

**WATER & SEWER COMMISSION
MINUTES OF MEETING HELD JULY 1, 2024
THOMAS F. ALLT UTILITIES TRAINING ROOM
270 WEST 13th STREET
YUMA, AZ 85364**

Chairman Vinod Mohindra called the meeting to order at 5:00 p.m.

MEMBERS PRESENT: Vinod Mohindra Cecil Boelts
 Mike Wicks Carrie Scott
 Walt Schumacher Andrew Scott

MEMBERS ABSENT:
 Lorna Brooks

STAFF PRESENT: Jeremy McCall, Utilities Director
 Kervina Landry, Administrative Specialist
 Chris Grant, Water Quality and Compliance Manager
 Charles Hotetz, Water Conservation Program
 Coordinator

PUBLIC PRESENT:

 None

Administrative Items

• **Notification of Resignation – Timothy Eisenmann**

Jeremy McCall – Tim submitted his resignation to Kervina. He is unable to continue and appreciated the opportunity to serve.

• **New Commission Appointment – Andrew Scott**

Introduction – Andrew Scott

Andrew gave the board a little background information. He lived in Phoenix prior to Yuma where he has been for the last 8 years. He is a hydrologist for the Bureau of Reclamation. His wife works for the Planning Department, and he wanted to be more involved with the city. He went through the Neighborhood Leadership Academy where he met Jeremy and expressed his interest in the commission.

- **Approval of Minutes from March 4, 2024**

Mike Wicks made a motion to approve the minutes and was seconded by Walt Schumacher.

Ayes: Commission Members Wicks, C. Scott, Boelts, Schumacher, A. Scott

Nays: Commission Members

Fiscal Year 2024 Briefing

Jeremy McCall presented using a power point presentation and the board received hard copies of the presentation.

- **Adopted Budget**

- City runs on fiscal year budget that began today.
- City budget is \$521 million
- Large portion of that is Capital Improvement Projects (CIP)
 - These projects are funded through different funds
- The operations and expenses budget for the City is \$255 million
 - Utilities personnel and operations budget is \$33 million
 - This does not include CIP
 - Water Fund is expected to bring in \$30 million in commercial and residential sales.
 - Water Capacity expecting about \$4.5 million
 - Wastewater Fund is expected to bring in \$20 million
 - About \$16 million in operational costs
 - Wastewater Capacity expecting fees is \$2.8 million
 - Capacity is a limited use fund – has a defined purpose
 - The purpose is for increases of capacity at the plant

- **Capital Improvement Projects**

- Utilities has \$132 million in CIP.
 - \$106 million is for the Desert Dunes Expansion
 - Currently a 3-million-gallon plant to 6-million-gallon plant to foster growth and development
 - Main Street WTP Basin Renovations
 - \$1.3 m
 - Main Street Filter Upgrade (Phase 3)
 - \$4.3 m
 - Automated Metering Infrastructure (meters)
 - \$2.0 m
 - Booster Pump Station at Friendship Tower (design)
 - \$100 k

- Groundwater Wells (study)
 - \$128 k
- Water Line Replacements/Extensions
 - Arizona Ave 17th to 24th (\$1.0 m)
 - 5th Street and Gila (\$ 400k)
 - George Bell Ave (\$30 k)
- Wastewater Fund CIP
 - Desert Dunes Expansion (\$102 m)
 - Rancho Serenade Lift station Replacement
 - Lift station \$3.1 m
 - Gravity Sewer Main \$2.1 m
 - Jackrabbit Mesa Treatment Facility (\$1.2)
 - Figueroa Avenue WPCF Outfall (\$4.0 m)
 - Manhole Replacements
 - Colorado River Interceptor (\$2.6 m)
 - Industrial Lateral (\$1.5 m)
 - Madison and Giss Parkway (\$250 k)
 - Arizona Ave and 32nd St (\$315 k)
 - 4th Street to 6th Street (\$40 k)
- **Utility Rates Update/Implementation**
 - Jeremy gave his appreciation to the Commission Members for their help in the process.
 - Water Rates – 3% Increase
 - Base Charge \$18.35
 - \$1.61 hcf (0-10) (7,480 gallons)
 - \$1.88 hcf (11-30) (22,440 gallons)
 - Wastewater Rates – 4% Increase
 - Base Charge \$38.39
 - Water Resource Trust Fund
 - \$1.00 per/month Residential
 - \$2.00 per/month Commercial
 - Multifamily \$0.50 each dwelling unit capped at \$12.00.
 - \$10.00 per/month Industrial

