



PUBLIC WORKS ADVISORY COMMISSION

MINUTES

CITY OF LANGLEY

September 23, 2020 - 3pm

112 Second Street
P.O. Box 366
Langley, WA 98260
(360) 221-4246

I. Call to order

Dominique Emerson called to order the regular meeting of the Public Works Advisory Commission at 3:00 PM on September 9, 2020 online via Zoom.

II. Roll call

In attendance: Dominique Emerson, Randi Perry, Stan Berryman, Tom Fox, Jim Dobberfuhr, Fred Lundahl, Rose Hughes, Darlene Baldwin and Peter Morton.

III. Approval of the Agenda

Tom made a motion to approve agenda. Second by Jim. Motion passed unanimously.

IV. New Business

- 1) Randi presented the Capital Improvement Plans for Drinking Water, Sewer and Stormwater Utilities. The majority of the work for 2021 will be funded either by the Langley Improvement Project (LIP) grant or bond. LIP-13 will be funded by water capital reserve fund (405) and LIP 14 will be funded by sewer capital reserve fund (408). \$50,000 for unspecified storm water improvements is requested from stormwater capital reserves (407).

MOTION: Fred made a motion to approve the 3 capital improvement plans. Second made by Tom. Motion passed unanimously.

- 2) Randi presented staff recommended 2021 rates for Water, Sewer and Storm.
 - a) Water recommendation 6% for rates and participation. The water comprehensive plan project timeline was shifted because the bond passed. In order to take advantage of the economies of scale LIP-13 was moved to 2021 which is more expensive. There is significant capital need following the completion of the LIP. 6% rate increase is needed for long range savings in order to complete future projects. As what isn't used for operations transfers to capital for future use. The participation rate in use is based off the 2012 Water Plan and doesn't reflect the current system asset cash value or capital project needs. Discussion took place regarding the variable commodity charge in the differing classes of customers. Further investigation is needed.
 - b) Sewer recommendation 8% for rates and participation. The Sewer Comprehensive plan was completed in 2015 and to date 1 project and 1 partial project has been completed. The plan recommends 15% increase. The Capital reserve has now accumulated funding to start planning a project per year. While there has been little project on the projects list the passage of the bond removes 5 projects from the capital funding bucket and allows for 1 large project to be completed taking advantage of the economies of scale.
 - c) Stormwater recommendation is 6% for rates. The Stormwater Comprehensive plan was completed in 2009. The LIP bond/grant funding will cover 5 capital projects. There are 5 remaining projects. Much discussion took place regarding the annual cost of these increases to single family residents and the effects the increases have on affordability to meet the City's Comprehensive goals. Assistance programs for sewer and storm water rates were discussed. It was recommended that construction inflation be noted to be sure it is known that is now factored into future savings plans for the out-year projects.

MOTION: Tom made a motion to approve the staff recommended rates as presented. Second by Fred. Motion passed unanimously.

V. Announcements-

The Capital Improvement Plans and Rate recommendations will be presented at City Council October 5, 2020.

Next Board Meeting Wednesday October 7, 2020 pm (Virtual-Zoom).

VI. Adjournment

Dominique Emerson adjourned the meeting at approximately 4:36pm.

Minutes submitted by Randi Perry