

MINUTES
UTILITY ADVISORY BOARD
March 7th, 2019
5:15 pm

Members Present: Leon Vance, Chair; Geoff Larson, Vice-Chair; Bryan Farrell; Grant Ritter, Andrew Campbell

Staff Present: Beth Weldon – Mayor, Mike Vigue, Brian McGuire, John Bohan, Autumn Sapp, Catherine Foxwell

I. CALL TO ORDER

Meeting was called to order at 5:18 pm.

II. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

There were no additions or objections to the agenda. Agenda was approved.

III. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

A. January 10th, 2019, final UAB Meeting Minutes

Addition to show Andrew Campbell was in attendance.

Minutes are approved with above corrections.

IV. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

No one from the public was present.

V. ACTION ITEMS

Change of UAB meeting venue needed to be decided. The new water utility shop located at 2520 Barrett Ave. has been determined as the new meeting location for all meetings going forward.

VI. INFORMATION ITEMS

A. Mr. Bohan reviewed and explained the Water & Wastewater dashboard citing a '10-year CIP plan'. There was further explanation of the \$20M DEC debt service & loan repayment as well as potential tax increases. Mr. Vigue identified the need for financial stability with the recommendation of following the Anchorage CPI.

B. A discussion ensued regarding a potential rate increase to water & wastewater utility bills. Mr. Campbell stated that he would like to see an 'inflation proof' rate increase to address needed infrastructure maintenance and repairs. Vice-Chair Larson stated that he would like to see a model

for consistent rate increases. Mr. Ritter expressed concerns that water & wastewater revenue is being used for streets projects.

- C. Mr. Campbell suggested a 2% CPI model. Staff adjusted the dashboard with several scenarios for CPI and rate increases from 2.5-4%.
- D. Chair Vance suggested sending the dashboard to all parties for review and bringing hard proposals for rate increases to the next meeting. Mr. Vigue stated that he will get an active copy of the dashboard and the geographic differential for Juneau to all members for review. Vice-Chair Larson requested all members to provide possible wording to staff for a white page of utility rate recommendations. Staff requested the wording to be emailed to Ms. Sapp no later than noon on 3/12/19.
- E. Staff suggested a new meeting date of April 11th to discuss rate change options.
- F. Andrew Campbell suggested Grant Ritter outline his concerns as a byline to a suggested rate increase if a unanimous decision cannot be reached.
- G. An additional meeting date of March 14th at 5:15pm was agreed upon to continue rate increase discussions with all information.

V. NON-AGENDA ITEMS

There were no non-agenda items.

VIII. ADJOURNMENT

The next meeting is scheduled for March 14, 2019 at 5:15pm at the Water Utility Shop. The meeting adjourned at 7:20 pm.