Water Conservation and Grant Update

Chris Grant, City of Yuma Water Quality and Compliance Manager, introduced Charles Hotetz, Water Conservation Program Coordinator to provide and update on water conservation status and grant funding opportunities.

○ **Drought Status**

- Yuma County experienced the 1st driest May on record over the past 130 years, with a decrease of 0.03 inches from normal.

- From January to May 2024 it was the 16th wettest year to date with an increase of 1.54 inches above normal.
- We are not in a drought status currently but need to keep an eye on it.
- Agriculture in Yuma County is affected with 50,313 acres of wheat, 41, 803 acres of hay, 12, 264 acres of cotton and 266 hogs impacted by drought.
- Upper Colorado Basin Snowpack
 - 100% precipitation with 22.3'
- Lower Colorado River Basin
 - Lake Powell is 37% full
 - Lake Mead is 34% full
- **Grant Projects**
 - Working on several grants for the Utilities program.
 - Water Conservation Grant Fund for Irrigation Standards Modernization for \$3 m with a 25% match.
 - Water Conservation Grant Fund for Water Conservation Program for \$3 m with a 25% match.
 - Overflow and Stormwater Grant for Sanitary Sewer Overflow Prevention Project for \$80k with a 20% match.
 - Water Conservation Field Services Program for FactoryTalk HMI programming services for the HMI upgrade project for \$100 k with 50% match.
 - WaterSmart Water and Energy Efficiency Grants for Upgrading Meters to Advanced Meter Reading Technology for \$100k with a 50% match.
 - WaterSmart Water and Energy Efficiency Grants for Portable Generator Aqua Viva for \$100 k with a 50% match.
 - Outreach
 - Girl Scout troop for 19 girls from 1st grade to 9th grade.
 - Took them to Main Street WTP and Figueroa WPCF
 - They are learning about water and wastewater in their troops.
 - Vinod would like to bring back the open house type or events.
 - Water Festival coming up in November working with U of A
 - Water Quality Report completed, and each member received a copy in their packets.
 - We have an apprentice program and would like to work with the high schools to have them meet with operators and learn more about the career field.

Status of Current Events

- Agua Viva well project is delayed 60 days due to materials.
- New Water Manager on board, Luiza Yordanova is an experienced individual from Florida. Look forward toward her experience with our team. We are still short a Manager for the Wastewater Plants. Have some interviews coming up for this position.
- Contact information – are you interested in having each other's contact information.
 - At this time keep it the way it is to stay in compliance.
- Formal training – would like to host in September.

Call to the Public

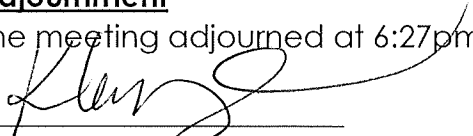
None

Future Agenda Items

- No meeting in August.
- Discuss temp and water for May through Sept.
- Meeting scheduled on September 2nd will be held on the 9th due to holiday.
 - Jeremy will be briefing council on Utilities department during the September 17th council meeting. Will be presenting to the council on drought awareness, operations, projected incomes. Would like to present to Commission first.

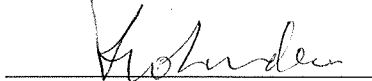
Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 6:27pm



Kervina Landry, Administrative Specialist

APPROVED:



Chairman & Date

9/9/24