



City Council Study Session
October 26, 2015 - 4:30 PM
Auburn City Hall
MINUTES

I. CALL TO ORDER

Deputy Mayor Holman called the meeting to order at 5:30 p.m. in the Council Chambers of Auburn City Hall located at 25 West Main Street in Auburn.

A. Roll Call

City Councilmembers present: Deputy Mayor Holman, Rich Wagner, Bill Pelozo, Largo Wales, Wayne Osborne, Claude DaCorsi and Yolanda Trout.

City officials and staff members present included: Mayor Nancy Backus, City Attorney Dan Heid, Finance Director Shelley Coleman, Community Development and Public Works Director Kevin Snyder, Assistant Director of Engineering and City Engineer Ingrid Gaub, Environmental Services Manager Chris Andersen, Utilities Engineering Manager Lisa Tobin, Water Utilities Engineer Susan Fenhaus, Sewer Utility Engineer Bob Elwell, Transportation Manager Pablo Para, Police Commander Mike Hirman, IT Operations Manager Ashley Riggs, and Deputy City Clerk Shawn Campbell.

II. AGENDA ITEMS FOR COUNCIL DISCUSSION

A. Comprehensive Sewer Plan (10 Minute Presentation/10 Minute Q&A) (Snyder)

Utilities Engineering Manager Tobin and Sewer Utility Engineer Elwell presented the Comprehensive Sewer Plan update. Sewer Utility Engineer Elwell explained since the last update the current update has been reviewed by the Planning Commission who conducted a public hearing, reviewed by adjacent utility purveyors and other government agencies as a part of the SEPA review, and separately submitted to the King County Utility Review Committee and the Department of Ecology.

The significant accomplishments from the 2009 plan include replacement of two pump stations, decommissioning of two other pump stations, replacing the SCADA system and installing back up power on all pump stations. The City continues to identify old and failing pipes for replacement as stand alone projects and replacing sewer pipes during road construction projects.

The significant changes from the 2009 plan to the 2015 plan include updating the hydraulic model calibrated to King County's Decennial Flow Monitoring, greater emphasis on asset management and increased monitoring.

The 2015 Sewer Plan includes seven new projects and three ongoing programs. The Planning Commission has reviewed the plan and suggested the City amend the policy allowing the City to repair privately owned grinder pumps.

Councilmember Wagner confirmed if the City repaired a privately owned grinder pump the City will lien the property for the cost of the repair.

Councilmember Osborne asked how many pressure system lines the City still utilize. Sewer Utility Engineer Elwell stated there are approximately 100 pressure system lines in use.

Councilmember DaCorsi asked how the City monitors the failure of grinder pumps. Sewer Utility Engineer Elwell stated the City does not monitor, property owners call the City if there is a sewer back up.

Councilmember Wagner asked about future planning concerning the Muckleshoot Indian Tribe and the Lake Tapps area. Sewer Utility Engineer Elwell stated the City has a policy regarding providing sewer service to adjacent properties. Director Snyder indicated the question would be a broader policy question. The Comprehensive Plan is a starting point for future discussions.

B. Comprehensive Water Plan (20 Minute Presentation/25 Minute Q&A) (Snyder)

Water Utility Engineer Fenhaus reviewed the significant project accomplishments from the 2009 Comprehensive Water Plan including a new Lakeland Hills Reservoir 6, Lakeland Hills and Academy East booster pump stations, Well 4 chlorination and back-up power installed, Lakeland Hills Reservoir 5 improvements and Well 1 improvements. Of the 21 items included in the 2009 plan, 19 items have been completed.

The significant changes from the 2009 plan to the 2015 plan included new policies focused on business practices, completion of Tacoma water purchase and interties providing additional supply and redundancy to the system, new regulatory requirements increasing monitoring and asset management.

The Fulmer Wellfield includes City Wells 2, 6, and 7. A study found corrosion and iron manganese clogging. The proposed solution is to operate the wells continuously at variable rates.

The proposed significant projects in the 2015 Comprehensive Water Plan include Coal Creek Springs Collector improvements, West Hills Springs improvements, Green River Pump Station backup power, Academy 1 Pump Station improvements, Coal Creek Springs 24" transmission main and advanced metering infrastructure.

Councilmember Wagner stated the Department of Ecology has a "use it or lose it" policy regarding water rights. He asked if the City was in danger of losing any water rights. Water Utility Engineer Fenhaus stated the City has plans to use all of the City's water rights.

