewater rate increase and septage rate increase. B. Kubaska moved to support all proposed rate modifications, S. Player seconded. Roll call vote unanimous in favor.

Action items:	Person responsible:	Deadline:

Other Business

V. Halmen

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Discussion: None.

Conclusions:

Action items:	Person responsible:	Deadline:

Additional Information

B. Craft moved to adjourn the meeting, B. Kubaska seconded. A roll call vote was unanimous in favor. Meeting was adjourned at 6:56 pm.