

MINUTES - ENVIRONMENTAL COUNCIL COMMITTEE MEETING 8/28/08

The meeting was called to order @ 6:02 PM, Thursday, August 28, 2008, in the North Conference Room @ 21630 11th Avenue South, Des Moines with the following in attendance:

Council Members

Scott Thomasson – Chairman
Dave Kaplan

City Staff

Tony Piasecki, City Manager
Lorri Ericson, Assistant City Manager
Loren Reinhold – Presenting
Grant Fredricks - Director PB&PW
Erika Sullivan – Administrative Assistant

Meeting Agenda:

1. Review of SWM Rate Ordinance
2. Update on Public Works Yard Remediation
2. Review of SWM 2009-2014 CIP

----- 1. **Review of SWM Rate Ordinance:**

- Staff proposed \$10.42 to get us where we need to be and a CPI adjustment of \$0.67 for NPDES, which is a total increase of \$11.09. Staff requested the rate of \$11.09 for Capital Improvement Plan (CIP) and operations.
 - Des Moines current code uses the projected rate, and the new ordinance would change to the actual rate going back 3 years. \$7.79 and \$0.82 are included in the current ordinance (per residence).
 - Consumer Price Index (CPI) in June 2008 is up 5.8%. Staff proposed a catch up rate increase of \$0.19.
- Committee members are open to raising SWM rates, but concerned about the analysis using CPI. Staff used CPI as part of the labor piece. Committee members asked for hard numbers for projects and a revenue requirement for CIP.
- NPDES grant from the Dept. of Ecology pays 25% of the program cost, and discussed NPDES in-house capabilities versus consultant support.
- SWM increase of \$0.67 would cover new projects and \$0.59 would maintain our current levels of service. New rates from the Association of Washington Cities are not currently available.
- Staff suggested reviewing the projects (numbers and operations), and then set the rate accordingly.
- Committee members want to see how staff arrived at the rate, and then bring the proposed Ordinance to Council on September 25, 2008.
- Discussed questions regarding when SWM fees are due for commercial/residential projects:
 - When the developer finalizes the plat?
 - When we issue the Certificate of Occupancy?
 - Would an adjustment to the DMMC be required?
 - How do other jurisdictions determine when SWM fees are due?
- Committee members want to avoid creating complexity, and a clear delineation is to charge the SWM fee when the plat is finalized.

2. **Update on Public Works Yard Remediation**

- Copies of the AMEC Scope of Services for 2008 and their Groundwater Remediation Action Plan (*both documents are dated 8/27/08*) were handed out to each member of the Committee.
- Staff said we have made significant progress related to the fuel spill 16 years ago.
Accomplishments included:
 - Excavation, tank removal and vapor extraction;
 - soils are close to clean-up levels;

- plume shrank; and
- only 2 out of 7 wells still read contaminated.
- Midway Sewer sent a Notice to Comply and no permit to discharge affluent into their system.
- Midway Sewer wants to back charge for one year and have the City obtain a Dept. of Ecology permit.
- Anticipate most of the work completed in 2009 with quarterly monitoring. Estimated cost is \$150,000 for both years drawn from the self-insurance fund. The fund draw needs to be discussed with Finance.

3. **Review of SWM 2009-2014 CIP:**

- SWM assumes a 30% contribution and the new \$11.09 rate as discussed in the Review of SWM Rate Ordinance.
- Hook-up fees may jump to \$200,000 for the business park (impervious areas).
- Staff anticipates \$500,000 in fees over 5 years as a conservative estimate.
- Committee members requested staff continue to be conservative with projections.
- Staff anticipates \$60,000 in fees for 2009, and Committee members agreed with \$75,000 in fees for 2010.
- Committee members want to ensure that one-time funds are spent on one-time expenses.
- Discussed the 24th Ave. pipeline and a possible school district bond (Parkside Elementary).
- North fork of the McSorley Creek pipe install project – adjacent homes are getting flooded and this is downstream of Parkside Elementary.
 - Discussed diverting to a 24" pipe;
 - drainage coming from the west; and
 - hiring a consultant to evaluate the area.
- Operating transfers of \$174,000 to cover SWM landslide at Des Moines Memorial Drive (DMMD).
- Committee members requested staff to check the amount authorized by Council for the SWM landslide at DMMD. Show what was approved versus the actual cost.

Discussion for the next meeting:

- Highline Water District Comprehensive Plan and invite Dan Caldwell.

Adjourned @ 7:15 PM

Respectfully submitted by: Erika Sullivan, Administrative Assistant