C. Boeing Auburn Facility Groundwater Contamination Update (20 Minute Presentation/10 Minute Q&A) (Snyder)

Representatives from the Washington State Department of Ecology will provide an update to City Council on the status and findings to date of the Boeing Auburn facility remedial investigation for groundwater contamination.

Environmental Services Manager Andersen introduced Neal Hines from the Washington State Department of Ecology. Mr. Hines stated the Department of Ecology has three areas with new data. The areas investigated include groundwater, surface water and air quality. The Department of Ecology will continue to monitor these three areas. The next step in the clean up effort will be a feasibility study followed by a cleanup action plan, implementation of the plan and then continued monitoring.

Councilmember Wales asked should the plume reach Mill Creek if the Environmental Protection Agency would require additional action. Mr. Hines stated there will be additional testing but there will already be a contingency in place.

Councilmember Wagner asked if it is known how much contaminated fluid was released. Mr. Hines stated it is not known how much was originally released. Presently there 10 to 20 gallons in the ground.

Councilmember Trout asked who is covering costs of the clean up. Mr. Hines stated the cost recovery is being paid by Boeing.

- D. Angie O'Neill and Brittany Miller, students of the Masters of Social Work Program, University of Washington to brief the City Council on their advocacy project (15 Minute Presentation)

Angie O'Neill and Brittany Miller, Master of Social Works Students at the University of Washington, presented to Council their concerns about the high school drop out rate and what the community can do to help prevent students from dropping out of high school.

Mayor Backus suggested the team provide their presentation to the Auburn School Board.

- E. GIS Day Presentation (15 Minute Presentation/5 Minute Q&A) (Haugan)

Information and Technology Operations Manager Riggs presented to Council Auburn GIS, (Geographic Information System). He explained the program is a computer based system designed to store, edit and share spatial data. With GIS you can integrate, visualize, analyze and share the data.

Councilmember Wagner confirmed the public can access this program and data.

Councilmember Osborne stated this is one of the programs that has been cancelled at Green River College.

Councilmember Wales stated she attended an Association of Washington Cities conference where the City of Auburn's GIS program was mentioned and spoke highly of.

- F. Water Supply Strategies (20 Minute Presentation/15 Minute Q&A) (Snyder)

Utilities Engineering Manager Tobin, Water Utility Engineer Fenhaus and Laura Camrick from Carrollo Engineers presented the Water Supply Strategies to Council.

The City of Auburn has purchased water from Tacoma Water to supplement

the City's water supply. Tacoma Water has offered the City options to purchase additional water. The City will need to decide to either purchase the additional water or invest additional funds into the City of Auburn water system. Staff is recommending investing additional resources into the City water system.

The City has been rehabilitating the City water sources so the City should have sufficient supply by 2017. It is important to ensure the City has sufficient redundant supplies to meet the growing demand in the future.

Councilmember Osborne said in 2012 Council was informed it was more cost effective to purchase the water from Tacoma than for the City to produce additional water and questioned what has changed from 2012 to now to make it more cost effective keep to the water in-house. Assistant Director Gaub explained the rates quoted in this presentation are specific to Coal Creek Springs, each water source will have a different rate. The City has done a very detailed evaluation of the system and the cost for each system.

Councilmember Wales asked how the department knows the Coal Creek Well capacity can be doubled. Utilities Engineering Manager Tobin stated the well is fed by the Lake Tapps uplands aquifer, which has sufficient supply.

Councilmember Osborne asked since the City has not completed an analysis to confirm the Coal Creek Springs Well could double capacity, will the City complete the analysis prior to a decision on the purchase of Tacoma Water. Utilities Engineering Manager Tobin reported the City did a hydrological study that indicated the well would be able to increase production.

Councilmember Osborne asked if the City is still planning on moving forward with the Well 7 upgrades. Utilities Engineering Manager Tobin said the cost of the upgrades are still less then purchasing water from Tacoma Water.

Deputy Mayor Holman stated both sources have environmental concerns. Utilities Engineering Manager Tobin stated ground water has significantly less impacted by climate changes.

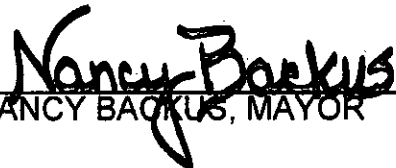
III. OTHER DISCUSSION ITEMS

Councilmember Pelozo requested to have an item added to a future Study Session regarding evaluation of the Study Session process.

IV. ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business before the Council, the meeting adjourned at 7:01 p.m.

APPROVED this 19th day of September, 2016.



NANCY BACKUS, MAYOR



Shawn Campbell, Deputy City Clerk

